

January 28, 2024 Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.
Fourth 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: We come, so God might open our eyes,

**People: that we may discover the wonders surrounding
us; that we may embrace the joy deep within us.**

Leader: We gather, so Christ might widen our hearts,

**People: that we may hear the sounds of brokenness
around us; that we may sing the melodies of hope.**

Leader: We are here, so the Spirit might teach us the ways of
humility,

**People: that we may walk with enduring love;
that we may live lives of faithfulness and service.**

*Hymn #415 “Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy” RESTORATION

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession (In Unison)

Merciful God, in Jesus, we have seen your glory. Yet our
sinfulness often blocks out the light of Christ. We are quick
to accuse and slow to confess. We find faults easily in
ourselves and others. We have squandered your gifts. We
have turned from living into the life you have called us to
live. Have mercy on us, compassionate God. Pour out your
Holy Spirit on our broken lives. Wash us with your love and
cleanse us with your grace that day by day we might move
closer to the people you would have us be. *(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 – Psalm 111

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Anthem “We Cannot Measure How You Heal” John Bell

Second Scripture Reading – Mark 1:21-28

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Sermon “The Heart of the Matter” Rev. David Bowman

*Affirmation of Faith (from the Confession of 1967)

**In Jesus of Nazareth, true humanity was realized once for
all. Jesus, a Palestinian Jew, lived among his own people
and shared their needs, temptations, joys, and sorrows.**

**He expressed the love of God in word and deed and
became a brother to all kinds of sinful men and women.**

**But his complete obedience led him into conflict with his
people.**

**His life and teaching judged their goodness, religious
aspirations, and national hopes.**

Many rejected him and demanded his death.

**In giving himself freely for them, he took upon himself the
judgment under which everyone stands convicted.**

**God raised him from the dead, vindicating him as Messiah
and Lord.**

**The victim of sin became victor, and won the victory
over sin and death for all.**

*Hymn #181 “Silence! Frenzied, Unclean Spirit” EBENEZER

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 #24

HOLY MANNA

"God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens"

*Charge and Benediction

DEPART TO SERVE

**Those who are able may stand.*

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: Sydney Ryon

Announcements

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 for refreshments and conversation, which will follow a brief congregational meeting.

Pastor Bowman's contact information:

Email: dfbsbv@gmail.com or Telephone: 732.547.3480

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

The **confirmands** meet at 9:00 a.m.

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

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 follow this morning's service of worship.

The **worship committee** will meet following this morning's congregational meeting.

The **mission study committee** will meet on Monday, January 29 at 7:15 p.m.

The **Bible Study Group** will meet on Thursday, February 1 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom.

Sunday, February 4 – 10:30 a.m. service of worship will include the Sacrament of Holy Communion and the ordination/installation of officers.

Also on February 4, following the service of worship there will be a **joint elder/deacon meeting** with the Mission Study Committee.

Those people remembered in the prayers of the people last week are: Yohance, Namada, Karla & Aaron, Elena, Scott, Ben, Michael, Samantha, Jonathan, Benjamin, Brooke, Jess, Amanda, Israel, those impacted by nature or violence, those unemployed or underemployed, travel mercies for Gayle, Jamie, Jason & Brad, those who must be outside without shelter, Charles, Jaye, Terrie & Bill, Doreen, Christine, Marilyn, Mylan, Fran & Troy, Susan, Cooper family, Taylor family, McCoy family, Jon & family, Michael, Samantha, Jonathan, Marnes, Jack, homeless, Copeland family, Eric Chatman, Sean, Joan & Dennis, Kim, Jaq, Jimmie, MJ, Sager family, Mike, Isabella, Fred and Janet and Lakshmi.