January 29, 2023 ~ 4th Sunday after Epiphany

Gathering Music ~ "Fairest Lord Jesus" (arr. Ray) ~ Leigh Emmett

Welcome and Announcements ~ Jan Lapenta, liturgist

Prelude ~ "Give Thanks" (arr. Hayes)

Call to Worship ~ responsive

Leader: Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord God Almighty.

People: Heaven and Earth are full of God's glory.

Leader: Hosanna, Hosanna. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

People: May the blessings of the Lord God and the movement of the Holy Spirit

be felt and realized in our worship today. Amen.

*you are invited to stand in body or in spirit

*Hymn #354 ~ "Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory" (Verses 1 and 3)

Invitation to Confession

Prayer of Confession ~ in unison

O Lord our God, you have been our provider and safe place for generations. You saw us in our sin and with love reunited us with you. Yet we confess that at times we have forgotten your promises and faithfulness. Forgive us Lord. In your mercy renew our spirits. Remind us of the faithful witnesses in the Scriptures and in our traditions. Amen. (A time of silent, personal prayer)

Assurance of Forgiveness

Responsive Chorus #35 ~ "Glad Adoration" All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near; join me in glad adoration!

Passing the Peace Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. People: And also with you.

Responsive Chorus #753 ~ "Make Me a Channel of Your Peace" (v. 1) Make me a channel of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me bring your love. Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord, and where there's doubt, true faith in you.

Offering Prayer

*Doxology ~ "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" (Avery & Marsh) Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Prayer for Illumination

Hebrew Scripture ~ Micah 6:1-8

Special Music ~ "A New Song" (D. Phillips)

Christian Scripture ~1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Message ~ "Fireside Chats: Apostles Creed"

*Hymn #701 ~ "Sanctuary" (x 2)

A time for sharing the joys and concerns of our community.

Prayer Preparation ~ "Hear Our Prayer, O Lord" Hear our prayer, O Lord, Hear our prayer, O Lord; Incline Thine ear to us, And grant us Thy peace.

The Lord's Prayer ~ in unison

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.

*Hymn #418 ~ "Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling"

*Benediction

*Choral Response #136 ~ "Go, Tell It on the Mountain" (refrain x 2) Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere; go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

Postlude ~ "Lead On, O King Eternal" (arr. Smith)

CCLI#2342595/20863950 CVLI#505418919

Doris Knecht will celebrate her 100th birthday **TOMORROW**! All are invited to the celebration **TODAY** from 1:00PM – 6:00PM at Anthology of Farmington, 30637 W. Fourteen Mile Road, Farmington Hills 48334. Cards may be sent to Doris at this address, Room #415.

From Kathy Potter..."Thank you to all who participated in **ROMANS** last Sunday! We assembled about 970 condiment/utensil packets for Crossroads Soup Kitchen to accompany the meals they provide each week to the community in need in Detroit. May God bless the many hands that were able to assist & to those who lifted this project up in prayer. Thank you, too, to the VanEcks for providing a delicious lunch! To God be all the glory!"

The **Livonia Community Theatre** will present the musical *"Don't Hug Me"* on Friday, February 3 and Saturday, February 4 @ 7:30PM as well as on Friday, February 10 @ 7:30PM and on

Saturday, February 11 @ 2:00PM and @ 7:30PM. Tickets are at ticketleap.com or \$15.00 **CASH** at the door.

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation is called for Sunday, February 12, 2023 immediately following the worship service.

The Mission Team is planning another Adult Mission Trip to Madisonville, Kentucky, leaving on **Sunday, March 26 and returning on Saturday, April 1**. We will be staying at the First Presbyterian Church of Madisonville. Please contact Gary Earnley for details.

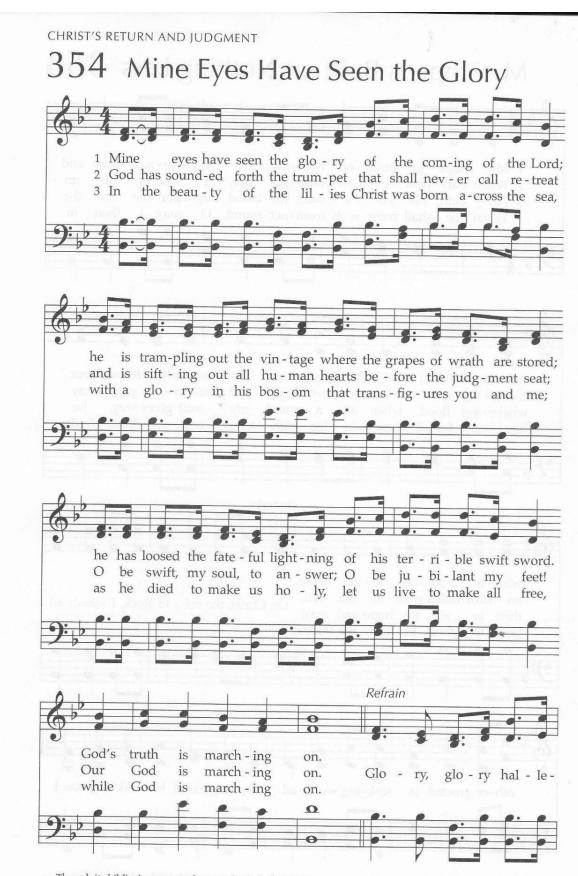
Please consider making a donation of **\$35.00** to St. Paul's **Per Capita** obligation for 2023. The assessment is \$4,278.05, based on **each member on the rolls** and a donation from each member will lessen the financial impact on the General Fund. An envelope was provided in your January packet, with an option to also donate to Shared Mission. **Thank you** to those who have already made a donation!

Stewardship update: General Fund pledges: 43 units @ \$131,093.00; Building Fund pledges: 23 units @ \$25,770.00. The budget goal for 2023 is \$225,000.00. If you have not yet made a pledge, please prayerfully consider doing so. **Thank you** to those who have made a financial commitment for 2023. Your support is a blessing!

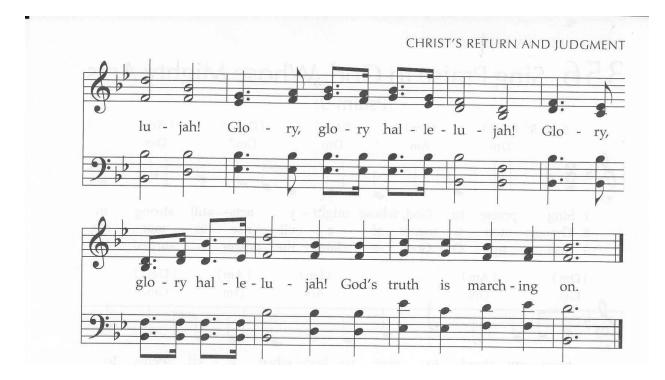
Please hold those listed in prayer... and REVIEW and REPORT updates, PLEASE

In Our Thoughts

Andy Foy, Bill Garvey, Mike Graham, Janet Frank, Grace Erwin, August Kornowicz, Karen Bright Sheldon Davis, Doris Knecht, Pam Phillips, Suzanne Tabaka, Jim and Joanna Roye, Jerry Stone Beverly Dearth, Kathleen Warren, Bob Liebertz, Grace Campbell, Susan Grant, Bruce Phillips Julie Newell~ cousin of Pam Phillips; Sister-in law and nephew of Pat Garvey Linda Thompson and her sister, Shirley Kircoff Joan Velis and family; Westin ~ infant grandson of Jeanne Sinclair John Branch ~ father of Christie Piastowski Dave Schulz ~ nephew of Carol and Mike Graham Sharon and George and Rita Czanko ~ cousins of Terry Earnley John Candiloro ~ friend of August Kornowicz Ray & Mary Clark ~ neighbors of Don and Meta Tulley Sarah & Mason Young ~ family of Judy McGregor Chris O'Neill, Tracey Ford, Phil Decker and Vickie McVeigh ~ friends of Judy McGregor Ben Abela ~ son-in-law of August and Faith Kornowicz Macaylah Whitlock ~ daughter of the Rev. Kellie and Marc Whitlock Rosemary Iaquinta ~ sister of Cathy DeSautel; Pamela Serene ~ daughter of the late Marilyn Allen Glenn Ellan Rubright ~ sister of Mike Graham; Nicole Snead ~ daughter of Bill VanEck Nancy Kreipke ~ mother of Christian; Rich McKenzie ~ son of Jean; Erin Lewis ~ daughter of Pattie Benoit Phyllis Badman ~ niece of Georgia Hunt; Christie Piastowski ~ daughter of Karen Bright Janet Kusuhara ~ cousin of Meta Tulley; Joe Ducsay ~ friend of Mike and Carol Graham Mark Osborne \sim son of the late Janet Cyndi Knecht ~ daughter of Doris; Joe Perko ~ friend of Wanda and Bob Seymour David Bonandrini ~ son of Ben; Gideon Janku ~ great nephew of Bob Westbrook Judy Siegfried ~ sister-in-law of Pam Phillips; Randy Tillman ~ son of Gloria Rubbo Mary Rayes ~ friend of Pat Hutchison; Adam Schilling and Eric Shilling ~ grandsons of Ron and Janet Frank Donald Keller III ~ son of Jan Lapenta; Scott Davis ~ son of Sheldon and Marion Davis



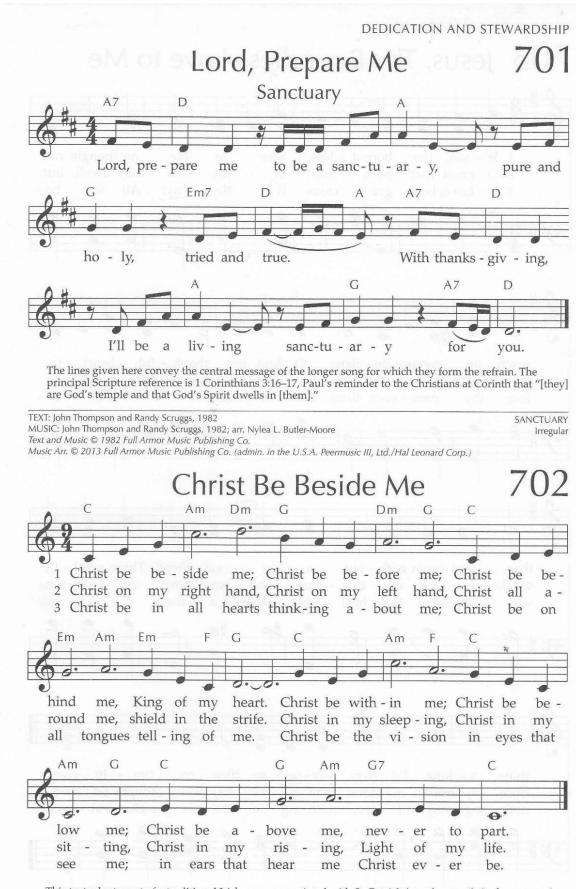
Though its biblical roots are often overlooked, this text incorporates many apocalyptic images such as the coming of the Lord in glory (Matthew 24:30/Mark 13:26/Luke 21:27), the winepress (Isaiah 63:3; Revelation 14:19, 19:15), and the sharp sword (Isaiah 27:1; Revelation 19:15).



CONFESSION



This 19th-century gospel hymn has often been used as a hymn of invitation at evangelistic services. Its imagery is primarily based on Jesus' parable in Luke 15:11–32, commonly called "The Prodigal Son." Each singer thus becomes a wandering child who is urged to return home.



This text adapts part of a traditional Irish prayer associated with St. Patrick (see also no. 6). Such a prayer for protection is known as a *lorica*, from a Latin word for "breastplate" or "armor." It is set to a Gaelic melody that gained wide popularity in the 1970s.

MUSIC: Gaelic melody; arr. Dale Grotenhuis, 1985

TEXT: James Quinn, SJ, 1969