



**Morton Grove Community Church  
(pcusa)**

January 17, 2021

Worship: 10:00 am

8944 Austin Avenue, Morton Grove, Illinois 60053

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[www.mgccpresbyterian.org](http://www.mgccpresbyterian.org)

# The Service for the Lord's Day Second Sunday after Epiphany January 17, 2021

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Beth Farias

Prelude

Jason Nelson

## God Calls Us

Call to Worship

Rev. Beth Farias

Abundant God,  
we gather here this morning  
to comprehend the length, breadth, and height of your love.

**Fill us with the fullness of your presence!**

We turn inward,

**and experience the unending universe of our prayerful imagination.**

We turn outward,

**and witness you in those we greet along the way.**

We look up,

**in awe at your power of love and justice.**

God of Abundance,

You surpass all knowledge, and yet,

**You are here with us, today.**

**For this we sing in joyful praise! Alleluia!**

**Amen.**

Opening Hymn #804

*Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!*

## God Prepares Us

Time of Centering Ourselves in the Holy

There are times in which we forget all of the things that we've learned.

We forget to rest. We forget to pray. We forget to love one another.

We allow the world to sweep us away as we read the news,

get lost in the events of the day, and let doubt and fear creep back in again.

**We let our anxieties turn us against each other,**

**against the very people that we love, and against You.**

**We know better, but it can be so very hard to do better.**

Thank goodness for your abundance, O God!  
Thank goodness that you are still here,  
waiting for us to make use of our prayerful imaginations.  
Thank goodness that you are in the world,  
working through our words and actions to bring justice.  
Thank goodness that you are in control,  
even though your plan isn't always quite clear.

**Thank you for loving and forgiving us, God.  
Help us to see the beauty of your love in ourselves,  
in others, and in the world. Breathe into us your peace.  
Amen.**

### **Lighting the Candle for Peace**

**Hymn #286**

*Breathe on Me, Breath of God*

## **We Hear God's Word**

### **Prayer for Understanding**

**As we listen to these words written so long ago, open our hearts to their relevance in our lives today. Give us the courage to wrestle with what is difficult, to enjoy what is beautiful, and to use this knowledge to act boldly in more loving ways. Help us to never settle for easy answers, but to see that You are present in the full length, breadth, and height of life. Amen.**

**First Reading**

Proverbs 28:1-16

**Scripture Reading**

Ephesians 3:3-20

Rev, Beth Farias

**Sermon**

Rooted and Grounded in Love

**Hymn #465**

*What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

**Sharing of Joys and Concerns**

Pastor Beth Farias

**Sharing of Joys and Concerns**

Rev. Beth Farias

## **We Respond to God's Word**

**Invitation to Generosity**

Rev. Beth Farias

**Music Selection (Offertory)**

Jason Nelson

**Prayer of Dedication**

**The Lord's Prayer**

## **God Sends Us into the World**

**Sending Hymn #466**

*Come and Fill Our Hearts*

**Charge and Benediction**

Rev. Beth Farias

