**Welcome to OUR SAVIOUR’S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

343 Scott Street, Ripon Wisconsin *(920) 748-2544*

*www.OurSavioursUCCRipon.com*

Epiphany Four Jan. 28 & 31, 2021

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*\* All who are able please stand L: Leader; P: People*

Prelude Accompanist: Craig Bowden

Words of Welcome and Good News

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Friends in Christ, what hopes do you bring to worship?  
**P: We bring hope for health and wholeness.**

L: What afflictions do you bring to worship? Physical pain?  
**P: From illness and injury.**L: Emotional pain?  
**P: From sad and scary life situations.**L: Mental pain?  
**P: From dis-ease of many kinds.**L: With all of these afflictions, it’s a miracle that any of us have made it to worship this morning!  
**P: But where else would we be? We yearn to know God’s powerful love and to know that wholeness is possible.**

L: Come, let us worship!

\*HYMN: “Let There Be Light, Lord God of Hosts” R255/Projected

\*INVOCATION

L: In today’s gospel, a person with an “afflicting spirit” interrupts Jesus and Jesus sets the person free. Where does the miracle of this story and our stories begin?  
**P: When we bring all of who we are–Hopeful, afflicted, bold—into relationship with the Divine. So come, let us enter this sanctuary with our whole selves–Hopeful, afflicted and bold-Come, let us worship!**

RESPONSE & INVITATION: “Spirit of the Living God”

**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me; Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.**

WITNESS OF FAITH: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

WITNESS OF FAITH: Psalm 111

CALL TO CONFESSION

L: God has come to us in Christ, but we often live as if it made no difference. Let us confess our sin.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**All: O Divine Healer, we confess that sometimes we yearn for you to wave a magic wand on our wounded lives to remove our pain, illness, and suffering. We hear the gospel story of the one seeking healing from Jesus and assume you will perform a similar miracle for all of us – if we just pray hard enough! And we do pray! Open our eyes to recognize the teachings and tools you have given us with which to seek healing in the midst of our afflictions and dis-eases. You whisper to us that wholeness requires self-care and rest; you nudge us toward caregivers who can support and advise us; you breathe into us energy to move and stretch and reach toward health; you place in us an urgency to seek God’s justice so that all may enjoy adequate health care; Renew our spirits in the midst of our dis-eases and afflicting spirits. Transform us, O Whole-y One, for the health of your creation. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

L: The one who calls us to this place calls us to reconciliation through grace. God will not deny a repentant heart or an open spirit. Know that in Jesus, you are forgiven, so walk in the new way that is made known to you in God’s love.

**P: Through the power of the Spirit, let us live as children of God. Amen.**

Passing of the Peace [Due to safety issues, Rev. Mundell will give a blessing]

WITNESS OF FAITH: I Corinthians 8:1-13

GOSPEL LESSON: Mark 1:21-28

LEARNING WITH OUR CHILDREN: Animated Gospel Story

\*STATEMENT OF FAITH: Adaptation of Colossians 1:15-20 Projected

**Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in Christ all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or authorities-all things were created through Christ and for Christ. Christ is before all things, and in Christ all things hold together. Christ is the head of the body, the church; Christ is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything Christ might be preeminent. For in Christ all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through Christ all things are reconciled to God, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of Christ’s Cross.**

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

**Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place**

**I can feel God’s mighty power and God’s Grace**

**I can hear the brush of angel’s wings**

**I see glory on each face**

**Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place**

VR: “Be Thou My Vision” by Celtic Worship Projected

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

Prayer of Our Savior:

**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, for ever. Amen.**

HYMN: “I Will Follow” by Chris Tomlin Projected

MEDITATION: “Living for Others” Rev. Kevin Mundell

HYMN: “We Believe in One True God” R5/Projected

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

[Offering plates are located near the sanctuary entrances.]

L: When we give of ourselves to meet the needs of others, we are co-creators in the health of God’s creation. As we have been given much, let us give in return.

OFFERTORY

\*OFFERTORY RESPONSE

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;**

**Praise God above, you heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**ALL: Transforming God, we dedicate our gifts for the health of your creation. May those who receive these gifts be blessed by your love and inspired to give to others so that your creation will continue to be transformed by your love.**

\*BENEDICTION: “Go Now In Peace”

**Go now in peace. Never be afraid. God will go with you each hour of every day. Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true. Know he will guide you in all you do. Go now in love, and show you believe. Reach out to others so all the world can see. God will be there watching from above. Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.**

\*Postlude

**THIS WEEK’S COMING EVENTS**

**Sun. Jan. 31 9:00 am Worship in Sanctuary – 4th Sunday of Epiphany**

**10:15 am Sunday School & Adult Ed**

**Mon. Feb. 1 Office open 10-Noon.**

**Tues.** **Feb. 2 Office open 10-Noon.**

**Wed. Feb. 3 Office open 10-Noon.**

**5:15 pm Confirmation**

**Thurs. Feb. 4 Office open 10-Noon.**

**6:30 pm Worship in Sanctuary**

**Friday Feb. 5 Office Closed.**

**Sun. Feb. 7 9:00 am Worship in Sanctuary and Communion – 5th Sunday of Epiphany**

**10:15 am Sunday School**

**10:30-11:00 am Drive-Thru Communion**

**FUTURE COMING EVENTS**

**Wed Feb 10 5:15 pm Confirmation**

**Thurs. Feb 11 6:30 pm Worship in Sanctuary**

**Sun. Feb 14 9:00 am Worship in Sanctuary - 6th Sunday of Epiphany**

**10:15 am Sunday School and Adult Ed**

**LOOSE COIN UPDATE:** We are still using the loose coins in the offering plate for special projects. You can still give by specifying on the envelope that it is for Stewardship loose coin offering. Thanks to all for your continued support.

**DRIVE THRU COMMUNION:** First Sunday of each month from 10:30 am- 11:00 am. The next drive-thru communion will take place this Sunday February 7th. January 3rd, we had 22 participants.

**WORSHIP & COMMUNION:** We will continue with 2-worship services/week and offer communion both in the “sanctuary” and via “drive-thru”. Through March for sure and longer, if helpful.

**WELCOME TO OUR SERVICE TODAY!**

We welcome all visitors and guests, and we are glad you can join us for our services.

**Large print bulletins and regular bulletins are available in the vestibule and online, if you would like one mailed to you, please let us know. Weekly hymns are being printed and some are available in the vestibule by the bulletins.**

9:00 am Worship: Podcasted and video at [www.oursavioursuccripon.com](http://www.oursavioursuccripon.com/) & airs at 11:00 am on 1600 WRPN. Also available on Facebook.

**Pastor** Rev. Dr. Kevin Mundell revdrmundell@me.com 920-385-8990

**Parish Nurse** SSM Health ended their Parish Nurse Program, and Nurse, Jessica also ended her time with us. We are in the process of discerning our next steps.

**Admin. Assistant** Conrad Winkelman winkelmanc@ripon.edu or osuccripon1@gmail.com 920-748-2544

**Custodian** Rick Stracy [rlstracy@gmail.com](mailto:rlstracy@gmail.com) 920-229-1367

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:**  The office hours are: Mon-Thurs. 10-noon. If you need to get into church at an unopen time, please call the church office and leave a message.

**PARISH NURSE HOURS:** Nurse Jess’ last day was Dec. 22. We are discerning the future of the program.

**Sunday Worship Team 9:00 am**

**Audio Operator:** Phil Manthei **Liturgist:** Confirmand

**Acolyte:**

**Organist:** Craig Bowden

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**CONTRIBUTIONS & ATTENDANCE FOR LAST WEEK**:

Attendance: Thursday 6:30 – 11 Sunday 9:00 - 27

General Fund: $ 1875.00 Capital Improvements: $117.00 OCWM: $94.00

Thank you so much for your continued support of mailed in and online contributions.

**MARCH MESSENGER:** The deadline for submitting announcements to be included into the March messenger is February 15th.

**CONTACT INFORMATION:** If any of your contact information changes, please let the office know as soon as possible. Thank you.

***Birthday Greetings to our Young at Heart (age 50+)***

***John Cate,*** *February 1,* ***Kevin Mundell,*** *February 1,* ***Leroy Yeomans,*** *February 2,*

***Ruth Ann Cluppert,*** *February 4,* ***Deborah******Prellwitz,*** *February 4*

**GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**ALTAR & ORGAN FLOWERS; RADIO BROADCAST; BULLETIN SIGN-UP:** 2021 Sign-up is available on the stand outside of the office! This sign-up is for ALL SPONSORSHIPS! Altar flowers are $25 and Organ flowers are $16 each. Radio Broadcasts are $50 per sponsor & $25 per sponsor per bulletin. You can also send a letter with payment into the office or call the office to sign up. Please remember to send payment in for your signed-up slots.

**MISSIONS COMMITTEE NOTES:** Smoke Alarm Install. – rescheduled for hopefully next spring. Please watch bulletins and messengers to stay up to date. Thank you.

**SPECIAL MUSIC:** If you are interested in contributing to worship with some form of special music, please talk to Craig Bowen or David Thompson. We can even record the piece in the sanctuary and insert the recording into our services for safety if need be.

**2021 ENVELOPE BOXES:** “Contribution Envelope Boxes” are located in the East Narthex, near the carport entry door. You can safely access narthex anytime the church office is open. Boxes will be returned to the church office at the end of January.

**LIVE STREAMING:** Every worship service, from 6:30pm to 7:30pm on Thursdays, and from 9:00am to 10:00am on Sundays. If you go to the video podcast section of our website or our Facebook page you should be able to follow along with the service as it is happening in the sanctuary. Immediately, after each service, a recording of the service is available on all three sites. If there is a problem with the Live Stream, let us know, because we may be able to manually put an audio or video recording up on our OSUCC website.

**PRAYER CHAIN MINISTRY:** Feel free to use our prayer chain ministry by contacting Caroline Retzlaff at 920-748-2367.

**IN OUR PRAYERS:** Barb Schultz, Billi Kaufman, Ed Vande Brink, Bill Waltenberry, Roger Fenner, Lorraine Fischer, Len Quinn, Kay Quinn, Steve McSorley, Bob Schouten, Caroline Sowersby, Mary Albright, Nancy Mills, 12 unspoken, and all others.

Please keep in your prayers the family and friends of Donald Ammeter, as they grieve his loss.

Please keep in your payers the family and friends of Melvin Berndt, as they grieve his loss.

**2020 GIVING STATEMENTS:** The 2020 annual giving statements were mailed out on January 6. When you receive your statement, please review it for accuracy with your own records. If you believe there is an error with the church’s statement, please contact the church office, so that we can print you a new corrected statement.

**LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICES:** Lenten worship service will be (1) service each Wednesday at 6:30pm in the sanctuary. There will be no afternoon Lenten worship service. The Lenten services will be “live-streamed” on our website and Facebook like our regular worship services. Ash Wednesday is February 17 and starts Lenten worship services.

**ANNUAL MEETING:** This year’s annual meeting will be Sunday, February 14th, following the 9:00 AM worship service, in the main sanctuary. We will have safe-social distance seating for 85-people in the sanctuary. We need a quorum of 45 members. If you would like to join the meeting via Zoom, please let Reverend Mundell know ASAP.

**ANNUAL REPORT:** The annual report will be ready on February 3, 2021 and printed copies available for pick-up in the Scott Street vestibule entry anytime. Copies will also be available in the Church Office anytime the church office is open.

**SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE NOTICE:** Scholarship Applications through Our Saviours UCC are available to be picked up in the folder marked “Scholarships”, outside the church office near the information center counter.