PRAYERS for January 30, 2022 – Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

Worship Assistant: Please remain standing for the prayers. On this fourth Sunday after the Epiphany, let us praise the name of the Lord and pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

Worship Assistant: Gracious God, we thank You for the blessings that You have given to us through Your Word. We sing praises to You for Your abundant power and for Your greatness in understanding what we need. We are forever grateful that You have called us into the fellowship of Your Son, Jesus Christ, and we ask You to shape us more perfectly into His image. Lord, in Your mercy........hear our prayer.

Worship Assistant: Loving Jesus, You gave us a blessed commandment that we love one another, and that we love even those who do not love us. You have told us to love our enemies, to bless those that hate us, and to do good to those who use us or persecute us. You have told us to do good deeds and make sacrifices, but that they must come from true love that is in our hearts. Open our hearts, Lord, to those who need our love. Fill our world with love, Lord, so that our families, friends, neighbors, and communities know that we are Christians by Your love that touches them through us. Help us to know the joy of giving ourselves for the sake of others. Thank You for reminding us to walk humbly with You and to have compassion and mercy for others.

Lord, in Your mercy......*hear our prayer.*

Worship Assistant: Almighty Christ, we read the stories of Your teaching, of Your journeys, of Your control over evil spirits, of Your healing of diseases of mind and body, and we worship You as our true Lord. Today, there are many voices and hands that are raised against You, yet You rise above the chaos of this hatred and disobedience. Fill our souls with calm, drive out our doubts, speak to our hearts, cast out the evil that is within us, and take away our weaknesses. Give us strength and make our fellowship strong in faith and service.

Lord, in Your mercy......*hear our prayer.*

Worship Assistant: Healing Lord, by the strength of Your spoken Word, You demonstrate Your power over life and over earthly death. Bring healing to those who are sick or injured; bring employment to those who are seeking work; bring contentment to those who are suffering depression; bring harmony to those who are dealing with life changes and family issues; and bring hope to those in the midst of despair. Help Your children support each other, pray for each other, and strengthen each other. We especially pray for all those who are on our prayer list and our families and friends whose names we speak out loud or say silently in our hearts.

(Wait at least 20 seconds for names.) Lord, in Your mercy.......hear our prayer.

Worship Assistant: God our Father, we pray for all whose daily work is dangerous. Be with those who serve in the military at home and overseas. Guard all who serve as police, firefighters, or EMTs. Help them to feel Your presence while serving in the line of duty and to know the peace which comes only from You. Father, today we also ask Your blessing on the members of the Service Committee who are being installed this morning. We know that their work will be good because Your hand will be on it.

Lord, in Your mercy......hear our prayer.

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen