

Growing Together through Faith, Love, and Fellowship.

Second Sunday after Christmas

January 2, 2022

The asterisk () indicates to please rise in body or spirit.*

Silent Prayer of Preparation

God, you placed a star in the sky to draw wise folk to the place of Christ's nativity. There you revealed the mystery of your eternal purpose for all humanity: God made flesh, born of Mary, opening to all the world the promise you made to Abraham and Sarah. Empower your church to be as the light of the star, that we may draw the world to the glory of Christ, our Lord, through whom we pray. Amen.

Gathering Music

The Gathering of God's People

Prelude - a time to prayerfully prepare oneself for worship

"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

-- arr. John A. Behnke

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Arise, shine; for your light has come.

People: **The glory of the Lord has risen upon us.**

Leader: Come, worship the Lord of glory.

People: **Proclaim God's praise among the nations.**

***Hymn**

"Angels, from the Realms of Glory"

#143

The Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon

***Prayer of Confession** *(read in unison)*

Merciful God, you have given light to the world in Jesus Christ, but we have preferred to live in darkness. Your justice protects the weak and the distressed, yet we seek the shelter of privilege and power. Your righteousness redeems the poor and the needy, yet we seek the status of wealth and possessions. Your peace upholds the oppressed and the defenseless, yet we seek the security of weapons and retribution. Forgive us our sins, and lead us to true repentance, that we may trust you in all things. Through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.
(Silent prayer of confession.)

***Assurance of Pardon**

***Response** “Angels We Have Heard on High” (refrain) #113
 Gloria in excelsis Deo!
 Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Ministry of the Word

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Reading

Isaiah 60:1-6

Choir Anthem “Now Greet the Swiftly Changing Year” Alfred Fedak, 1985

Now greet the swiftly changing year with joy and penitence sincere.

(refrain) Rejoice! With thanks embrace another year of grace.

This Jesus came to end sin’s war; this name of names for us he bore. (refrain)

His love abundant far exceeds the volume of a whole year’s needs. (refrain)

With him as Lord to lead our way in want and in prosperity,

What need we fear in earth or space in this new year of grace!

“All glory be to God on high, and peace on earth!” the angels cry. (refrain)

Second Scripture Reading

Matthew 2:1-12

Pastor: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Dr. Mark A. Johnson

Ordination and Installation

Sentences of Scripture

Pastor: There are varieties of gifts, but it is the same Spirit who gives them.

People: There are different ways of serving God, but it is the same Lord who is served.

Pastor: God works through each person in a unique way, but it is God's purpose that is accomplished.

People: To each is given a gift of the Spirit to be used for the common good.

Pastor: Together we are the body of Christ, and individually members of it.

Statement on Ordination

*Profession of Faith

Pastor: Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world?

People: I do.

Pastor: Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Lord and Savior, trusting in his grace and love?

People: I do.

Pastor: Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his Word and showing his love?

People: I will, with God's help.

Pastor: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.
Do you believe in God the Father?

People: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Pastor: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People: I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Pastor: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People: 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.

***Thanksgiving for Baptism**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Pastor: Gracious and eternal God ... be all glory and honor, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Constitutional Questions

Congregational Questions

Clerk of Session: Do we, the members of the church, accept Gailyn, Melissa, Hope, Prudy, Joyce, Rhonda, Dot, and Gina as ruling elders and deacons, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ?

People: We do.

Clerk of Session: Do we agree to pray for them, to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church?

People: We do.

*Prayer of Ordination and Installation

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Pastor: Gracious and eternal God ... good news of Christ Jesus our Lord.
Amen.

Declaration of Ordination and Installation

Welcome

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

(We will be receiving communion by using the cups in the pews. The communion wafer is in the package on top of the cup. Gluten free bread may be found on the communion table.)

Invitation to Offering

*Response

“Creator of the Stars of Night” (verse 4)

#84

To God the Fa-ther, God the Son, and God the Spir-it, Three in One,
praise, honor, might, and glo-ry be from age to age e-ter-nal-ly. A - men.

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*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn of Invitation

“One Bread, One Body”

#530

Invitation to the Lord’s Table

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Pastor: It is truly right ... who forever sing to the glory of your name:

**People: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Pastor: You are holy ... Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

**People: Dying you destroyed our death,
rising you restored our life.
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Pastor: Gracious God ... almighty God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

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

Communion of the People

Prayer after Communion

Loving and gracious God, from east and west, from north and south, you have gathered us at your table, called us your beloved, and fed us from your body. Transform us to be your body in the world, and fortify us by your Spirit, so that we may serve you and our neighbors with great joy. Amen.

The Sending of God's People

***Closing Hymn** "We Three Kings of Orient Are" #151

***Charge and Blessing**

***Congregational Response** "O Come, All Ye Faithful" (refrain) #133

O come, let us adore him;

O come, let us adore him;

O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

***Postlude** "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" -- arr. Wilbur Held

Pastor: Dr. Mark A. Johnson

Organist: Carol Welk

Liturgist: Cherie Watters

Acolyte:

Music Director: Thomas Lloyd

Flowers: