

Donations

Donations are taken in the basket as you enter the chapel. Each month, Gathering of Disciples church donates to charitable non-profit organizations in our community and to the Manitowoc Health and Rehabilitation Center activity fund.

Thank you for your generosity as we grow in service to our Lord.

Thank You

Thank you to all our members, and residents of the Manitowoc Health Care Center who are so faithful in their attendance to our services. We welcome all of our guests and pray that the Spirit will touch you with the light of Christ.

Those Serving Us Today

Message:	Mari Roedig (Don Vogt)
Leader:	Tom Reed
Reader:	Ginny Jensen
Music:	Mari Roedig
Usher:	Matt Swadner/Barb Evenson/Terri Fish
Altar Prep:	Bev Griffin/Wendy Reed/Barb Evenson

Prayer is a plant, the seed of which is sown in the heart of every Christian. If it is well cultivated and nourished it will produce fruit, but if it is neglected, it will wither and die."

Sunday, January 19, 2020

9:15 a.m.



**Gathering Of Disciples
Christian Church
(G.O.D.'s Church)**

A Christian congregation

**located in the Angel Chapel at the
Manitowoc Health and Rehabilitation Center
2021 South Alverno Road
Manitowoc, WI**

Phone: 920-323-3178 (please leave a message)

Email: godisciples2016@gmail.com

<https://www.gatherofdisciples.org/>

Please Greet One Another and Welcome Visitors

Prelude

Announcing the Day

It's hard to ignore a scripture passage that begins, "Listen to me . . . pay attention, you peoples!" (Isaiah 49:1). God is definitely trying to get our attention! It is clear from this text (and from the world around us) that there is plenty of work to be done in the task of building up God's realm. In fact, a quick glance at the newspapers and TV reports could easily cause us to be overwhelmed by the magnitude of the task. Yet both the Isaiah and 1 Corinthians readings assure us that we are not only called to do God's work, we are well equipped by the very One who has called us. Our faithful God strengthens us for the task and has already given us the support we need through Jesus Christ.

Order of Worship

Introductions and Announcements

Welcome

L: Let us now take a moment to center our hearts and minds on God in preparation for worship.

Call to Worship

L: Listen up, everyone! God has given us work to do.

C: God has called each of us before we were even born.

L: It was God who named us.

C: It is God who claims us.

L: The light of God's love shines in us.

C: Let's shine God's love into all the world!

The Service of Prayer and Praise

L: O Lord, C: **We lift our eyes to see your glory. We open our hearts to receive your love. We engage our minds to understand your truths. We offer our songs to praise your name. Amen.**

The Entrance Hymn

#348

"Softly and Tenderly"

The Confession and Forgiveness

Please stand if you are able

L: Faithful God,

C: you call us to be saints, but we are more comfortable with the role of sinner; you call us to be your servants, but we worry that we lack the skills to do your work; you put a new song of praise in our mouths, but we stumble on unfamiliar words; you show us the work to be tackled, but we turn away defiant, insisting we have more important things to do. Put your song on our lips and in our hearts, and remind us of the joy that awaits us when we put our trust in you. Guide us into the light of your unwavering, never-ending, and grace-filled love.

L: God is faithful and ever-present. The God who knew us before our birth loves us still and strengthens us, that we will one day be blameless. Through the gift of Jesus Christ, God offers forgiveness, grace, and mercy.

Enter into the light!

C: Amen.

The Hymn of Praise (*sung*)

#66 vs 1

"To God Be the Glory"

**To God be the glory, great things he hath done; so loved
he the world that he gave us his Son, who yielded his life
an atonement for sin, and opened the life gate that all
may go in. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth
hear his voice! Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the
people rejoice! O come to the Father through Jesus the
Son, and give him the glory, great things he hath done.**

L : The grace that is Christ's gift to us, the love of God and
the unity of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

The Prayer of the Day

L: God of Isaiah,

**C: you spoke to the prophets, but your message did not
end with them. There is still work to be done,
and we pray to hear your call afresh. Help us joyfully
claim our role as your beloved servants, knowing that you
provide all that we need to do our work. You walked with
us before we were even born, and you continue to hold us
by the hand each and every day of our lives. We pray with
the confidence of those who have been filled with your
light. We pray with the assurance of those who have been
called into fellowship with your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

The First Reading: Isaiah 49:1-7 (*Please be seated*)

¹ Listen to me, you islands;
hear this, you distant nations:

Before I was born the LORD called me;

from my mother's womb he has spoken my name.

² He made my mouth like a sharpened sword,

in the shadow of his hand he hid me;

he made me into a polished arrow

and concealed me in his quiver.

³ He said to me, "You are my servant,

Israel, in whom I will display my splendor."

⁴ But I said, "I have labored in vain;

I have spent my strength for nothing at all.

Yet what is due me is in the LORD's hand,

and my reward is with my God."

⁵ And now the LORD says—

he who formed me in the womb to be his servant

to bring Jacob back to him

and gather Israel to himself,

for I am honored in the eyes of the LORD

and my God has been my strength—

⁶ he says:

"It is too small a thing for you to be my servant

to restore the tribes of Jacob

and bring back those of Israel I have kept.

I will also make you a light for the Gentiles,

that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth."

⁷ This is what the LORD says—

the Redeemer and Holy One of Israel—

to him who was despised and abhorred by the nation,

to the servant of rulers:

“Kings will see you and stand up,
princes will see and bow down,
because of the LORD, who is faithful,
the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.”

Psalm 40:1-11 (*read responsively*)

¹ I waited patiently for the LORD;
he turned to me and heard my cry.

² **He lifted me out of the slimy pit,
out of the mud and mire;
he set my feet on a rock
and gave me a firm place to stand.**

³ He put a new song in my mouth,
a hymn of praise to our God.

Many will see and fear the LORD
and put their trust in him.

⁴ **Blessed is the one
who trusts in the LORD,
who does not look to the proud,
to those who turn aside to false gods.**

⁵ Many, LORD my God,
are the wonders you have done,
the things you planned for us.
None can compare with you;
were I to speak and tell of your deeds,
they would be too many to declare.

⁶ **Sacrifice and offering you did not desire—
but my ears you have opened—
burnt offerings and sin offerings you did not require.**

⁷ Then I said, “Here I am, I have come—
it is written about me in the scroll.

⁸ **I desire to do your will, my God;
your law is within my heart.”**

⁹ I proclaim your saving acts in the great assembly;
I do not seal my lips, LORD,
as you know.

¹⁰ **I do not hide your righteousness in my heart;
I speak of your faithfulness and your saving help.
I do not conceal your love and your faithfulness
from the great assembly.**

¹¹ Do not withhold your mercy from me, LORD;
may your love and faithfulness always protect me.

The Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

¹ Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, ² To the church of God in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be his holy people, together with all those everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ—their Lord and ours: ³ Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴ I always thank my God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus. ⁵ For in him you have been enriched in every way—with all kinds of speech and with all knowledge— ⁶ God thus confirming our testimony about Christ among you. ⁷ Therefore you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed. ⁸ He will also keep you firm to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

L: The Readings for today. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation (sung) *Please stand if you are able*
(Surely the Presence #131)

C: Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place; I can feel his mighty power and his grace. I can hear the brush of angels' wings, I see glory on each face; surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

L: The holy Gospel according to John, the 1st Chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

The Gospel: John 1:29-42

²⁹ The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" ³⁰ This is the one I meant when I said, 'A man who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.' ³¹ I myself did not know him, but the reason I came baptizing with water was that he might be revealed to Israel."

³² Then John gave this testimony: "I saw the Spirit come down from heaven as a dove and remain on him. ³³ And I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water told me, 'The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and remain is the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.' ³⁴ I have seen and I testify that this is God's Chosen One."

³⁵ The next day John was there again with two of his disciples. ³⁶ When he saw Jesus passing by, he said, "Look, the Lamb of God!"

³⁷ When the two disciples heard him say this, they followed Jesus. ³⁸ Turning around, Jesus saw them following and asked, "What do you want?"

They said, "Rabbi" (which means "Teacher"), "where are you staying?"

³⁹ "Come," he replied, "and you will see."

So they went and saw where he was staying, and they spent that day with him. It was about four in the afternoon.

⁴⁰ Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said and who had followed Jesus.

⁴¹ The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, "We have found the Messiah" (that is, the Christ). ⁴² And he brought him to Jesus.

Jesus looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You will be called Cephas" (which, when translated, is Peter).

L: The Word of God. **C: For the People of God.**

The Message *(Please be seated)*

Invitation Accepted?

The Hymn of the Day

#559

"Here I Am, Lord"

The Apostle's Creed *(Please stand if you are able)*

L: Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day He rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers of the Church

L: “Lord, in your Mercy” C: “Hear Our Prayer”

The Offering

Please be seated

The Offering (sung)

“Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow” #34

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Him all creatures here below; praise Him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Offertory Prayer

L: Generous God, C: you have already given us all that we need. Help us trust your continued care, that we may share with others the abundance of your blessings. Strengthen us for service, and remind us of the great joy that awaits those who answer your call. Accept our gifts and give us new songs of praise as we celebrate the opportunity to be in ministry, in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Lord’s Prayer *Please stand if you are able*

L: Let us join together in the prayer that Jesus taught us and give praise with the ending acclamation given to us by his apostle, Mark.

C: 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 Benediction

L: May God’s steadfast love keep us safe. May the Light of Christ shine within us. May the Holy Spirit guide us all the days of our lives.

C: Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us now and forever. Amen.

The Closing Hymn

#359

“Give Thanks”

L: Go with grace to shine God’s love into all the world.

C: Thanks be to God. Amen.

+++++

Next Service will be on Sunday, January 26 at 9:15 am.