#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (liturgy on screen)

#### PASSING OF THE PEACE

The Peace of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ be always with you.

#### And also, with You

HOLY EUCHARIST: (liturgy on screen)

Communion Song: Oh How He Loves You and Me

#### THE BLESSING & SENDING

# Authorities we want to remember specifically in prayer this week:

Secretary of Defense – Lloyd Austin Missouri State Treasurer – Vivek Malek St Charles County Dept of Public Health Dir – Sara Evers (acting)

# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Love Feast:** Our Agape Meal will be today immediately following morning worship. We're looking forward to hearing how God is moving as you share your glory sightings and enjoy fellowship together!! Visitors are welcome to join us!

**Discipleship Group Reports:** Please remember to submit your discipleship group reports for the month of January. If you have any problems accessing the spreadsheet, please see Trish Walls.

<u>1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Outreach</u>: The 24th Annual Heat Up St. Louis Rise & Shine will be held on this coming Friday February 9<sup>th</sup> from 6:00a -10:30a at Hardee's locations across the metro area. Volunteers, please make sure you have your apron and instructions. Spread the word and encourage people to donate!



# FAITH COVENANT MINISTRIES

#### LOVE | LIFE | LORDSHIP | LEADERSHIP

#### faithcovenantstl.com

## Purpose Statement:

We exist to glorify God by serving as a conduit for the grace of God whereby faith the Love, Life, Lordship and Leadership of the Kingdom of Heaven is revealed and expanded to all nations.

## Mission Statement:

We desire to be a multi-cultural, multi-generational conduit of the grace of God to be used to fulfil our purpose, for the glory of God.

> <u>Mailing address</u>: P.O. Box 430 St. Charles, MO 63302 636-373-9001

<u>Weekly Corporate Gatherings</u>: Sunday Worship Service- 10:00 AM Discipleship Groups (times vary)

<u>Staff</u>: Rev. Michael Hammond, Sr. - President & Senior Pastor Rose Hammond- Receptionist

#### Order of Worship

#### Sunday, February 4, 2024

#### FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

(Congregation responses spoken together appear in **bold** print.)

#### **OPENING DECLARATION & PRAYER**

Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and His courts with praise! For the hour is coming, and now is, when true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for such the Father seeks to worship Him. Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised. Amen

#### WORSHIP IN SONG (click the song title for a YouTube track)

You Are Good Better Than Good Lord, You Are Good

#### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Gracious God, as we turn to Your Word for us, may the Spirit of God rest upon us. Help us to be steadfast in our hearing, in our speaking, in our believing, and in our living. In Jesus Name we pray, and we all agree by saying, **Amen** 

#### SCRIPTURE READING: Isaiah 1:1-9 (NASB95)

Leader: This is the Word of God.

Congregation: Thank you, Lord for your Holy Word.

(Quiet Reflection)

# SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 119:105-112 (NASB95)

Leader: This is the Word of God.

**Congregation: Thank you, Lord for your Holy Word.** (Quiet Reflection)

# WORSHIP IN SONG: HYMN OF THE MONTH

Love Lifted Me | View the lyrics here

SCRIPTURE READING: James 1:16-18

Leader: This is the Word of God.

# Congregation: Thank you, Lord for your Holy Word.

(Quiet Reflection)

# GOSPEL READING: John 1:9-13 (NASB95)

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord

# People: Praise to You Lord Christ

SERMON: https://www.facebook.com/fcmstl

# PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND REPENTANCE

Let us confess our sins before Almighty God. (Quiet confession)

(Let us pray.) Merciful and loving God. Thank you for life, and for being the true Light in the person of Jesus Christ. We confess that while you created us and are in the world today in the person of the Holy Spirit, that we have not always recognized you. At times we have failed to welcome you as the Lord of our lives. Therefore, our thoughts, feelings, and actions have been contrary to your will, leading to bondage, disappointment, and our demise.

We acknowledge that it is because of the Word, because of the Light, that these things have been revealed to us. Father, forgive us for our sins. Help us to see and give us grace to walk in the Light. Holy Spirit, work in us, so that we would have faith to believe you in every situation, so that we can walk in freedom, and our lives will bring glory to God the Father. We ask all these things in Jesus's name. Amen!

# WORDS OF AFFIRMATION:

(liturgy on screen)

#### Sermon Series on The Gospel of John 4 February 2024

Message 4: The Word's/Light's Reception-John 1:9-13 (NASB95) Pastor Michael Hammond Sr.

#### The Compelling Majesty of His Power By Oswald Chambers

#### *The love of Christ compels us...* —<u>2 Corinthians 5:14</u>

Paul said that he was overpowered, subdued, and held as in a vise by "the love of Christ." Very few of us really know what it means to be held in the grip of the love of God. We tend so often to be controlled simply by our own experience. The one thing that gripped and held Paul, to the exclusion of everything else, was the love of God. "The love of Christ compels us...." When you hear that coming from the life of a man or woman it is unmistakable. You will know that the Spirit of God is completely unhindered in that person's life.

When we are born again by the Spirit of God, our testimony is based solely on what God has done for us, and rightly so. But that will change and be removed forever once you "receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you..." (Acts 1:8). Only then will you begin to realize what Jesus meant when He went on to say, "...you shall be witnesses to Me...." Not witnesses to what Jesus can do- that is basic and understood- but "witnesses to Me...." We will accept everything that happens as if it were happening to Him, whether we receive praise or blame, persecution or reward. No one is able to take this stand for Jesus Christ who is not totally compelled by the majesty of His power. It is the only thing that matters, and yet it is strange that it's the last thing we as Christian workers realize. Paul said that he was gripped by the love of God and that is why he acted as he did. People could perceive him as mad or sane— he did not care. There was only one thing he lived for- to persuade people of the coming judgment of God and to tell them of "the love of Christ." This total surrender to "the love of Christ" is the only thing that will bear fruit in your life. And it will always leave the mark of God's holiness and His power, never drawing attention to your personal holiness.