

“FRET NOT YOURSELF BECAUSE OF EVILDOERS!”  
PSALM 37:1



COME YE BLESSED | NATHANIEL MOKGOSI | SOUTH AFRICAN | 1980



THE CHURCH OF THE  
INCARNATION

THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF  
EPIPHANY  
FEBRUARY 8, 2026

# Welcome To The **CHURCH** of the **INCARNATION**

To all who are spiritually weary and desire rest,  
To all who are mourning and long for comfort,  
To all who struggle and desire victory,  
To all who sin and need a Savior,  
To all who are hungry and thirst for righteousness,  
And to whomever will come,  
This church opens her doors,  
Offering welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

# ENTERING GOD'S PRESENCE

God calls us out of the world and welcomes us into his presence.  
Opening our hearts to him in love, we respond by confessing our sins, receiving his forgiveness, and fully devoting our lives to him in praise and adoration.

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Congregational responses are indicated in **boldface**.

*Please stand.*

## **COME THOU FOUNT OF EVERY BLESSING**

*Words Robert Robinson, 1758; Music Asahel Nettleton, 1825 CCLI 11069486.*

Come thou Fount of every blessing  
Tune my heart to sing thy grace  
Streams of mercy never ceasing  
Call for songs of loudest praise  
Teach me some melodious sonnet  
Sung by flaming tongues above  
Praise the mount I'm fixed upon it  
Mount of God's redeeming love

Here I raise my ebenezer  
Hither by thy help I've come  
And I hope by thy good pleasure  
Safely to arrive at home  
Jesus sought me when a stranger  
Wandering from the fold of God  
He to rescue me from danger  
Interposed his precious blood

O to grace how great a debtor  
Daily I'm constrained to be  
Let thy goodness like a fetter  
Bind my wand'ring heart to thee  
Prone to wander Lord I feel it  
Prone to leave the God I love  
Here's my heart Lord take and seal it  
Seal it for thy courts above

\*The acclamation joyfully acknowledges God's presence and reign, announcing that we gather at his invitation and under his authority.

## **THE ACCLAMATION\***

I will make you as a light for the nations.

***That my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.***

\*This ancient prayer asks the Holy Spirit to cleanse our hearts so we may love God and magnify his Name with grace only he provides.

## THE COLLECT FOR PURITY\*

Let us pray.

**Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

\*Jesus summarizes God's Law as love of God and love of neighbor. As such it reveals our calling and our need, and leads us to Christ himself, in whom perfect love is manifest and given.

## THE SUMMARY OF THE LAW\*

• • •

## THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION\*

• • •

Please kneel and silently confess your sins against God and your neighbor.

\*In confession we tell the truth about ourselves because God has told us the truth about his mercy. Absolution proclaims Scripture's promise of full forgiveness in Christ.

**Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed  
by what we have done, and by what we have left  
undone.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

**We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will, and walk in your  
ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who sincerely repent and with true faith turn to him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Please stand.

\*Added in the English Reformation, these sentences of Scripture assure repentant sinners of Christ's mercy and remind us that our confidence rests in his finished work alone.

## THE COMFORTABLE WORDS\*

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16)

### THE SOLID ROCK

*Public Domain. Words: Edward Mote, 1834; music: William Bradbury, 1863.*

My hope is built on nothing less  
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame  
But wholly lean on Jesus' Name

On Christ the solid rock I stand  
All other ground is sinking sand  
All other ground is sinking sand

When darkness seems to hide his face  
I rest on his unchanging grace  
In every high and stormy gale  
My anchor holds within the vale

His oath his covenant his blood  
Support me in the whelming flood  
When all around my soul gives way  
He then is all my hope and stay

When he shall come with trumpet sound  
Oh may I then in him be found  
Dressed in his righteousness alone  
Faultless to stand before the throne

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY\*

The Lord be with you.  
**And with your spirit.**  
Let us pray.

O Lord, our heavenly Father, keep your household the Church continually in your true religion, that we who trust in the hope of your heavenly grace may always be defended by your mighty power; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

\*The Collect gathers the themes of the readings and the date in the Church calendar into one petition, asking God to accomplish in us what Scripture promises.

## A COLLECT FOR CHILDREN

**Almighty God, heavenly Father, you have blessed our congregation with the joy and care of children: Give us courage, patience, and wisdom, as we bring them up in the faith, that they may never know a day apart from your love and care; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Children ages 9-12 are dismissed for Children's Ministry.

Please be seated.

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

When Scripture is read, Christ addresses his people. Our posture shows that God's Word governs the Church. We stand for the Gospel reading because Jesus is the center and substance of the Scriptures.

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### **MICAH 6:1-8**

After the Scripture is read:

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM 37**

<sup>1</sup> Fret not yourself because of evildoers; be not envious of wrongdoers!

<sup>2</sup> **For they will soon fade like the grass and wither like the green herb.**

<sup>3</sup> Trust in the LORD, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness.

<sup>4</sup> **Delight yourself in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart.**

<sup>5</sup> Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him, and he will act.

<sup>6</sup> **He will bring forth your righteousness as the light, and your justice as the noonday.**

<sup>7</sup> Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him; fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way, over the man who carries out evil devices!

**<sup>8</sup> Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath!  
Fret not yourself; it tends only to evil.**

<sup>9</sup> For the evildoers shall be cut off, but those who wait for the LORD shall inherit the land.

**<sup>10</sup> In just a little while, the wicked will be no more;  
though you look carefully at his place, he will not be there.**

<sup>11</sup> But the meek shall inherit the land  
**and delight themselves in abundant peace.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Spirit.

**As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end, Amen.**

## **1 CORINTHIANS 1:18-31**

After the Scripture is read:

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand.*

## **MATTHEW 5:1-12**

Before the Scripture is read:

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to  
St. Matthew.

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

After the Scripture is read:

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

## **THE SERMON**

*Please stand.*

\*The Creed unites us with the Church across time, faithfully summarizing Scripture and guarding the gospel as we confess one Lord, one faith, one hope.

## THE NICENE CREED\*

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, visible and invisible.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, of one  
Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit  
and the Virgin Mary, and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified  
under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again in accordance with  
the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped  
and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic  
and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness  
of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the  
life of the world to come. Amen.**

\*Intercessory prayer is the priestly task of the people of God. Because Christ intercedes for us, we bring the needs of Church, world, and neighbor to the Father who delights to give good gifts.

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The leader will invite us to pray.

At the end of each petition:

Lord in your mercy:

**Hear our prayer.**

• • •

**O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

\*Sharing peace declares Christ's finished reconciliation. Before Communion, we express gospel unity: those at peace with God live at peace with one another.

## THE PEACE\*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And with your spirit.**

Let us greet one another in the name of our Lord.

Greet those around you with some version of these words:  
“The peace of Christ be with you.”

Parents pick up infants to 9 year-olds from upstairs at this time.

Please be seated.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*We give because God first gave to us. Offering our gifts—and ourselves—expresses gratitude and acknowledges that our lives belong wholly to God.

## THE OFFERTORY\*

### BE THOU MY VISION

*Mary Elizabeth Byrne & Eleanor Henrietta Hull. Public Domain. CCLI License 11069486.*

Be thou my vision O Lord of my heart  
Naught be all else to me save that thou art  
Thou my best thought by day or by night  
Waking or sleeping thy presence my light

Be thou my wisdom and thou my true word  
I ever with thee and thou with me Lord  
Thou my great Father and I thy true son  
Thou in me dwelling and I with thee one

Riches I heed not nor man's empty praise  
Thou mine inheritance now and always  
Thou and thou only first in my heart  
High king of heaven my treasure thou art

High king of heaven my victory won  
May I reach heaven's joys O bright heaven's Sun  
Heart of my own heart whatever befall  
Still be my vision O Ruler of all

*Please stand.*

### **BLESS THIS OFFERING, O LORD**

*Words and Music: Unknown.*

Bless this offering O Lord  
And let it multiply within your hands  
Feed the hungry with the Bread of Life  
And let us see your mercies  
A taste of things in store  
We offer up this sacrifice to you O Lord

## **CELEBRATING THE LORD'S SUPPER**

God welcomes his people to feast at his table. This meal, a means of grace for all who receive by faith, is a rehearsal of the central act of the Christian faith: Christ's death on the cross — his body broken and his blood shed as a sacrifice for our sins.

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\*Sursum Corda means "Lift up your hearts." By the Spirit we celebrate and remember the once-for-all offering Christ our ascended high priest offers to the Father on our behalf.

### **SURSUM CORDA\***

The Lord be with you.

**And with your spirit.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God:

***It is right to give him thanks and praise.***

• • •

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might  
Heaven and earth are filled with your glory**

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord**

**Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest  
Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest**

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might  
Heaven and earth are filled with your glory**

\*Consecration is when God uses ordinary means—bread and wine—to communicate extraordinary grace. We ask the Spirit to set apart these gifts, not by altering their substance, but by using them to unite us to Christ in faith.

## **THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION\***

• . .

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

• . .

## **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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

\*The Fraction is the breaking of the consecrated bread, recalling Christ's body broken for us. It is a visible sign that the benefits of his finished work are freely given to believers through faith.

## **THE FRACTION\***

Alleluia. Christ our Passover Lamb has been sacrificed, once for all upon the Cross.

**Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

## THE DISTRIBUTION

All baptized Christians who come with faith in Christ and repentance for sin are welcome to share in this feast. If for any reason you would prefer to abstain, cross your arms over your chest, and one of the servers will pray a blessing for you.

Come forward to receive communion row by row. If you do not wish to drink from the common cup, take a small cup at the front of the aisle as you go forward. When arriving at the front of the communion line, place your hands in front of you to receive a piece of bread, and consume it. After receiving the bread, proceed to the first server to take a drink from the common cup (please do not dip your bread) or to the second server with your plastic cup to receive a pour of wine. Grape juice is available at the far right station and is available poured only. Individually wrapped gluten free crackers are available on a separate paten to avoid cross contamination. Please indicate your desire for this option to the server.

The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on them in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

## WHEN YOUR KINGDOM COMES

*Paul Zach, Phillip Zach, and Kate Bluett; CCLI 7116570*

Ev'ry wrong will be turned to right  
You'll wipe the tears from ev'ry eye  
When your kingdom comes.  
Dark will make way for the dawn  
All sorrows will be gone  
When your kingdom comes.

Night will turn to day  
And your church will sing  
Take your bride away  
When your kingdom comes  
You will make a way  
Through our darkest day  
Shadows fly away  
When your kingdom comes

Every trouble we have known  
We will lay before your throne  
When your kingdom comes  
We will bring you all our grief  
Ev'ry tear will be redeemed  
When your Kingdom comes

## **REVELATION SONG**

*Jennie Lee Riddle. © 2004. CCLI License 11069486.*

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain

Holy, holy is he

Sing a new song to him who sits on

Heaven's mercy seat

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty

Who was and is and is to come

With all creation I sing praise to the King of kings

You are my everything and I will adore you

Clothed in rainbows of living color

Flashes of lightning rolls of thunder

Blessing and honor strength and glory and power be

To you the only wise King

Filled with wonder awestruck wonder

At the mention of your name

Jesus your name is power breath and living water

Such a marvelous mystery

## **ACROSS THE LANDS**

*Stuart Townend & Keith Getty. © 2002 Thankyou Music. CCLI License 11069486.*

You're the Word of God the Father

From before the world began

Every star and every planet

Has been fashioned by your hand

All creation holds together

By the power of your voice

Let the skies declare your glory

Let the land and seas rejoice

You're the Author of creation

You're the Lord of every man

And your cry of love rings out across the lands

Yet you left the gaze of angels

Came to seek and save the lost

And exchanged the joy of heaven

For the anguish of a cross

With a prayer you fed the hungry

With a word you stilled the sea

Yet how silently you suffered

That the guilty may go free

With a shout you rose victorious  
Wresting victory from the grave  
And ascended into heaven  
Leading captives in your wake  
Now you stand before the Father  
Interceding for your own  
From each tribe and tongue and nation  
You are leading sinners home

\*Fed by Christ in Word and Sacrament, we ask God to send us out as witnesses. Grace always leads to mission.

## THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER\*

Let us pray.

***Heavenly Father,***

***We thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal Kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.***

***To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.***

\*The final blessing is God's promise spoken over his people. We go out under his protection and with his peace.

## THE BENEDICTION AND DISMISSAL\*

All our problems:

***We send to the cross of Christ!***

All our difficulties:

***We send to the cross of Christ!***

All the devil's works:

***We send to the cross of Christ!***

All our hopes:

***We set on the risen Christ!***

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of  
the Holy Spirit.

***Thanks be to God, Alleluia, Alleluia!***

# NEWS AND EVENTS

## Connect with us!

If you're new, scan the QR code. We'd love to get to know you!

## Confirmation

This year's Confirmation program for Youth is set to launch soon! The 5 week class will run on Sunday mornings during the season of Lent, 9-10 AM, February 22-March 22. Confirmation Sunday will be June 14. The Confirmation program is open to all students 8th grade or higher, please contact the Youth Residents\* for more information.



CONNECT

## GenConnect

Our GenConnect program will match college students and young adults with Incarnation households for friendship, hospitality, and discipleship. If you are interested in participating or just want to know more, please scan the QR code, fill out the form, and we'll get in touch with information and next steps.



GEN  
CONNECT

## Birth Circle

Birth Circle is a group for ladies to discuss the joyous yet often difficult experiences of pregnancy and childbirth. We will enjoy discussion over tea and light snacks beginning at 7 PM in the lobby.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**Feb 9** Birth Circle

**Feb 18** Ash Wednesday Services at 5:00 and 6:30 PM.

\* Staff email addresses can be found on the back cover of the worship guide.

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

All children's ministry is staffed by trained and screened volunteers.

**Nursery:** Also open for parents/caretakers and infants, anytime during the service for nursing or fussy babies. Located upstairs, midway down the hall to your left. Available throughout the service. You can bring your child prior to the service. Pickup at the Peace.

**Toddler Room:** For steady walkers up to 3 years old. Located upstairs; last classroom on the right. Check-in located outside the classroom. You can bring your child prior to the service. Pickup at the Peace.

### **Catechesis of the Good Shepherd**

**3–6 years:** Atrium Level 1. Parents drop kids off upstairs; check in outside the classrooms before the service begins. Pickup at the Peace.

**6–9 years:** Atrium Level 2. Parents drop kids off upstairs; check in outside the classrooms before service begins. Pickup at the Peace.

**9–12 years:** **New City Catechism.** After the Collect, children will be dismissed to their class upstairs. Prior to the Lord's Supper, they will return to the service.



# *The* CHURCH *of the* INCARNATION

seeks the glory of God and the good of the city  
through the gospel of Jesus Christ.

## **Gospel**

We gather around the magnetic center of Jesus Christ. Through his life, death, and resurrection, God's kingdom has arrived on earth to renew all things—our relationship with God, ourselves, others, and the world.

## **Personal Transformation**

We help people to respond in faith to the new reality that the Kingdom of God has arrived in Jesus and to learn the practices of spiritual formation: renewing minds, reordering priorities, reshaping habits, and redirecting work.

## **Community Formation**

We live with one another as a community of friends—across generational, ethnic, and cultural lines—extending personal care to one another.

## **Public Faith**

In being honest and transparent about our faith, we endeavor to be relationally winsome, accessible, respectful, humble, and loving, even when it requires courage for us to announce the gospel.

## **City Vision**

With all the resources of our faith and life, we work sacrificially with others to build a great, flourishing city for all people.

## **Mercy and Justice**

We seek to protect the weak and vulnerable, to take up their injustice, and to show compassion while also seeking remedies for structural evil and institutional injustice.

## **Cultural Renewal**

We equip people in their various vocations to enter into culture as faithful stewards of the world because we share in God's yearning for all of culture to be redeemed and renewed.

## **Church Planting**

We use resources that God has given us to start and support new churches because the local church is the primary agent of God's kingdom.

## **Gospel Movement**

We want to be a catalyst for a movement of the gospel in our city and region that is a dynamic set of interactive relationships among gospel-centered churches, a variety of specialist ministries, and many other institutions, non-profits, organizations, and companies that are united by a common vision and a spirit of cooperation.



Office hours: 10 to 4, Monday through Thursday  
Ring bell at Federal Street entrance

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