



**January 26th, 2025 | FIRST TRADITION 11:00 AM | Third
Sunday after Epiphany**

GATHERING

PRELUDE

James Stanley

Trumpet Voluntary in G | Patricia Lou Harris

CALL TO WORSHIP †

Rev. Haley Jones Wells

We are gathered to worship together, full of the joy we feel about God's love for us.

He who loved us first, has called us to love and care for one another.

With God's help, we can overcome hatred and anger.

We seek God and ask for guidance, knowing that we can love because of this grace.

God's love is the beginning and the end; it is the Alpha and Omega.

Praise God for peace and hope.

Come, oh beloved children, let us rejoice and sing a new song

PROCESSIONAL HYMN 384 vs 1-2 †

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling United Methodist Hymnal

PASSING OF THE PEACE †

May the peace of Christ be with you

And also with you

PROCESSIONAL HYMN 384 vs 3-4 †

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling United Methodist Hymnal

PRAYER OF THE DAY †

Holy and merciful God:

**We come to worship today to hear your good news,
to hear stories of faith, hope and love.**

**We know that doubt, fear and hatred are everywhere
and can shake even the strongest.**

Shape us into faithful, hopeful people:

fill us with your love that passes all understanding.

We pray this together in the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Haley Jones Wells

SONG

Jesus loves me, this I know for the Bible tells me so. Little ones to him belong; they are weak, but he is strong. Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me– the Bible tells me so.

CHILDREN'S TIME

Rev. Brittany Richardson Watson

ANTHEM

Chancel Choir

Peace I Give to You Michael Larkin

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 trespasses as we forgive those, who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen

HYMN 408

The Gift of Love United Methodist Hymnal

oqna k_l_s m m"n d"s q c"v n qb

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Elaine Bultena

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

This is the Word of God for the people of God

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. David C. Freeman

The Gift of Love

Courageous Gifts Part 3

"Courage is what love looks like when tested by the simple
everyday necessities of being alive." - David Whyte

■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■

qcr on mr c"s n"s q c"v n qb

OFFERTORY

Chancel Choir

Not In Me | Dan Wells

DOXOLOGY 94 †

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

praise God, all creatures here below:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God, the source of all our gifts!

Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING †

COMMISSIONING OF 2025 LEADERS

SENDING FORTH IN THE NAME OF THE LORD

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP †

HYMN OF COMMITMENT 557 †

Blast Be the Tie That Binds | United Methodist Hymnal

During the singing of the hymn, individuals desiring to join the church are asked to come to the chancel so the pastors may offer membership vows and welcome you to the congregation.

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS †

We give thanks for all that God has already given you and we welcome you in Christian love. As members together with you in the body of Christ and in this congregation of the United Methodist Church, we renew our covenant faithfully to participate in the ministries of the church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness, that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.

BENEDICTION †

CHORAL RESPONSE TO THE BENEDICTION †

Chancel Choir

The Lord Bless and Keep You Peter Lutkin

POSTLUDE

James Stanley

A Joyful Celebration | Patricia Lou Harris



THIS WEEK AT FIRST CHURCH

Sunday, January 26, 2025

- 9:00 am First Word (Cokesbury)
- 10:00 am Sunday School
- 11:00 am First Tradition (Sanctuary)
- 12:00 pm Pizza with the Pastors
- 3:00 pm Metropolitan Opera Competition
- 5:30 pm Canvas Community Worship

Monday, January 27, 2025

- 9:00 am Flower Girls
- 1:00 pm Community Café
- 3:00 pm Washington Basketball Practice
- 6:30 pm Beginner Taiko

Tuesday, January 28, 2025

- 7:00 am Tuesday Morning Bible Study
- 9:00 am Staff Meeting
- 10:30 am Worship Planning
- 1:00 pm Community Café
- 4:15 pm FANN
- 6:30 pm Intermediate Taiko

Wednesday, January 29, 2025

9:30 am CDC Chapel

1:00 pm Community Café

3:00 pm Washington Basketball Practice