January 21, 2024 Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.
Third Sunday After Epiphany
Slackwood Presbyterian Church
2020 Brunswick Avenue, Lawrenceville, NJ 08648

GATHER TO WORSHIP

As a consideration to all who seek to worship this morning, please turn off or mute cell phones and other electronic devices.

Bell of Invitation
Welcome & Announcements

OUR APPROACH TO GOD

Call to Worship

Leader: The Word of the Lord came, **People: bringing hope for all people.** Leader: The Word of the Lord comes,

People: calling us out of our comfort zones,

to go where grace is needed most.

Leader: The Word of the Lord will come,

People: gathering all the outsiders and insiders

into one community in God's kingdom.

*Hymn #463 "How Firm a Foundation" FOUNDATION

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession (In Unison)

God of mercy, we confess that we have settled down in Nineveh.

We have gotten comfortable in our categories:

haves and have-nots,

makers and takers,

bigots and bystanders,

self-starters and subordinates,

law-abiders and illegals,

the perpetrators and the innocent.

We confess that we are comfortable living under systems of injustice and exploitation. We confess our discomfort in speaking truths that unmask idolatries. Make us ready to follow Jesus, ready to repent, and eager to change our hearts and lives. Call to us again and show us your mercy. Let us hear your good news again. (Moment of silent prayer). Amen

*Words of Assurance

*Gloria Patri (#581)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

(Following the time of confession, young people ages 3 to 10 may leave for a time of lesson and activity.)

HEARING OF THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Reading – Jonah 3:1-5, 10

The Word of the Lord/Thanks be to God.

Anthem "Follow Me"

Tim Osiek

Second Scripture Reading – Mark 1:14-20

The Word of the Lord/Thanks be to God.

Sermon "Responding to the Call" Rev. David Bowman

*Affirmation of Faith (The Declaration of Faith)

In forming his people and sending them into the world Jesus called individuals to be disciples. They were to share the joy of his companionship, to understand and obey his teachings, and to follow him in life and death.

We confess that Christians today are called to discipleship. Life shared with Christ and shaped by Christ is God's undeserved gift to each of us. It is also God's demand upon every one of us, never perfectly fulfilled by any of us.

Forgiven by God and supported by our siblings in Christ, we strive to become more faithful and effective in our daily practice of the Christian life.

*Hymn #170

WIE LIEBLICH IST DER MAIEN

"You Walk along Our Shoreline"

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Call for Offering Offertory

*Doxology (#606)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

praise God, all creatures here below;

praise God above, ye heavenly host;

praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn # 410

W ŻLOBIE LEŻY

"God Is Calling through the Whisper"

*Charge and Benediction

DEPART TO SERVE

Christ's Ministers in the World: All members of the church

Interim Pastor: The Rev. David Bowman

Director of Music: Dr. Shelley Sanders Zuckerman

Director of Family Ministries: Starr Alleyne

Liturgist: Peyton Valentino

The Peace Candle in the Chancel is lit to remind us of the gift of Christ's peace and our call to be peacemakers.

Welcome to all who are worshiping this morning. If you are visiting, we hope you feel very welcome and that you will stay following the service for refreshments and conversation.

Pastor Bowman's contact information:

Email: dfbsbv@gmail.com or Telephone: 732.547.3480

Announcements

The **Adult Forum** meets weekly at 9:00 a.m. via Zoom. The link is sent in the Saturday announcements email.

The **youth group** meets at 9:15 a.m.

The **choir** rehearses at 9:30 a.m. in the sanctuary.

The **mission study committee** will meet on Monday, January 22 at 7:00 p.m.

The **confirmands** will meet on Sunday, January 28 at 9:00 a.m.

The **annual meeting of the congregation** to elect elders, deacons and members of the officer nominating committee, as well as any other business as set by the session, will be on Sunday, January 28 immediately following the morning service of worship.

Those people remembered in the prayers of the people last week are: Yohance, Ben, Scott, Michael, Jon, Samantha, Israel, Jan, Heather, Jill, Ebbie, Laura, Nona, Cindy, Audrey, Cory, Joann, Bill, Terrie & Bill, Filson family, Marilyn, Francine, Tracy & Bila, Copeland family, Eric Chatman, Steven, Wesley, Roupe family, Samantha, Jonathan, Michael & family, Starr, family of Michael Rostas.