

Worship Service ~ *Two Sacrifices*

Epiphany 1, Year A,

11th January 2026

Ephesians 3:1-12 / Genesis 37:12-36

Prelude

played by church musician Annie Center,

Gathering Together

Welcome

Good morning, It's my pleasure to welcome you to worship with Olympic View Community Church. Please stand with me, if you're able, and hear the Lord call us into worship.

Call to Worship

One: Arise, shine for our light has come,

All: the glory of the Lord has risen upon us!

One: The nations will come to the light,

All: We lift up our eyes and see them gathering around, and joining us.

One: We are radiant, our hearts exalt,

All: We are built up and thriving in the presence of Christ!

Invocation

Gracious and all loving God,

you call to us across deep waters and dark places.

Yours is the light which guides us

and the voice which we follow.

We pray that you would reveal yourself to us as we worship you.

May those without hope be encouraged;

those who are sad, cheered;

those who are seeking, find you;

and may all things be according to your will.

In the name of your beloved Son we pray. Amen.

Opening Hymn For the Beauty of the Earth ~ 89

Engaging with God Together

Scripture Reading ~ Ephesians 3:1-12

1 For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles— **2** assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you, **3** how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. **4** When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, **5** which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit. **6** This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

7 Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God's grace, which was given me by the working of his power. **8** To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, **9** and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, **10** so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. **11** This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, **12** in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.

Let's greet one another with the peace of Christ as we pass the peace.

Pass the Peace

Sharing Announcements and Prayer Requests

In a moment we are going to pray together, but before we do, does anyone have any announcements to share about anything in the life of the church coming up? Does anyone have any joys or concerns to share?

Pastoral Prayer

Prayer by pastor

Hymn

O God, Our Help in Ages Past ~ 328

Hearing the Word Together

Sermon Passage ~ Genesis 37:12-36

12 Now his brothers went to pasture their father's flock near Shechem. **13** And Israel said to Joseph, "Are not your brothers pasturing the flock at Shechem? Come, I will send you to them." And he said to him, "Here I am." **14** So he said to him, "Go now, see if it is well with your brothers and with the flock, and bring me word." So he sent him from the Valley of Hebron, and he came to Shechem. **15** And a man found him wandering in the fields. And the man asked him, "What are you seeking?" **16** "I am seeking my brothers," he said. "Tell me, please, where they are pasturing the flock." **17** And the man said, "They have gone away, for I heard them say, 'Let us go to Dothan.'" So Joseph went after his brothers and found them at Dothan.

18 They saw him from afar, and before he came near to them they conspired against him to kill him. **19** They said to one another, "Here comes this dreamer. **20** Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits. Then we will say that a fierce animal has devoured him, and we will see what will become of his dreams." **21** But when Reuben heard it, he rescued him out of their hands, saying, "Let us not take his life." **22** And Reuben said to them, "Shed no blood; throw him into this pit here in the wilderness, but do not lay a hand on him"—that he might rescue him out of their hand to restore him to his father. **23** So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe, the robe of many colors that he wore. **24** And they took him and threw him into a pit. The pit was empty; there was no water in it.

25 Then they sat down to eat. And looking up they saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead, with their camels bearing gum, balm, and myrrh, on their way to carry it down to Egypt. **26** Then Judah said to his brothers, "What profit is it if we kill our brother and conceal his blood? **27** Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and let not our hand be upon him, for he is our brother, our own flesh." And his brothers listened to him. **28** Then Midianite traders passed by. And they drew Joseph up and lifted him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty shekels of silver. They took Joseph to Egypt.

29 When Reuben returned to the pit and saw that Joseph was not in the pit, he tore his clothes **30** and returned to his brothers and said, “The boy is gone, and I, where shall I go?” **31** Then they took Joseph's robe and slaughtered a goat and dipped the robe in the blood. **32** And they sent the robe of many colors and brought it to their father and said, “This we have found; please identify whether it is your son's robe or not.” **33** And he identified it and said, “It is my son's robe. A fierce animal has devoured him. Joseph is without doubt torn to pieces.” **34** Then Jacob tore his garments and put sackcloth on his loins and mourned for his son many days. **35** All his sons and all his daughters rose up to comfort him, but he refused to be comforted and said, “No, I shall go down to Sheol to my son, mourning.” Thus his father wept for him. **36** Meanwhile the Midianites had sold him in Egypt to Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh, the captain of the guard.

Sermon ~ *Two Sacrifices*

Rev. Jonny Finlayson

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Responding to the Word Together

Call to Serve

A Time for Reflection

Played by church musician Annie Center,

Closing Hymn *Savior of My Soul ~ 549*

(Annie Play once through)

Benediction

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

Postlude

Played by church musician Annie Center,

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