

Join us on Facebook at “AndrewChapelUMCVA” for Sunday Worship,
Third Sunday after the Epiphany
January 24th at 10:00 a.m.

This Service will also be posted on our webpage at “andrewchapelumc.org”

Here is the Order of Worship for our online worship experience.

[Jesus said] “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and
with all your mind, and with all your strength.”

Mark 12:30

Greeting and Welcome

Prelude Music

Call to Worship

For God alone our souls wait in silence.

In God alone do our spirits find peace.

For God alone is our rock and our salvation.

In God alone does our faith remain unshaken.

Pour out your hearts before God.

For God is our refuge and our strength.

Put your trust in God.

God’s steadfast love endures forever.

Opening Prayer

Teach us anew, rock of our salvation, how your kingdom has come near. Call us to be your disciples this day, that we might find refuge and strength as we face the destructive forces of our lives. Grant us the strength to wait for you, that we might meet you in the subterranean chambers of our souls. For in you we rest secure, in you we abide in holy love. Amen.

Opening Hymn of Praise “My Life Flows On” TFWS #2212 Words and Music: Mark Lowry.
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1. My life flows on in endless song,
above earth’s lamentation.
I hear the clear though far-off hymn
that hails a new creation.

Refrain:

No storm can shake my inmost calm
while to that Rock I’m clinging.
Since Love is lord of heaven and earth,
how can I keep from singing?

2. Through all the tumult and the strife,
I hear that music ringing.
It finds an echo in my soul.
How can I keep from singing?
(Refrain)

3. What though my joys and comforts die?
I know my Savior liveth.
What though the darkness gather round?
Songs in the night he giveth.
(Refrain)

4. The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart,
a fountain ever springing!
All things are mine since I am his!
How can I keep from singing?
(Refrain)

Affirmation of Faith “The Apostles’ Creed, Traditional Version” UMH #881

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of the Father Almighty. From thence he shall come again to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Gloria Patri “Glory Be to the Father” UMH #70 Music: Lesser Doxology, 3rd-4th cent. Music: Charles Meineke, 1844.

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

Being the Church

Hymn “Thou Hidden Love of God” UMH #414 Text: Gerhard Tersteegen, 1697-1769; trans. by John Wesley, 1703-1791. Music: Geistliche Lieder; harm. from J.S. Bach. *Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-733303. All rights reserved. Used with permission under CCLI License #11306163.*

1. Thou hidden love of God, whose height,
whose depth unfathomed no one knows,

I see from far thy beauteous light,
and inly sigh for thy repose;
my heart is pained, nor can it be
at rest, till it finds rest in thee.

2. 'Tis mercy all that thou hast brought
my mind to seek its peace in thee;
yet while I seek, but find thee not,
no peace my wandering soul shall see.
O when shall all my wanderings end,
and all my steps to thee-ward tend?

3. Is there a thing beneath the sun
that strives with thee my heart to share?
Ah, tear it thence and reign alone,
the Lord of every motion there;
then shall my heart from earth be free,
when it hath found repose in thee.

4. O Love, thy sovereign aid impart
to save me from low-thoughted care;
chase this self-will from all my heart,
from all its hidden mazes there;
make me thy duteous child that I
ceaseless may "Abba, Father" cry.

5. Each moment draw from earth away
my heart that lowly waits thy call;
speak to my inmost soul and say,
"I am thy love, thy God, thy all!"
To feel thy power, to hear thy voice,
to taste thy love, be all my choice.

Gospel Reading Mark 5:1-20 (NRSV)

They came to the other side of the sea, to the country of the Gerasenes. ²And when he had stepped out of the boat, immediately a man out of the tombs with an unclean spirit met him. ³He lived among the tombs; and no one could restrain him any more, even with a chain; ⁴for he had often been restrained with shackles and chains, but the chains he wrenched apart, and the shackles he broke in pieces; and no one had the strength to subdue him. ⁵Night and day among the tombs and on the mountains he was always howling and bruising himself with stones. ⁶When he saw Jesus from a distance, he ran and bowed down before him; ⁷and he shouted at the top of his voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I adjure you by God, do not torment me." ⁸For he had said to him, "Come out of the man,

you unclean spirit!"⁹ Then Jesus asked him, "What is your name?" He replied, "My name is Legion; for we are many."¹⁰ He begged him earnestly not to send them out of the country.¹¹ Now there on the hillside a great herd of swine was feeding;¹² and the unclean spirits begged him, "Send us into the swine; let us enter them."¹³ So he gave them permission. And the unclean spirits came out and entered the swine; and the herd, numbering about two thousand, rushed down the steep bank into the sea, and were drowned in the sea.

¹⁴ The swineherds ran off and told it in the city and in the country. Then people came to see what it was that had happened.¹⁵ They came to Jesus and saw the demoniac sitting there, clothed and in his right mind, the very man who had had the legion; and they were afraid.¹⁶ Those who had seen what had happened to the demoniac and to the swine reported it.¹⁷ Then they began to beg Jesus to leave their neighborhood.¹⁸ As he was getting into the boat, the man who had been possessed by demons begged him that he might be with him.¹⁹ But Jesus refused, and said to him, "Go home to your friends, and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and what mercy he has shown you."²⁰ And he went away and began to proclaim in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him; and everyone was amazed.

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon "Adventure Stories in the Gospel of Mark: Taming the Legions" Rev. Matthew Sergent

Prayers of the People

Hymn "Make Me a Captive, Lord" UMH #421. Text: George Matheson, 1842-1906.
Music: George J. Elvey, 1816-1893. *Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-733303.*
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1. Make me a captive, Lord,
and then I shall be free.
Force me to render up my sword,
and I shall conqueror be.
I sink in life's alarms
when by myself I stand;
imprison me within thine arms,
and strong shall be my hand.

2. My heart is weak and poor
until it master find;
it has no spring of action sure,
it varies with the wind.
It cannot freely move
till thou hast wrought its chain;
enslave it with thy matchless love,

and deathless it shall reign.

3. My power is faint and low
till I have learned to serve;
it lacks the needed fire to glow,
it lacks the breeze to nerve.
It cannot drive the world
until itself be driven;
its flag can only be unfurled
when thou shalt breathe from heaven.

4. My will is not my own
till thou hast made it thine;
if it would reach a monarch's throne,
it must its crown resign.
It only stands unbent
amid the clashing strife,
when on thy bosom it has leant,
and found in thee its life.

Benediction

Go as kingdom people, for the realm of God has come near. Go with God's blessings. Go as God's people, for that is who we are. Go as those who believe in the good news, for that is our daily bread. Go to live as people of mercy and grace.

Postlude