



Order of Worship for 1/26/25

Online at www.calvinchurch.net | | via phone at (952) 208-6020 | | parking lot radio on 87.9FM

* Please rise in body/spirit | Congregational responses are in bold

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We praise you, God, for the diversity of your body.

All: By God's Spirit, we are one.

One: From diverse backgrounds and diverse place,

All: By God's Spirit, we are one.

One: From diverse cultures and diverse generations,

All: By God's Spirit, we are one.

One: From diverse questions and diverse dreams,

All: By God's Spirit, we are one.

One: We celebrate our diversity. We celebrate our unity.

All: By God's Spirit, we are one.

OPENING PRAYER (all)

Holy One, we thank you for the gift of the Bible, for its psalms and poems, myths and stories, histories, teachings, and prophecies. May the Holy Spirit who called out those ancient writings continue to call us out today, that our lives may reflect the first sermon of Jesus, our crucified and risen Christ, who brings good news to the poor and lets the oppressed go free. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN #473

For the Beauty of the Earth

1 For the beauty of the earth,
For the glory of the skies,
For the love which from our birth
Over and around us lies.

Refrain:
Lord of all, to Thee we raise,
This our hymn of grateful praise.

2 For the wonder of each hour
Of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale, and tree and flower,
Sun and moon, and stars of light. (Refrain)

3 For the joy of ear and eye,
For the heart and mind's delight,
For the mystic harmony
Linking sense to sound and sight. (Refrain)

4 For the joy of human love,
Brother, sister, parent, child,
Friends on earth and friends above,
For all gentle thoughts and mild. (Refrain)

5 For Thy Church, that evermore
Lifteth holy hands above,
Offering up on every shore
Her pure sacrifice of love. (Refrain)

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (all)

God of our restoration, whenever we come home to you, we realize how far we have strayed and how much we have forgotten of your law and your love. We have not loved you with our whole hearts or loved our neighbors as ourselves. Forgive us, heal us, and restore us to our relationship with you; through Jesus Christ, in whom we trust. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: In the name of Jesus Christ,
All: We are forgiven.

*HYMN #576

Gloria, Gloria

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

HANDBELL CHOIR

Old Testament page 436
"Angelus I and II"

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 4:14-21

This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God!

New Testament page 61

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

From the Westminster Larger Catechism

The Scriptures manifest themselves to be the Word of God, by their majesty and purity; by the consent of all the parts, and the scope of the whole, which is to give all glory to God; by their light and power to convince and convert sinners, to comfort and build up believers unto salvation. But the Spirit of God, bearing witness by and with the Scriptures in the heart of humankind, is alone able fully to persuade it that they are the very word of God.

*HYMN #434

Today We All Are Called to be Disciples

Today we are all called to be
Disciples of the Lord,
To help to set the captives free,
Make plow-share out of sword,
To feed the hungry, quench their thirst,
Make love and peace our fast,
To serve the poor and homeless first,
Our ease and comfort last.

God made the world and at its birth
Ordained our human race
To live as stewards of the earth,
Responding to God's grace.
But we are vain and sadly proud,
We sow not peace but strife,
Our discord spreads a deadly cloud
That threatens all of life.

Pray justice may come rolling down
As in a mighty stream,
With righteousness in field and town
To cleanse us and redeem.
For God is longing to restore
An earth where conflicts cease,
A world that was created for
A harmony of peace.

May we in service to our God
Act out the living word,
And walk the road the saints have trod
Till all have seen and heard.
As stewards of the earth may we
Give thanks in one accord
To God who calls us all to be
Disciples of the Lord.

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY #592 Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

SENT IN GOD'S NAME

*CLOSING HYMN #332

Live into Hope

1 Live into hope of captives freed,
Of sight regained, the end of greed.
The oppressed shall be the first to see
The year of God's own jubilee!

2 Live into hope the blind shall see
With insight and with clarity,
Removing shades of pride and fear--
A vision of our God brought near.

3 Live into hope of liberty,
The right to speak the right to be,
The right to have one's daily bread,
To hear God's word and thus be fed.

4 Live into hope of captives freed
From chains of fear or want or greed.
God now proclaims our full release
To faith and hope and joy and peace.

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Liturgical resources from *Feasting on the Word: Worship Companion*, *Book of Common Worship* (1993), and *Call to Worship: Lectionary Companion* (2024-2025).

