

"Serving God and mammon is not possible" van Sichem (II)/van Mallery/Bernardino



THE WORSHIP OF GOD FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY FEBRUARY 2, 2025 ONLINE AND IN-PERSON WORSHIP 11:00 A.M.

The Worship of God Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany February 2, 2025

Jesus Christ and all the writers of the New Testament call us to break free of mammon lust and live in joyous trust...They point us toward a way of living in which everything we have we receive as a gift, and everything we have is cared for by God, and everything we have is available to others when it is right and good. This reality frames the heart of Christian simplicity. It is the means of liberation and power to do what is right and to overcome the forces of fear and avarice.

-Richard J. Foster

Gathering Music

"How Great Thou Art"

Stuart K. Hine/Mark Hayes. © 1981 Manna Music, Inc./© 2003 Alfred Music Publishing Co., Inc. Used by permission. CCLI #20126570

Welcome and Lighting of the Christ Candle

Rev. Cristina Adams

Prelude "Prelude in D-flat"

Gabriel Faure/Jacques-Louis de Champ D'homme. © 1992 Lorenz Pub. Co./ The Lorenz Corp. Used by permission. CCLI #20126570

LIFTING OUR VOICES IN PRAISE

* Call to Worship

Laura McCorkill

Psalm 71

Leader: Our hope is in God all of our lives.

People: God is a rock of refuge: a fortress against threat and shame.

Leader: God has held us since our birth.

People: So we are never in the full grasp of the unjust and cruel.

Leader: In love, God saves and supports us.

People: Trusting in God, we continually offer our praise!

* Hymn of Praise (CONGR 339)

"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

CORONATION

* Passing of the Peace

Leader: The Lord be with you. **People: And also with you!** Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord!

If able, please text or message someone from the congregation and share with them the sign of peace.

* Responding in Peace (CONGR 536, vs 2)

"Lord, You Call Us to Your Service"

LAUDA ANIMA

Children's Sermon

Sharing Ourselves in Prayer

Call to Prayer (CONGR 640)

"Leaning on the Everlasting Arms" SHOWALTER

^{*} *In-person worshippers are invited to stand as able*

Hearing Our Joys and Concerns

Unison Discipline of Confession

God, our Deliverer, we confess that we are too reluctant to speak and to live according to your truth. We grow comfortable with the way things are, passively condoning injustice. We see ourselves as "insiders," excluding those we consider "outsiders." We find it easier to pluck up and pull down, to destroy and overthrow, than to build and to plant. Forgive us, O God, for being timid disciples. Empty us of fear and shame, and fill us with love that is humble and patient and kind.

Discipline of Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

God has loved us from the beginning, and God's love for us will never end. Do not fear, therefore, but have faith in God's steadfast love, God's healing power, and God's ability to make all things new.

Morning Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

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, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

RETURNING OUR GIFTS IN GRATITUDE

Sentences of Stewardship

Offertory "Amazing Grace"

Tune: NEW BRITAIN. Words: John Newton, 1779 (sts. 1-4); anonymous, ca. 1790 (st. 5).

Music: Benjamin Shaw & Charles H. Spilman's Columbian Harmony, 1829,
arr. Edwin O. Excel, 1900. Public domain.

* Doxology and Prayer of Thanksgiving

PROCLAIMING THE TRUTH WITH HOPE

* Gospel Reading Rev. Matthew Sturtevant

Luke 16.1–8a

Leader: This is the Word of God for the People of God.

People: Thanks be to God!

Ministry of Music "A Lord-Built House"

Roger Lentz, transcribed by Craig Courtney. © 1987, 2008 Beckenhorst Press. Used by permission. CCLI #20126570

Sermon Rev. Matthew Sturtevant

"Threading the Needle: The Parable of the Shrewd Manager"

CELEBRATING THE TABLE OF GRACE

Invitation to the Table

^{*} In-person worshippers are invited to stand as able

Celebration of the Bread and Cup

"In This Very Room" Ron Harris/Mark Hayes. © 2015 Lorenz Pub. Co./The Lorenz Corp.. Used by permission. CCLI #20126570

* Hymn of Invitation (CONGR 457)

"Come and Feast, for All Are Welcomed" REGENT SQUARE

- * Life of the Church
- * Benediction

Postlude

"Postlude on a 17th Century Church Tune" (Lasst Uns Erfreuen) Robert J. Hughes. © 1990 Lorenz Pub. Co./The Lorenz Corp. Used by permission. CCLI #20126570

The flowers on the altar are given for the greater glory of God by the memorial fund of Marianne Cannavele.

TODAY IN WORSHIP

Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Matthew Sturtevant

Assoc. Pastor for Children, Youth, & Families: Rev. Cristina Adams

Liturgist: Laura McCorkill • Organist: Evelyn Falen • Chancel Choir Director: Mark Robinson

Piano & Vocal Solo: Penny Gray, assisted by Meredith Bagwell-Gray Livestream Video Crew: Susan Pauls, Joanna Gillette • Sound: Jim Lord

YouTube & Facebook Chat Moderator: Kylee Johnston

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Local Church: Liberating Word of God Ministries

American Baptist Churches, USA: Executive Min. Rev. Dr. TaNikka Marie Sheppard,
serving American Baptist Churches of the Cleveland Baptist Association

International Ministries Global Servants: Jonathan & Thelma Nambu, based in the Philippines

Cover art: "God én de mammon dienen gaat niet" ("Serving God and mammon is not possible") Print maker: Christoffel van Sichem (II) (1629), after a print by: Karel van Mallery (1593) after a design by: Bernardino. Rijksmuseum, CC0, via Wikimedia Commons. Downloaded 1/30/2025 at https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:God_% C3% A9n_de_mammon_dienen_gaat_niet,_RP-P-2015-17-61-2.jpg

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Every member of First Baptist Church, like every disciple of Christ, is commissioned to participate in Christian ministry.

The following persons have been called by this congregation to empower such ministry:

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Senior Pastor
Assoc. Pastor for Children, Youth, and Families
Administrative Support Manager
Bookkeeper
Building Manager
Digital Media Manager
Director of Worship Music
Organist & Chancel Choir Accompanist
8:38 a.m. Worship Pianist

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