

First Reformed Church of Cary
Second Sunday after the Epiphany
Jennifer Legg, M. Div.
Dr. Loñieta Cornwall, Music Director

January 15, 2017

We Gather in the Presence of God

Prelude *Worship Medley* L. Cornwall, Piano

Votum

Introit *"Come, Let Us Worship the Lord in the Beauty of Holiness"* Chancel Choir

The Lord be with you!
And also with you!

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Call to Worship

Come, Lord God, to receive our worship. Come, Lord Jesus, to receive our praise. Come, Holy Spirit, to receive our thanks. Come, eternal three-in-one God, come where we are gathered to celebrate our unity as your body, the church.

We share one faith and are of one soul and one mind, which belong solely and wholly to you.

We are baptized with one baptism, eat of one bread and drink of one cup.

We confess one name above all other names; we are obedient to one Lord, who frees us from the tyranny and hatefulness of the world.

We share one hope, one comfort, one goal.

We are one people, united--despite any noticeable differences--by our faith in you, Lord Jesus.

We are one people, united by your love and mercy to stand against any power that would try to tear us apart.

We are one people, united in blessing and in suffering, united in joy and in sorrow, united in strength and in weakness. Receive our praise!

God's greeting and Congregational Amen

Passing of the Peace

***Sing** *"We worship You, Almighty God, In You alone, is our delight, we worship You, O Holy God, and lift our voice, to sing Your praise Alleluia, Alleluia"*

We Are Renewed in Grace

Prayer of Confession

God, forgive us. Our communion is not always visible to the world. Sometimes we allow threats to unity to enter the church, making it hard to see that we are your community. We act as though we do not need each other. We do not always love one another. We do not know and bear one another's burdens. We fail to build each other up. We do not always give ourselves willingly and joyfully to one another. Forgive us, and strengthen us so that we may live in the unity that you grant us.

***Sing** *“Lord, have mercy upon us, Christ, have mercy upon us, Lord, have mercy upon us.”*

Assurance of Forgiveness

Congregational Song of Praise

*“Our God is an Awesome God. He reigns from heaven above
With wisdom, power and might. Our God is an awesome God. [repeat]
He reigns.....Our God is
An awesome God!”*

God Speaks Through His Word

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture Lessons:

New Testament Lesson: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

Gospel Lesson: John 1: 19-42

Meditation

“Opportunities to point to Christ”

Prayer

Our Response to God

Confession of Faith (in unison)

It is through Christ’s reconciling work that we are the church, united to God and to other believers. As the church, we are the salt of the earth. We are the light of the world. We are entrusted with the message of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ. As the church, we are witnesses by both word and deed. We proclaim the new heaven and the new earth, in which righteousness dwells. As the church, we proclaim that God’s life-giving Word and Spirit has conquered sin and death. God conquers irreconciliation, hatred and bitterness. As the church, God’s life-giving Word and Spirit enable us to live in a new obedience; God opens new possibilities of life for society and the world. We declare ourselves ready to venture out on the road of obedience and reconciliation-- servants of the God who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people.

Offering and Prayer

“I will call upon the Lord, for He is worthy to be praised. So shall I be saved from my enemies.

The Lord liveth and blessed be the Rock, and let the God of my salvation be exalted.

The Lord liveth, and blessed be the Rock, and let the God of my salvation be exalted.”

Communion:

Meaning of the Sacrament

Communion Prayer

Invitation to the Table

Celebration of the Eucharist

(served by intinction)

Ministry of Music

“We Remember”

Chancel Choir

***Sing** *“Lord, I lift Your Name on high, Lord, I love to sing Your praises. I’m so glad You’re in my life. I’m so glad You came to save us. You came from heaven to earth to show the way, from the earth to the cross my debt to pay, from the cross to the grave, from the grace to the sky, Lord, I lift Your Name on high.”*

Go forth to Serve as Christ's Disciples

***Benediction**

"Praise You.....let my life praise You!"

Chancel Choir

***Postlude**

*Those that are able please stand

At our Annual Congregational Meeting you elected John Ferris to an Elder position and Ethel Yarter to the office of Deacon. The Book of Church Order requires us to publish the names of those elected on 3 consecutive Sundays before their installation/ordination. If you have a legitimate objection to their assuming office, please contact Vice President of Consistory, Dave Pynaker or any Consistory Member.

CONSISTORY CONTACTS

If you have need of pastoral care or if you have questions or concerns, please reach out to one of the members of the consistory.

Elders:

Jane DeWitt 919-467-2152

Jeff DeWitt 919-673-5773

Jenn Legg 919-600-9240

Dave Pynaker 919-604-5874

Deacons:

Mike Shafer 919-244-4945

Joe White 919-387-9152

Classis Supervisor:

Rev. Kendra VanHouten 845-338-7722