

Order of Worship
January 8, 2023 – New Year’s Holy Communion

Announcements and Prelude

Call to Worship – Psalm 16:1, 7-11

Keep me safe, O God,
For in you I take refuge.

*I will praise the LORD, who counsels me;
even at night my heart instructs me.*

I have set the LORD always before me.
Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken.
Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices;

*my body also will rest secure,
because you will not abandon me to the grave,
nor will you let your Holy One see decay.
You have made known to me the path of life;
you will fill me with joy in your presence,
with eternal pleasures at your right hand.*

Hymn *O God, Our Help in Ages Past* #117

Consecration of 2023 Leadership – see insert

We kneel before You, our Father, and we pray that our of Your glorious riches, You may strengthen us with power through Your Spirit in our inner beings, so that Christ may dwell in our hearts through faith. And we pray that we, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge – that we may be filled to the measure of all Your fulness. Now to You who are able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to Your power that is at work within us, to You be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever! Amen.

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord’s Prayer

Scripture Reading – Isaiah 43:1-7

¹ But now, this is what the LORD says—
he who created you, Jacob,
he who formed you, Israel:
“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have summoned you by name; you are mine.
² When you pass through the waters,
I will be with you;
and when you pass through the rivers,
they will not sweep over you.
When you walk through the fire,
you will not be burned;
the flames will not set you ablaze.
³ For I am the LORD your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior;
I give Egypt for your ransom,
Cush^[a] and Seba in your stead.
⁴ Since you are precious and honored in my sight,
and because I love you,
I will give people in exchange for you,
nations in exchange for your life.
⁵ Do not be afraid, for I am with you;
I will bring your children from the east
and gather you from the west.
⁶ I will say to the north, ‘Give them up!’
and to the south, ‘Do not hold them back.’
Bring my sons from afar
and my daughters from the ends of the earth—
⁷ everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made.”

Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
world without end, Amen, Amen.

Apostles’ Creed – #881

Sermon Pastor Paul

“Fear Not!” Preaching Series:

Fear and the New Year

“Fear not, for I have redeemed you ...”
Isaiah 43:1

Hymn *How Firm a Foundation* #529
Stanzas 1-2

Holy Communion

- Invitation
- Confession of Sin
- Words of Institution
- Prayer of Consecration

The people called Methodist have traditionally used
John Wesley's Covenant Prayer of 1755
in coming to the Lord's Table for the New Year:

*I am no longer my own, but thine.
Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt.
Put me to doing, put me to suffering.
Let me be employed for thee or laid aside for thee,
exalted for thee or brought low for thee.
Let me be full, let me be empty.
Let me have all things, led me have nothing.
I freely and heartily yield all things to thy pleasure and disposal.
And now, O glorious and blessed God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
Thou art mine, and I am thine. So be it.
And the covenant which I have made on earth,
let it be ratified in heaven. Amen.*

Hymn *How Firm a Foundation* #529
Stanzas 3-5

Benediction

Fear Not
For I Have Redeemed You

I have called you by name, you are mine.
When you pass through the waters I will be with you, ...when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, ...
For I am the LORD your God, and I love you

ISAIAH 43: 1-4

Poplar Valley United Methodist Church
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