

**Second Sunday after Epiphany, Year B ..... January 17, 2021**  
**INVITATION AND GATHERING**

**WELCOME**

**CENTERING WORDS**

If it had not been the Lord who was on our side, when the storms of life came crashing down upon us, we would have been lost. Despite all our cleverness, despite all our careful planning and calculated moves, if it had not been the Lord who was on our side, all our efforts would have been in vain.

**\*SCRIPTURE READING ..... Psalm 124**

**\* OPENING HYMN: # 131.....We Gather Together**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Many questions were raised as to who Jesus was. Even his disciples had different answers.

**People: Peter knew Jesus was the Messiah, the Son of the living God!**

Leader: It was by faith in God's revelation that Peter could say that. That same faith can be ours.

**People: We do believe Jesus is the Son of God, our Savior!  
May our faith add to the strengthening of his church.**

**\* Let us pray (Congregation):**

Eternal father, who reveals the divinity of your Son to those who are receptive to faith, Give us such faith to know your Son as Savior; that we may build, with strong conviction, your church in our world. In our Savior's name, we pray. Amen.

**\* LET’S WORSHIP THE LORD WITH HYMNS:**

**# 127..... Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah**

**PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE**

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Congregation)**

There is no doubt in our minds, Father, that Jesus is your Son. And the church is his witness in our world today. But faith so easily becomes impersonal theology; and we fail to be builders of a church which stands against the forces of evil. Forgive us for our unstable ways which we consider to be discipleship. Help us to make our faith vital, and personal, that your church may be able to depend on our witness. We pray through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**\* LET’S WORSHIP THE LORD WITH HYMNS:**

**# 139 ..... Praise to the Lord, the Almighty (vs 1, 3 & 5)**

**INTRODUCTION TO THE WORD**

We may or may not know how to listen,  
but God will speak to us anyway.  
Listen for the word of God.

**\*SCRIPTURE READING: ..... Matthew 16:13-20**

Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

THE WORD MADE FLESH: **“Who do you say that I am?”**

**\* RESPONSE TO THE WORD: # 368 .....My Hope Is Built**  
**CONGREGATION IN PRAYER: Joys and Concerns**

**\* PRAYER HYMN: # 2200 ..... O Lord, Hear My Prayer**

**\* CLOSING HYMN: # 367 ..... He Touched Me**

**\* DISMISSAL BLESSING**

Please don’t forget to send in your tithes and offerings to:

LeRoy UMC, 10 Trigon Park, LeRoy, NY 14482

## 1<sup>st</sup> Scripture Reading: Psalm 124 (NKJV)

“If it had not been the LORD who was on our side,”

Let Israel now say—

<sup>2</sup>“If it had not been the LORD who was on our side,

When men rose up against us,

<sup>3</sup>Then they would have swallowed us alive,

When their wrath was kindled against us;

<sup>4</sup>Then the waters would have overwhelmed us,

The stream would have <sup>[a]</sup>gone over our soul;

<sup>5</sup>Then the swollen waters

Would have <sup>[b]</sup>gone over our soul.”

<sup>6</sup>Blessed *be* the LORD,

Who has not given us *as* prey to their teeth.

<sup>7</sup>Our soul has escaped as a bird from the snare of the <sup>[c]</sup>fowlers;

The snare is broken, and we have escaped.

<sup>8</sup>Our help *is* in the name of the LORD,

Who made heaven and earth.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Scripture Reading: Matthew 16:13-20 (NKJV)

<sup>13</sup> When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, saying, “Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?”

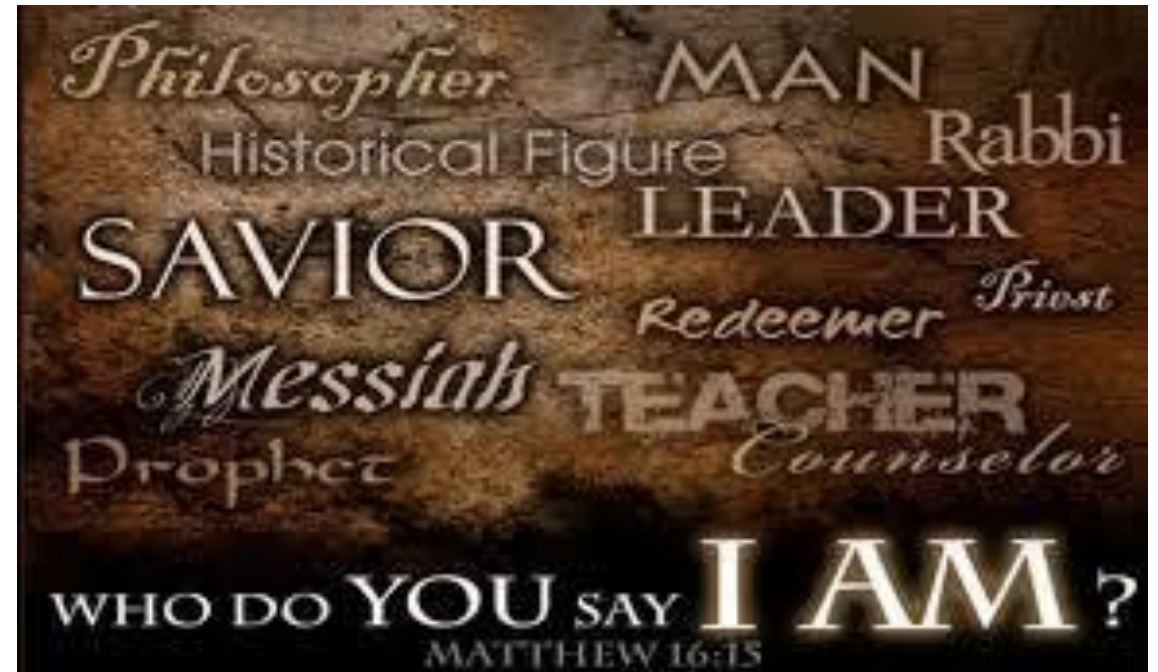
<sup>14</sup> So they said, “Some *say* John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.”

<sup>15</sup> He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?”

<sup>16</sup> Simon Peter answered and said, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”

<sup>17</sup> Jesus answered and said to him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed *this* to you, but My Father who is in heaven. <sup>18</sup> And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not <sup>[a]</sup>prevail against it. <sup>19</sup> And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth <sup>[b]</sup>will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.”

<sup>20</sup> Then He commanded His disciples that they should tell no one that He was Jesus the Christ.



January 17, 2021

LeRoy United Methodist Church

**A Community Church: Moving Forward**

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