

ORDER OF SERVICE

Sunday, January 15, 2023 • 10:00 AM



PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Holy, holy, holy God, we worship and adore you — Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Today in our worship we long for a glimpse of your glory, seen perfectly in Christ, our Lord. As we worship, may we gain new insight about the mystery and wonder of your love. And may we sense new ways to mirror that love in our world, through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Neil Trainer

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Lisa Allen

One: O blessed Trinity, in whom we know the maker of all things seen and unseen, the Savior of all both near and far:

By your Spirit enable us so to worship your divine majesty that with all the company of heaven we may magnify your glorious name, saying,

All: **Holy, holy, holy. Glory to you, O Lord Most High. Amen.**

SONGS OF PRAISE "Holy, Holy, Holy" (Hymn #138) and "Revelation Song"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (from Psalm 51)

Emily Mitchell

One: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

All: **Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.**

One: For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

All: **Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment.**

One: You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.

All: **Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.**

One: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.

All: **Do not cast me from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me.**

(silence for reflection)

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

PASSING THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

DOXOLOGY

BLESSING OF CHILDREN AND DISMISSAL TO SUNDAY SCHOOL

Emily Mitchell

OFFERING

SCRIPTURE READING Ephesians 5:15–21

Lisa Allen

SERMON "Living Wisely"

Neil Trainer

SONG OF RESPONSE "I Wanna Sing"

PASTORAL PRAYER

Neil Trainer

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin 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.

SONG OF SENDING "Blessed Assurance" (Hymn #341)

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Office Closed for MLK Holiday

We hope you all enjoy the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday! The church office will be closed on Monday and will open again on Tuesday.

Vision House Giving Tree a Great Success

// Thank you for your generous support!

The Calvin congregation contributed 57 gift cards totaling \$2,045. Donna Miller-Parker says that these cards not only blessed Vision House families at Christmas, but also provided cards that can be used for special needs throughout the year. Thank you to all who contributed!

Giving Envelopes

// Arriving soon in your mailbox

Monthly giving envelopes have been mailed out. If you haven't received yours by the end of next week, please contact the church office.

Young Adult Ministry Report

// from Benj., Nisha, Mark, Brianne, Lee, Nancy, and Mike

Last Friday we had a great turnout for our murder mystery party, and a fun time was had by all. Now plans are in motion to start a study of the book of Mark beginning on February 1, and invitations are currently being sent out to see who would like to join us. Just like last Fall, we are hoping that the congregation will support us by joining our prayer team or our hospitality team. That was so helpful to us! Once we have an idea of the numbers of people that will be coming, we will

have a list of ways people can help us. Thanks so much!



Below is a repeat from the Stories of Faith column from the Friday, September 9th email.

Microwave Faith

// by Neil Trainer

When was the last time you lived in a place without a working microwave? Ours broke recently, and all sorts of daily rhythms and meal planning broke down too. How do I reheat a half-drunk mug of coffee, or warm up the leftover slice of pizza? Like you too, I imagine, I'm conditioned to get results fast, to expect a few quick steps should get me where I want to go. After all, we live in the world of drive-thru's, instant messaging, and internet banking with attention spans conditioned by 30-second commercials.

Waiting for my food to heat in the oven or on the stovetop, I did something I dislike but often need: slow down. Even more, I'm reminded that there is no such thing as an instant saint. Growing spiritually and having the image of God restored in us is a lifelong process.

Long before the modern convenience of microwaves, John Calvin wrote:

In this way it pleases the Lord fully to restore whomsoever he adopts into the inheritance of life. And indeed, this restoration does not take place in one moment or one day or one year; but through continual and sometimes even slow

advances God wipes out in his elect the corruptions of the flesh, cleanses them of guilt, consecrates them to himself as temples renewing all their minds to true purity that they may practice repentance throughout their lives... Now this is not to deny a place for growth; rather I say, the closer any man comes to the likeness of God, the more the image of God shines in him. In order that believers may reach this goal, God assigns to them a race of repentance, which they are to run throughout their lives.

Perhaps, if I'm looking for a metaphor in my kitchen that exemplifies our growth in Christ, I need to ignore the microwave and pull out the crockpot.



Contact [Kirsty](#) at the church office if you would like to contribute a meditation for Stories of Faith. The meditation should be short — about three paragraphs or 250 words.



Happy Birthday!

Ruth Rankin Jan. 17
Dick Scheumann Jan. 17
Nathan Wu Jan. 23
Linda Erickson Jan. 25
Dean Jamieson Jan. 26
Richard Fouch Jan. 29
Jan Gregersen Jan. 29
Ron Wirtz Jan. 29
Jay Cross Jan. 30



Upcoming Events

Messy Church, 5:30 pm in the Activity Center..... Feb. 01