



**PANTHER VALLEY ECUMENICAL CHURCH**

**Ephiphany**

PRELUDE

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Let us seek to simplify this moment, slow down for a time. Let us worship, leaning on prayer, reflection and sharing with one another.

## **OPENING PRAYER**

Amazing God,  
You do wonderful things—big and small—every day.  
Open us this day to recognize the miracles of life all around us  
so that we might stay resilient and ready to create your reign  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
We praise you for your continued good works,  
holding our lives together each day.  
Amen.

**SONG** *We Sing To You, O God*

## **KID'S MESSAGE**

### **SCRIPTURE READING**

**Psalm 111 from the** Common English Bible

Praise the Lord!

I thank the Lord with all my heart  
in the company of those who do right, in the congregation.  
The works of the Lord are magnificent;  
they are treasured by all who desire them.  
God's deeds are majestic and glorious.  
God's righteousness stands forever.  
God is famous for his wondrous works.  
The Lord is full of mercy and compassion.  
God gives food to those who honor him.  
God remembers his covenant forever.  
God proclaimed his powerful deeds to his people  
and gave them what had belonged to other nations.  
God's handiwork is honesty and justice;  
all God's rules are trustworthy—  
they are established always and forever:  
they are fulfilled with truth and right doing.  
God sent redemption for his people;  
God commanded that his covenant last forever.  
Holy and awesome is God's name!  
Fear of the Lord is where wisdom begins;  
sure knowledge is for all who keep God's laws.  
God's praise lasts forever!

### **GOSPEL READING**

Mark 1:21-28 Common English Bible

Jesus and his followers went into Capernaum. Immediately on the Sabbath Jesus entered the synagogue and started teaching. The people were amazed by his teaching, for he was teaching them with authority, not like the legal experts. Suddenly, there in the synagogue, a person with an evil spirit screamed, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are. You are the holy one from God."

"Silence!" Jesus said, speaking harshly to the demon. "Come out of him!" The unclean spirit shook him and screamed, then it came out.

Everyone was shaken and questioned among themselves, "What's this? A new teaching with authority! He even commands unclean spirits and they obey him!" Right away the news about him spread throughout the entire region of Galilee.

**MESSAGE** *The One Possessed*

**SONG** *Make Me a Servant*

### **Prayers of the People**

You are invited to write your prayer concerns on small pieces of paper and place these prayers in a container [*bowl, box, etc*]-a symbolic action of placing them in God's hands, God's care.

Let us pray for the leaders of this world and this church community...

**God of Justice, hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for those who live in conflict around the world...

**Prince of Peace, secure us in your love.**

Let us pray for all who are experiencing loss of any kind in this pandemic...

**Comforting Healer, hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for those who are homeless, hungry and alone...

**Emmanuel, God-With-Us, reassure us in our times of need.**

Let us pray for those who are excluded, oppressed, and pushed to the margins...

**God of Unity, hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for those who live in comfort, for Christ-like hospitality and generosity...

**Transforming Spirit, hear our prayer.**

Holy and Living One,  
for those we have named and the ones whose names we do not know,  
**hear our prayer.**

### **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

### **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**Give thanks for strong yet tender hands  
held out in trust and blessing.  
Where words fall short let hands speak out;  
the heights of love expressing.**

### **BENEDICTION**

Now go in the knowledge that God is holding your life even as we hold each other. You are not alone. You are loved. Amen.

### **POSTLUDE**

**Credits:**

Today's Liturgy is adapted from: Worship Design Studio,  
Prelude, Let All Things Now Living  
Postlude, Joyful Hymn of Praise

We Sing To You, O God, CCLI #5215294 1980, 1993 Selah Publishing Company, Inc.  
Make Me a Servant. CCLI #33131, 1982 CCCM MusicUniversal Music - Brentwood Benson PublishingWilling Heart Music

We are grateful for the following people who made this worship service possible:  
Diane Van Dongen our Music Director and Pastor Ninabeth Metcalf.