First Sunday after Christmas, Year B DECEMBER 27, 2020 INVITATION AND GATHERING

WELCOME

CENTERING WORDS

God's Spirit blows where it will-in here, out there, inside our lives, amongst our church. May the Spirit blow through us this day and speak to us clearly, for we are the children of God.

*SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 44:18-19

* OPENING HYMN: # 238...... Angels We Have Heard on High (vs 1 & 3)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We become God's children when we let his Spirit lead us.

People: Our sinful nature is strong, but God is our Father and defends us against sin by his Spirit.

Leader: As God's Children we are assured that we shall possess eternal life which God gives through his Son, Jesus.

People: We trust God to lead us in a life of victory over sin and death.

* Let us pray (Congregation):

Eternal God, who enables us by your Spirit to become your children: Inspire us to put to death our sinful desires; that we may call you our Father, and receive the blessing kept for those who are your children. We pray through Christ our Lord. Amen.

* LET'S WORSHIP THE LORD WITH HYMNS: #145 Morning Has Broken

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Congregation)

Gracious Father, we are your children because you have created us. But we deny your fatherhood by our sinful behavior. We feel your Spirit directing us, and we turn the other way. We call you our Father, not because we live as your children, but because we want what you have to offer. Forgive us for our waywardness which brings us to you for selfish reasons only. Fill us with your Spirit, that our lives may proclaim you as our Father because of our love and loyalty. In our Savior's name we pray. Amen.

* LET'S WORSHIP THE LORD WITH HYMNS: # 349 Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus

INTRODUCTION TO THE WORD

As we listen for your word Lord, speak to our hearts, that we may hear your call.

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*SCRIPTURE READING: Romans 8:18-19

Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE WORD MADE FLESH: "The Conversion Process"

* RESPONSE TO THE WORD: # 77 How Great Thou Art CONGREGATION IN PRAYER: Joys and Concerns

* PRAYER HYMN: # 2200 O Lord, Hear My Prayer

CLOSING HYMN: # 143 On Eagle's Wings

*DISMISSAL BLESSING

1st Scripture Reading: Isaiah 44:18-19 (NKJV)

18 They do not know nor understand;
For He has ashut their eyes, so that they cannot see,
And their hearts, so that they cannot understand.

19 And no one considers in his heart,
Nor is there knowledge nor understanding to say,
"I have burned half of it in the fire,
Yes, I have also baked bread on its coals;
I have roasted meat and eaten it;
And shall I make the rest of it an abomination?
Shall I fall down before a block of wood?"

2nd Scripture Reading: Romans 8:18-19 (*NKJV*)



December 27, 2020 LeRoy United Methodist Church

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¹⁸ For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy *to be compared* with the glory which shall be revealed in us. ¹⁹ For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God.