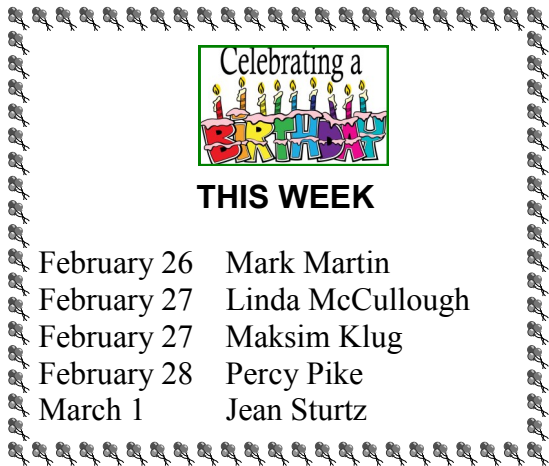



Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence. Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer., He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there - since there are five more years of famine to come - so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty. And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.


~ Genesis 45:3-11, 15





THIS WEEK

February 26	Mark Martin
February 27	Linda McCullough
February 27	Maksim Klug
February 28	Percy Pike
March 1	Jean Sturtz



Shane McWayne, Gerda Barbour, JoAnne Stirling, Ralph Green, Dr. Robert B. Brown, and for the sick and those who need God’s comfort.

Prayer Help Available. Please call the church office, 782-1750 if you have a prayer request. Your confidential prayer request will be put on the First Pres. Prayer Chain. Only those requesting public prayers are included for prayers in our church bulletin.

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

February 24, 201910:00 a.m.

This service is being broadcast over radio station WATN 1240

* Indicates that those who are able may stand.

GATHERING

GATHERING MUSIC

To God Be the Glory (hymn 56)
Just as I Am (hymn 488)
Blessed Assurance (hymn 572)

Carl Bingle, FPC Organist
Douglas Wagner
David Hegarty
John Ness Beck

GREETING
Peace be with you.
And also with you.

PRELUDE
Love Divine, All Loves Excelling
This Welsh hymn tune, Hyfrydol, is one of two melodies used for Charles Wesley’s 1747 masterpiece poem about the unimaginable love of God for us. The text is found at no. 648 in our hymnal, as well as in the hymnbooks of 12 other U.S. denominations. (The postlude will offer the other hymn tune most frequently paired with the poem, BEECHER.)
Carl Bingle, organ

CALL TO WORSHIP ~ Psalm 37:1-11
Leader: Do not fret because of those who are evil or be envious of those who do wrong; for like the grass they will soon wither, like green plants they will soon die away.
People: **Trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture. Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.** Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him and he will do this: he will make your righteous reward shine like the dawn, your vindication like the noonday sun.
Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him; do not fret when people succeed in their ways, when they carry out their wicked schemes. Refrain from anger and turn from wrath; do not fret - it leads only to evil for those who are evil will be destroyed, but those who hope in the Lord will inherit the land.
All: **A little while, and the wicked will be no more; though you look for them, they will not be found. But the meek will inherit the land and enjoy peace and prosperity.**

***HYMN #33**

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise!

ST. DENIO

INVITATION TO REPENTANT PRAYERS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that we have not followed your ways or trusted in your promises. We love only those who love us, we show kindness only to those who are kind to us; we give only when we expect to receive. Forgive us, Lord. Fill our hearts with your selfless love. Change our lives by your matchless grace. These things we pray through Christ our Saviour. Amen.

A MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR PERSONAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

WORDS OF COMFORT AND FORGIVENESS

. . . in Jesus Christ you are forgiven.

In Jesus Christ you are also forgiven.

***RESPONSE - Gloria Be to the Father - Hymn #813**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

LITURGIST WELCOME

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Genesis 45:3-11, 15 (Old Testament, page 42 in pew Bibles)

ANTHEM

Yes, My Jesus Loves Me

Mary McDonald

Chancel Choir; Jenny Whitenack, guest director; Phyllis Elmer, piano; Carl Bingle, organ

CHILDREN’S TIME

(At this time we invite all K-7th graders to join us for Sunday School, please have children follow the teacher thru the door on the left. Children will meet parents in Fellowship Hall after the service. As children depart for Sunday School, we sing “*Jesus Loves Me*” Hymn #185, verse 1)

SECOND READING

Luke 6:27-38 (New Testament, page 64 in pew Bibles)

SERMON

“Impossible Love”

Rev. Casey Carbone

***HYMN #488**

Just As I Am

WOODWORTH

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.

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND TITHES

OFFERTORY DUET

Pi  Jesu

Andrew Lloyd Webber

Merciful Jesus, who takes away the sins of the world, grant them rest. O Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, grant them everlasting rest.

Angela Elmer, David Elmer, vocalists; Phyllis Elmer, piano, Carl Bingle, organ

***DOXOLOGY ~ HYMNAL #815**

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.

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

SENDING

***HYMN (see insert)**

Come! Live in the Light!

WE ARE CALLED

***THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

THE POSTLUDE

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Joel Raney

This vehicle for Wesley’s text is BEECHER (no. 648), by German-born organist John Zundel. He was hired by The Rev. Henry Ward Beecher in 1850 as music director and organist for Brooklyn’s Plymouth Church, where he worked for 28 years. Beecher and his sister Harriet Beecher Stowe were staunch abolitionists.

Carl Bingle, organ