

SUNDAY, February 23, 2025

7th Sunday of Epiphany

Caldwell United Methodist Church, 8 Academy Road, Caldwell, N. J. 07006

Rev. Kil Jae Park, Pastor

Jackie Han, Music Minister



PRELUDE

“Now Thank We All Our God”

Jackie Han

WELCOME AND INVOCATION

Pastor Park

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Come and learn the ways of life.

P: We have come to follow Jesus.

L: Love your enemies, and do good to those who hate you.

P: We have come to follow Jesus.

L: Bless those who curse you, and pray for those who persecute you.

P: We have come to follow Jesus.

L: Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.

P: We have come to follow Jesus.

L: Come and learn the ways of life.

* OPENING HYMN

“To God Be the Glory”

UMH # 98

1. To God be the glory, great things he hath done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.

Refrain:

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
let the earth hear his voice!

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
let the people rejoice!

O come to the Father thru Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory, great things he hath done!

2. O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
to every believer the promise of God;
the vilest offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

(Refrain)

3. Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done,
and great our rejoicing thru Jesus the Son;
but purer, and higher, and greater will be
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.
(Refrain)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, you have commanded us to love you above all and to have no other gods. You have called us to love others as you love them. But we confess that we have failed to follow your command and live according to your call. Instead of worshipping you, the One True God, we often followed many false gods in our lives and compromised our faith in the way that we live in this world. We remained indifferent to the sufferings of other people; we failed to love others as ourselves; and we were reluctant to be merciful to others as you have been merciful with us. Forgive us our sins and transform us by your Spirit so that we might learn to love as you love and live as people baptized as your own children. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

GATHERING SONG

"Thou Art Worthy"

TFWS # 2041

Thou art worthy,
Thou art worthy,
Thou art worthy, O Lord,
To receive glory,
Glory and honor,
Glory and honor and power
For Thou hast created,
hast all things created,
Thou hast created all things;
And for Thy pleasure
they are created -
Thou art worthy, O Lord.

SCRIPTURE

Luke 6:27-38

27 "But to you who are listening I say: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you,

28 bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.

29 If someone slaps you on one cheek, turn to them the other also. If someone takes your coat, do not withhold your shirt from them.

30 Give to everyone who asks you, and if anyone takes what belongs to you, do not demand it back.

31 Do to others as you would have them do to you.

32 “If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them.

33 And if you do good to those who are good to you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners do that.

34 And if you lend to those from whom you expect repayment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, expecting to be repaid in full.

35 But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked.

36 Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

37 “Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven.

38 Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.”

Leader: This is the Word of God for the people of God

All: Thanks be to God

ANTHEM “Hymn of Promise” the CUMC Choir

MESSAGE “Be Better” Pastor Park

RECEIVING THE MORNING’S OFFERINGS

***DOXOLOGY # 95**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise Him all creatures here below
Praise Him above ye heavenly host
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*** PRAYER OF DEDICATION** Pastor Park

PRAYER Pastor Karen

*** CLOSING HYMN** “Pass It On” UMH # 572

1. It only takes a spark
to get a fire going,
and soon all those around

can warm up
 in its glowing.
 That's how it is
 with God's love
 once you've experienced it;
 you spread his love
 to everyone;
 you want to pass it on.

2. What a wondrous
 time is spring,
 when all the trees are budding,
 the birds begin to sing,
 the flowers
 start their blooming.
 That's how it is
 with God's love
 once you've experienced it;
 you want to sing,
 it's fresh like spring,
 you want to pass it on.

3. I wish for you, my friend,
 the happiness
 that I've found;
 you can depend on him,
 it matters not
 where you're bound.
 I'll shout it from
 the mountaintop;
 I want my world to know;
 the Lord of love
 has come to me,
 I want to pass it on.

*** BENEDICTION**

Pastor Park

POSTLUDE

“Now the Green Blade Riseth“
Please remain seated for the postlude

Jackie Han

***Stand as able**

Announcements:

- Altar Flowers are given by Aliesa Rampersad to the Glory of God.
- Special thanks to Louise Woodcox for hosting the time of Fellowship today. Please join us for fellowship immediately following the worship service.
- If you have not already filled out your membership form please complete it and return it to the church office at your earliest convenience. Completed forms may be returned to the office, mailed or emailed to the office at caldwellumcnj@gmail.com.
- We invite you to join us in the weekly Bible reading program. The question sheet can be picked up every Sunday from the back of the church or receive it in your email every Sunday afternoon. Reading the Bible each day will help us to grow in our faith. Please be sure to pick up your answered forms from the back of the church.



If you wish to give electronically scan this QR code using the camera function on your smart phone. You will be taken directly to the donations page on our website.

**“Coming Up This Week”*****Birthday Greetings to:***

Leslie Pierce - February 26

Gordon Stelter - February 26

Joan Coleman - February 27

Adrian Voca - February 27