

# Sunday Worship

January 16, 2022

## THE APPROACH TO GOD

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Jesus Christ embodied God's call to reach out and care for those who are brokenhearted and those who mourn, people who are abused and oppressed, who are powerless to make changes for good in their lives. The Spirit of the Lord empowers and anoints us to proclaim and to live out that same message—to lift up those who are down trodden, to comfort those who mourn, to be bearers of good news in word and deed.

### GREETING

The Lord be with you, sisters, and brothers.

### OPENING PRAYER & CONFESSION

Lord God, thank you for being hope to the hopeless, giving sight to the blind, releasing those in bondage, alleviating poverty and embracing those poor in spirit.

We confess we are more inclined to turn our backs on opportunities of service than pitch in to affect the needed changes that will promote healing and wholeness. Forgive us when we give lip service to you and then slip into inaction. Give us courage to be willing disciples. Help us to be people of promise and hope, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Jesus has opened the doors for service to each one of us. We have been freed from our fears and doubts. Rejoice, dear friends! In the Name of Jesus, we are forgiven and healed!

### GLORIA PATRI

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

### THE PEACE

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another:

“The peace of Christ be with you all.”

“And, also with you.”

## THE WORD OF GOD

### PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

#### SCRIPTURE

Luke 4:14-30

PAGE 1018

#### SERMAN

“Why Is Our Ministry Important?”

Pastor Tim

### PRAYER OF BLESSING

**Confession of Faith** Belhar Confession (Section 4)

**We believe:**

**that God has revealed himself as the one who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people**  
**that God, in a world full of injustice and enmity, is in a special way the God of the destitute, the poor and the wronged**  
**that God calls the church to follow him in this, for God brings justice to the oppressed and gives bread to the hungry**  
**that God frees the prisoner and restores sight to the blind**  
**that God supports the downtrodden, protects the stranger, helps orphans and widows and blocks the path of the ungodly**  
**that for God pure and undefiled religion is to visit the orphans and the widows in their suffering**  
**that God wishes to teach the church to do what is good and to seek the right**  
**that the church must therefore stand by people in any form of suffering and need, which implies, among other things, that the church must witness against and strive against any form of injustice, so that justice may roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream**  
**that the church as the possession of God must stand where the Lord stands, namely against injustice and with the wronged; that in following Christ the church must witness against all the powerful and privileged who selfishly seek their own interests and thus control and harm others.**

## THE RESPONSE TO GOD

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### BENEDICTION

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lord, you bring glad tidings to the poor, heal the brokenhearted and free the prisoners from their jails. Loving God, please come to us and send us out, forgiven, to the poor, the brokenhearted, and the imprisoned. Amen.

