



Sunday, December 27, 2020

Welcome!

We are thankful that you are worshiping with us today! To learn more about the life of our congregation, join our email list [here](#).

Here are some helpful resources for our younger worshippers:

[This Week's Children's Bulletin](#) | [Worship Worksheet for Kids](#)

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

The First Sunday of Christmas

10:30 A.M.

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 148; Luke 2

Come, let us sing God's praise with creation!

Praise God, sun and moon!

Praise God, shining stars!

Come, let us sing with Simeon and Anna!

Our eyes have seen salvation,

God's gift for all people!

Come let us sing God's praise together

and worship the Christ-child born for us!

*OPENING PRAYER

Merciful God, today we rejoice of the coming of our Savior. We sit in awe and gratitude of the ever-flowing love you give your children. You call us your own and continue to show us through the ultimate gift of the Christ child that you will never leave us nor forsake us. Let us worship you this day. **Amen.**

*HYMN 143

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

REGENT SQUARE

1. Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
you, who sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth:
come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king!

2. Shepherds, in the fields abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing; yonder shines the infant light:
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king!
3. Sages, leave your contemplations; brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great desire of nations; you have seen his natal star:
come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king!
4. All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son,
evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in One:
come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king!

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

Leader: May God be with you in worship there.

Congregation: **May God be with you in worship there.**

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

We have all sinned, not one of us is clean; but there is mercy for those who call on the name of the Lord. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**O God, in Christ you were born a humble child, love-made-flesh, God-with-us.
Forgive us when we fail to follow in your way of humility, love, and peace.
Free us to see your Light reflecting in the faces of friends and family,
neighbors and strangers, enemies and friends, and make us shine forth with your love.**

POURING OF THE BAPTISMAL WATERS

Remember your baptism and be thankful!

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Again we are promised, "Fear not for the Lord is with you!" In Christ, we are promised that nothing can separate us from the love of God. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

*GLORIA PATRI

GREATOREX

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.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Since we have been reconciled to God, let us also be reconciled to one another.

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

*SUNG RESPONSE (113)

GLORIA

Angels we have heard on high; sweetly singing o'er the plains,

And the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Almighty God, who shows us the meaning of unconditional love by sending us your presence in human form, pour your Spirit onto us this day as we learn of your goodness and light. In your precious name, we pray. Amen.

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Galatians 4:4-7

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Rev. David Madewell

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

adapted from The Confession of 1967

In Jesus of Nazareth, true humanity was realized once for all. Jesus, a Palestinian Jew, lived among his own people and shared their needs, temptations, joys and sorrow. He expressed the love of God in word and deed and became a brother to all of humanity. His life and teaching judged their goodness, religious aspirations, and national hopes. Many rejected him and demanded his death. In giving himself freely for them, he took upon himself the judgement under which all people stand convicted. God raised him from the dead, vindicating him as Messiah and Lord. The victim of sin became victor, and won the victory over sin and death for all.

THE EUCHARIST

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

MUSIC FOR THE OFFERING

*THE DOXOLOGY (Hymn 606)

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise...

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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD & THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God our hope, we give you thanks for letting us see even more clearly a sign of your unconditional love that knows no bounds. With this sign of your sacrifice, through bread and wine, help us to emulate your sacrificial love in our lives and in our world. We give you thanks. Amen.

THE SENDING

*HYMN 132

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

IN DULCI JUBILO

1. Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;
ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!
2. Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!
He has opened heaven's door, and we are blest forevermore.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
3. Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all to gain the everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CLOSING VOLUNTARY

**Rise in body or spirit*

LEADING OUR WORSHIP TODAY

PREACHING

Rev. David Madewell

ASSISTING

Dennis Jewett, Director of Music

Stephanie Dube, Director of Youth Ministries & Weekday School

MUSICIANS

Patrick Ritsch, Organist