December 25, 2022

*All who are able may stand.

Bold type spoken by the congregation

GATHERING…

The Prelude

Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming

arr. Mark Hayes

The Welcome

Call to Worship

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all!

Glory to God in the highest!

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light!

Glory to God in the highest!

For a child has been born for us, a Son has been given to us.

Glory to God in the highest!

He is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Glory to God in the highest!

To us is born in the city of David a Savior, the Messiah the Lord.

Glory to God in the highest and peace to all people on earth!

Carol 119

Hark, the Herald Angels Sing

Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn king. Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinner reconciled!” Joyful, all ye nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies, with the angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!” Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn king”!

Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord, late in time behold him come, off-spring of the virgin’s womb. Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail the incarnate deity. pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel. Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn king”!

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righteousness! Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings. Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die, born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth. Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn king”!

*Prayer of Adoration

All glory to you, great God, for the gift of your Son, whom you sent to save us. With singing angels, we praise your name. Bowing in wonder, we praise Jesus, born among us. Of all the presents we have received, he is our greatest treasure. May we tell the earth his story and live it in our own lives, so that others may know our joy and receive your love. Amen.
Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

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 manager now. Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

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 for ever more. Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

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!

*The Peace and Greeting

The peace of Christ be with you all. And also with you!

(Please stand to greet one another in the name of Christ. For those worshiping at home, please share Christ’s peace with someone outside Your home this week.)

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD. . .

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Lesson Isaiah 52:7-10


Moment with Children

Carol 115 Away in a Manger

Away in a manger no crib for a bed, the little Lord Jesus lay down his sweet head. The stars in the sky look down where he lay. The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing; the poor baby wakes, but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes. I love thee, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky, and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask thee to stay. Close by me forever and love me I pray. Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care and fit us for heaven to live with Thee there.

Gospel Lesson John 1:1-14

The Meditation The Word Became Flesh Kim Clayton

Carol 121 O Little Town of Bethlehem

Oh little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie! Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by; yet in thy dark streets shineth, the everlasting light; the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary and, gathered all above, while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love. O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth, and praises sing to God the king, and peace to all on earth.

How silently, how silently, the wonderous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heaven. No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin, where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christenters in.

Oh holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray, cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today. We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell; O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel!

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD...

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

The Lord’s Prayer p. 35 in the Hymnal

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.

*Carol 136 Go, Tell It on the Mountain

REFRAIN Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere; go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching o’er silent flocks by night, behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. REFRAIN

The shepherds feared and trembled when lo! above the earth rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior’s birth. REFRAIN

Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born, and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. REFRAIN

Charge and Benediction

The Postlude Joy to the World arr. Gerald Peterson

Please be seated in personal reflection until the Postlude ends.

The flowers at the front of the Sanctuary are given by Joanne & Harry Farley to honor their grandchildren: Christopher & Nikolas Farley, David King III, Peyton King, Krista Farley, and Beatrice Farley

Today’s Worship Leaders:

Preacher: Kim Clayton

Liturgists: Margaret Rowe, Jen Rowe

Choir Masters: Mary Ann and Larry Casey

Organist: Amy Shirk