

**ST. DAVID'S (SHERMAN'S) UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**

**February 20, 2022**

**8:30 AM & 10:30 AM**

**WORDS TO PONDER**

In Christ we are forgiven.

**WELCOME**

**RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP**

**LEADER:** Come near to the One in whom we can trust.

**PEOPLE:** **God has provided for us day by day and  
preserved us in the midst of life's calamities.**

**LEADER:** Dwell together in the security God offers and fret  
not about the world's standards.

**PEOPLE:** **We would be still before the majesty of God and  
wait patiently for the Spirit's leading.**

**LEADER:** Open yourselves, that God may equip you to love, to  
forgive, and to give.

**UNISON:** **We seek to respond to the God who loves us by  
loving as we wish to be loved.**

**HYMN:** **"Near to the Heart of God"** (On Screen)

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

God invites us to recognize within ourselves those attitudes  
that diminish us and mute our witness. God welcomes all  
who are envious of wrongdoers, and fret over their  
prosperity, all who are distressed and angry with themselves  
over their mistakes, and all who become self-righteous

because of the good they have done. Let us recognize and admit the evil within us, so we may be freed from it.

### **UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Forgive us, God, for betraying others, for making comparisons that trigger envy and revenge, for harboring attitudes that destroy rather than build up. We confess our tendency to excuse ourselves for behavior we condemn in others. Be merciful to us, O God, and transform our ways. Hear our personal prayers of confession.**

### **TIME OF SILENT PERSONAL CONFESSION**

### **UNISON ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

**God is kind, even to the ungrateful and the selfish. Receive God's forgiveness, that you may leave behind the image of dust, with its hatred, judgment, and revenge. God seek to empower us to love our enemies, bless those who curse us, and pray for those who abuse us. Because God loves us, we are enabled to treat others as we wish to be treated. Thanks be to God!**

**HOLY SCRIPTURES:** Psalm 37:1–11, Genesis 45:1–15,  
Luke 6:17–38

### **CHILDREN'S STORYTIME**

**SERMON:** "Love Enemies?"

### **PASTORAL PRAYER AND 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. AMEN**

### **RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION**

**LEADER:** Love your enemies and do good; lend, expecting nothing in return.

**PEOPLE:** Sharing God's love provides its own reward.

**LEADER:** Be merciful, even as God is merciful; treat others as you wish to be treated.

**PEOPLE:** Giving what others need fills us with joy and forgiving them helps us to know God.

**UNISON:** We commit ourselves to the God who acts to bring out the best in each one of us.

**CLOSING HYMN:** "He Leadeth Me" (#446 Red)