

Our Mission is to Love God and Love Others

**Third Sunday After Epiphany
Sunday, January 22nd, 2023
Order of Service**

Call to Worship

We come seeking God,

the one who guides us and protects us.

People of God, there is nothing to fear,

for God dwells in our hearts.

Let us shout with joy, for God is here!

Let us sing praises to the Holy One!

Opening Prayer

“Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer”

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, as we seek your love and light,

there are times when darkness invades our lives.

Forgive us when we hide our true selves from you.

Forgive us when we quarrel with one another,

allowing our pride to overcome our commitment to the community.

Forgive us when we give life’s activities priority

over following the ways of Christ.

O God, open our hearts to your grace,

as you once again fill us with your love and light. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

People of God, hear the good news of the gospel and rejoice! You are forgiven, and God’s grace sets you free to love again. Amen.

Affirmation of Faith (The Apostles Creed)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic* church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

****that is, the true Christian church of all times and all places***

Welcome & Announcements

Intercessory Prayer/Offertory Prayer

“I Need Thee Every Hour”

Genesis 37:12-28(New Living Translation)

¹² Soon after this, Joseph’s brothers went to pasture their father’s flocks at Shechem. ¹³ When they had been gone for some time, Jacob said to Joseph, “Your brothers are pasturing the sheep at Shechem. Get ready, and I will send

you to them.” “I’m ready to go,” Joseph replied. ¹⁴ “Go and see how your brothers and the flocks are getting along,” Jacob said. “Then come back and bring me a report.” So Jacob sent him on his way, and Joseph traveled to Shechem from their home in the valley of Hebron. ¹⁵ When he arrived there, a man from the area noticed him wandering around the countryside. “What are you looking for?” he asked. ¹⁶ “I’m looking for my brothers,” Joseph replied. “Do you know where they are pasturing their sheep?” ¹⁷ “Yes,” the man told him. “They have moved on from here, but I heard them say, ‘Let’s go on to Dothan.’” So Joseph followed his brothers to Dothan and found them there. ¹⁸ When Joseph’s brothers saw him coming, they recognized him in the distance. As he approached, they made plans to kill him. ¹⁹ “Here comes the dreamer!” they said. ²⁰ “Come on, let’s kill him and throw him into one of these cisterns. We can tell our father, ‘A wild animal has eaten him.’ Then we’ll see what becomes of his dreams!” ²¹ But when Reuben heard of their scheme, he came to Joseph’s rescue. “Let’s not kill him,” he said. ²² “Why should we shed any blood? Let’s throw him into this empty cistern here in the wilderness. Then he’ll die without our laying a hand on him.” Reuben was secretly planning to rescue Joseph and return him to his father. ²³ So when Joseph arrived, his brothers ripped off the beautiful robe he was wearing. ²⁴ Then they grabbed him and threw him into the cistern. Now the cistern was empty; there was no water in it. ²⁵ Then, just as they were sitting down to eat, they looked up and saw a caravan of camels in the distance coming toward them. It was a group of Ishmaelite traders taking a load of gum, balm, and aromatic resin from Gilead down to Egypt. ²⁶ Judah said to his brothers, “What will we gain by killing our brother? We’d have to cover up the crime.” ²⁷ Instead of hurting him, let’s sell him to those Ishmaelite traders. After all, he is our brother—our own flesh and blood!” And his brothers agreed. ²⁸ So when the Ishmaelites, who were Midianite traders, came by, Joseph’s brothers pulled him out of the cistern and sold him to them for twenty pieces of silver. And the traders took him to Egypt.

Message

“To Be Continued”

Rev. Paul Glover

“We Praise Thee, O God!”

Benediction

Announcements

Tuesday Night Prayer Conference Call at 7 pm and Thursday Morning Prayer Conference Call at 6 am to 6:30 am (605) 472-5395 Code 476076 –Prayer requests can be emailed to prayer@flatlandsreformed.org

The food distribution program operates on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of each month. The next distribution is Saturday, February 4th from 7:00 am – 9:00 am.

Friday, February 3rd -Pre-packing of food at 1:00 pm

Wednesday Night Worship, The 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month. The next gathering is on Wednesday, February 1st at 7:30 pm, in the auditorium.

FITBK – Free fitness classes on Tuesdays and Thursday’s at 7 pm

ESL program - ESL classes will be held Mondays & Fridays from 6 pm-9 pm.

Friday, January 27th, at 7 pm, Bible study will resume every Friday evening via zoom. Pastor Paul will be leading the Friday night studies. If there are topics or subjects you are interested in learning about or discussing, please let Pastor Paul know. Zoom info: Meeting ID: 719 570 8019 Password: 890774

Wednesday, January 25th, at 7:30 pm, consistory meeting.

Sunday, February 12th, we will be celebrating our 369th church anniversary. There will be a luncheon following worship.

Project of the Month - Every month, a special offering is collected throughout the month and given to a designated group, organization, or entity as part of our local and global missions work. January's project of the month will be given to Saint Christopher Ottilie Family Services. Their mission is to deliver vital human services to children, families, adults, and the community to provide them with the necessary tools to achieve success. Please indicate when giving to the project of the month to distinguish it from other gifts and offerings.

Every Woman Project –Every Woman Project’s mission is to affirm the dignity of women by providing them with items needed for feminine hygiene care. Participants gather on the first Saturday of each month at 10 am to prepare care packets and then distribute them to women's shelters and residences.

Giving – You can give your tithes, offerings, gifts, and donations in three ways:

-**Online**, go to www.flatlandsreformed.org, and click on the give tab at the top, then the give button.

-**By Mail**, Flatlands Reformed Church, 3931 Kings Highway, Brooklyn, New York 11234

-**In Person**, you can bring your gift to Sunday service

Thank you for your free-will giving, because it supports the life, and work of our community of faith.

Interested in joining or learning more about Flatlands and serving? If you are interested in joining our church or community of faith or would like to learn more about us and serve in one of our ministries, you can email info@flatlandsreformed.org

Flatlands Reformed Church

Vision

Flatlands Reformed Church strives to be a church that ministers to the needs of its members, the community, and the world.

Mission

Love God, Love Others

Values

- Culturally relevant without compromising the integrity of the gospel message
- Biblically literate and guided by God’s word
- Committed to Discipleship
- Intentionally Evangelistic
- Promoting Gift-Based ministry
- Prepare and train Servant-Leaders
- Vibrant and inspirational worship that honors God and feeds the soul
- Fully member supported
- Healthy Spiritual Growth and the fruits of the Spirit are evident