

St Paul's United Church of Christ
Epiphany 2
January 15, 2023
Brittany Mailleue

Organ Prelude
Ringing of the Church Bell

***Call to Worship (with gratitude to Ruth Moody and the Wailin' Jennys)**

Leader: There are no words for what this testimony means
only the wonder at how it feels like grace.

**Assembly: We celebrate the prophets and visionaries;
in story and song, we awaken to the sound of one voice.**

Leader: There is no way to know what this following will take
only the hope that it is leading us deeper into the heart of love.

**Assembly: We cherish the risk-takers and the tide-turners:
in prayer and praise, we witness to the sound of voices two.**

Leader: There is no telling when the struggle will end,
only the faith in a future we cannot yet behold.

**Assembly: We become the movement and the liberation:
in worship and wrestling, we create the sound of all of us.**

***Hymn** Christ Is the World's True Light #143

***Silent Confession**

***Words of Assurance**

Leader: God hears the confessions of our hearts and lips. Through Jesus Christ we are forgiven all our
sins, and by the Holy Spirit we are empowered for new life.

Assembly: We believe the good news of Jesus Christ. Amen.

***Gloria Patri**

Welcome and Announcements

Time with the Children

Scripture: John 1:29-42

²⁹[John the Baptist] saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!³⁰This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' ³¹I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." ³²And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. ³³I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.'³⁴And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God."

³⁵The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, ³⁶and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" ³⁷The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" ³⁹He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was

about four o'clock in the afternoon. ⁴⁰One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. ⁴¹He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). ⁴²He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

Sermon

Hymn Behold the Lamb of God #117

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.

Cares Chorus Response

Offering of Our Gifts

Invitation

Offertory

*** The Doxology**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, you heavenly hosts; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.**

*** Offering Prayer:**

We dedicate these gifts and our lives for service to You and others. Amen.

*** Closing Hymn** As with Gladness Men of Old #118

***Benediction**

The blessing of God Almighty: the Creator, the Redeemer and the Sanctifier be with you all.
Amen.

*** Postlude**