

John Knox Presbyterian Church  
February 8, 2026  
5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany



Welcome! Please be seated and prepare your hearts  
and minds for worship.

**GATHERING INTO GOD'S PRESENCE**

**Meditation**

*Neither salt nor light makes sense on its own. Salt only works in relationship with other ingredients. Light shines so that others can see. Jesus' metaphors are about community, not individualism. They assume connection, relationship, interdependence: an ecosystem, not a solo performance.*

*~~Rev. Anna Sutterisch*

**Prelude**

**Words of Welcome**

*The Peace of Christ be with you ... and also with you.*

**\* Call to Worship**

*People of God, praise the Lord!*

**Praise the Lord! Happy are those who fear the Lord,  
those who greatly delight in his commandments.**

*Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the  
generation of the upright will be blessed.*

**Wealth and riches are in their houses,  
and their righteousness endures forever.**

*We who gather are broken yet holy; sinners at heart,  
yet fully redeemed. We are God's very own, called  
together here this day.*

**Let us sing. Let us pray. Let us join together in worship.**

**Praise the Lord!**

**\* Hymn**

**"Gather Us In"**

**#401**

*\* = Standing as able    Italics = Leader    **Bold** = People*

**\* Invitation to Confession and Silent Prayer**

**\* Unison Prayer of Confession**

Gracious God, we confess that it is harder to do than we expected, this life of faith. You call us to be salt of the earth and to live lives of justice and righteousness and love. But our lives become busy. Following what others do is just easier. And sometimes the cost for doing what is right seems too high. One day, perhaps, we will commit more fully, but the status quo works better for us right now.

Forgive us, we pray. Startle our senses and disrupt our routines. Renew in us the passion for doing what is right in your eyes, and inspire us to be sources of your light in the world. May we, like the prophets and the saints, act by faith no matter how high the cost.

**\* Words of Forgiveness**      *based on Isaiah 58: 1-9*

*"Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke?"*

**Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them and not to hide yourself from your own kin?**

*Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you; the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard.*

**Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, 'Here I am.'"**

*We are blessed to know that very light which breaks forth. We know God's love and grace through Jesus Christ.*

**Through Christ, our sins are forgiven, and we know new life. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

**\*Sung Response**                      "Lord, the Light of Your Love is Shining"      Verses 1 and 3    #192

## **LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD**

### **Prayer for Illumination**

**Today's Psalm**

Psalm 112: 1-10

NRSV

Praise the LORD!

Happy are those who fear the LORD,  
who greatly delight in his commandments.

Their descendants will be mighty in the land;  
the generation of the upright will be blessed.

Wealth and riches are in their houses,  
and their righteousness endures forever.

They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright;  
they are gracious, merciful, and righteous.

It is well with those who deal generously and lend,  
who conduct their affairs with justice.

For the righteous will never be moved;  
they will be remembered forever.

They are not afraid of evil tidings;  
their hearts are firm, secure in the LORD.

Their hearts are steady, they will not be afraid;  
in the end they will look in triumph on their foes.

They have distributed freely, they have given to the poor;  
their righteousness endures forever;  
their horn is exalted in honor.

The wicked see it and are angry;  
they gnash their teeth and melt away;  
the desire of the wicked comes to nothing.

*This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.*

### **Time with our Young and Growing**

#### **Gospel Reading**

Matthew 5:13-20

NRSV

“You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

“Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

*This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.*

#### **Sermon**

Rev. Maggie Lewis

#### **\* Hymn**

“Bring Forth the Kingdom”

#2190

## **RESPONDING TO GOD’S CALL**

### **Church and Community Life**

#### **Offering Ourselves and Our Gifts**

##### **Call for the Offering**

##### **Offertory**

“Christ, Be Our Light”

#314 v. 1,2,5

*Please remain seated to sing verses 1-2, then stand  
for verse 5 as our offering is presented for dedication*

##### **\*Prayer of Dedication**

#### **Prayers of the People**

**Response:** *Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.*

#### **The Lord’s Prayer**

## **SENDING GOD’S PEOPLE INTO THE WORLD**

#### **\* Sending Song**

“Here I Am, Lord”

#69

#### **\* Charge and Blessing**

Please be seated to enjoy the postlude.

## Postlude

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Liturgist: Vallory Bunday

Music Director: Anna Robinson

Pastor: Rev. Maggie Lewis

Pianist: Adam Robinson

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*We are recording this service and it will be available on our website for two weeks. Copyrighted music is projected and recorded under One License #A-735693, CCL#3162413, or by permission of the author or publisher. Liturgy © 2026 Presbyterian Outlook by Owen J. Gray*

## Church and Community Life

**ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** Session has called for the annual congregational meeting to be held after worship on next **Sunday, February 15. Annual reports** were emailed on Saturday, January 31. A few printed copies are available on the table in the narthex.

**NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY** A copy of the new church directory is available in the narthex for you to take. Please check your name on the list in the basket.

Thank you to the donors who paid for and installed the new monitor in the front of the chancel. We hope you enjoy the clearer images and texts during worship.

**KEIZER COMMUNITY FOOD BANK** The most efficient way to help food banks at this time is to provide cash donations for bulk food purchases of most-needed items. Designate “KCFB” or “Food Bank” and we will route the money to KCFB. You are always welcome to bring food to the cart any time. Volunteers are always needed to serve our hungry neighbors. See the KCFB Facebook page or website at [keizercommunityfoodbank.org](https://keizercommunityfoodbank.org) for more information, or contact Sheila or Teresa.

**FELLOWSHIP TIME** after worship is a wonderful time to talk with friends and make new ones. It’s even more pleasant with goodies in hand. Please see Joan to provide goodies, just bring some, or leave a free-will offering in the basket on the table so we can purchase refreshments when home-baked treats aren’t available. Thanks!

If you want to understand more about the increased ICE activity in Oregon and actions you can take, you can participate in a Zoom call for all congregations on Thursday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, 6-7:15pm. Register here:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/BxsqeHLBSKu5kxxjEpSBFw>. There is more information in the Presbytery’s Cascade Connections email sent last Thursday, or ask Eileen. The call is sponsored by Together Lab, Portland Immigrant Rights Coalition, and statewide coalitions Oregon for All and Protect Oregon.



**PER CAPITA** is the fundamental way in which all of the congregations and mid-councils of the PC(USA) connect, participate and share in the work of the wider church. It’s the “tie that binds” -- annual support that unites the entire church in the ongoing and essential work that guides the General Assembly, presbyteries and synods, and benefits every congregation. In

Presbytery of the Cascades, per capita funds positions that support congregations and their work, regardless of the size of their contributions to Presbytery Partnership Giving or other presbytery giving opportunities. All Cascades churches pay **\$50 per member** to presbytery as a contribution to supporting their work. If you are able to pay your \$50 per capita in addition

to your planned giving to JKPC, please mark your donation “per capita.” Your per capita donations will help us keep our budget focused on our mission here while we are also supporting the presbytery’s work in the region. Your per capita payments are appreciated!

## Looking Ahead

- Feb 9 7:00** Administration Committee Zoom  
**Feb. 15 10:30** Transfiguration of the Lord  
Worship with Christ Jar Offering  
Annual Congregational Meeting  
Immediately after worship  
Birthday celebration during social hour  
**Feb. 16 9 am – 3 pm** Officers Retreat at JKPC  
**Feb. 18** Ash Wednesday – no service at JKPC  
First Pres: 5:30 pm  
**Feb. 22 10:30** Worship – First Sunday in Lent  
PDA Blue Shirt Sunday  
Special PDA Offering  
**March 1 10:30** Worship with Communion  
Second Sunday in Lent  
**March 8** DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS  
**10:30** Worship- Third Sunday in Lent

February Birthdays			
5	Paul A.	26	Jacob C.
7	Doug A.	28	Betty C.
19	Paul W.		

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Pastor: Rev. Maggie Lewis  
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Pastor’s phone: 510-435-7836

*This gathering of JKPC is occurring in the traditional land of the Kalapuya people. We offer our gratitude to the elders, past and present, who have stewarded it through the generations.*