

SATURDAY WORSHIP
January 23, 2010
The Third Sunday after the Epiphany

ORDER OF WORSHIP

GATHERING MUSIC:

- * *“We Are Called”* #2172 TFWS
- * *“Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness”* #2120 TFWS

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: *We are here because we have heard the call of Jesus Christ in our lives.*

PEOPLE: *We are here to challenge and support one another to rise up and follow.*

LEADER: *We are here because we want to be God’s people.*

PEOPLE: *We want to learn more about what it means to be the people of God.*

LEADER: *We come, seeking to be moved, changed, and made whole by the Spirit of the living God.*

ALL: *Let us open our hearts to the moving of the Spirit, and prepare to leave this place as true disciples of Christ. Amen.*

SINGING: *“God of Love and God of Power”* #578 UMH

INVOCATION AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

O God who has created us and who sustains us: We come with thanksgiving for these moments when we can ease the pace of our lives and listen for your voice. Create a spirit within us that truly draws us toward you and toward our brothers and sisters: a spirit deep, perceptive, gentle, and bold. Clear our minds, open our hearts, and touch us with your presence and your power. This we pray through Christ our Lord who has taught us to pray saying,...

Our Father, who art in heaven,....and the glory, forever. Amen.

GREETING ONE ANOTHER

Music to call us back together: *“The Prophet’s Gift”* (Thomas & Munson) SOLO

READING: *Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10*

When the seventh month came—the people of Israel being settled in their towns— all the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the

women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground. So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength."

SHARING AND PRAYING
RESPONSE: "Move Me" #471

READING: Luke 4:14-24

Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

SINGING: "O Young and Fearless Prophet" #444 UMH

SERMON: "Jesus' Prophetic Ministry"

THE OFFERING UP OF OUR LIVES

OFFERTORY: "Now Praise the Hidden God of Love" #2027 TFWS

PRAYER OF DEDICATION:

*We give because you have been generous to us, gracious God. We give because we need to give in order to realize your image within us. We give to feed the hungers of body and soul that are all around us and deep within. May the ministries of this church meet the needs of our members, our community, and our world. Help us to love our neighbors as ourselves.
Amen.*

BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH

MUSIC TO GO OUT BY: "Here I Am, Lord" #593 UMH