

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Epiphany of the Lord

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE

The Desert Shall Rejoice

Lani Smith

WELCOME AND LIFE IN THE CHURCH

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Lord, it's a brand new day.

People: It's also a brand new year. And so we will try to begin in your presence, with a heart still and sincere.

Leader: And early will I seek thee, and strive to go thy way.

People: So fill us with your spirit, and grant us peace this day.

Leader: Lord, please help us to walk to the vocation of our call

People: Please help us not to stumble, please help us not to fall.

Leader: And please give us boldness, for the perilous times are here.

People: So help us to walk in the spirit, and in continuous prayer this brand new year.

*HYMN

We Three Kings of Orient Are

GG: 151

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

Lord, 2018 has come and gone. We enter this new year with hope and trepidation. For some, this has been a really hard year. For others it has flown by, hardly registering in our memories. For others still, it has been a good year, full of joy and new life. Each year, we make commitments to work harder to follow in your footsteps, to take care of ourselves better, to love others more fully. Sometimes we meet these goals. Sometimes we fall short. Forgive us and help us to be kind to ourselves, have grace for the ways in which we have fallen short. We will at times let others down. We will at times fail in our intentions. And yet, here we are. Still full of life, still in a community of people who love us, still in a position to do so much good and love more fully. Help us to lean into that love. Heal our broken hearts and renew us in our faith. Forgive us for our failings in 2019 and help us to let the past go, looking firmly to the future, living fully in the present. Make us new again in this New Year. Use us to renew others and this world.

(A time of silent confession)

Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: You are the God of new beginnings and promises kept. You keep your promise and forgive our failings.

People: We are renewed in you, O Lord. We are made new and set free. We give thanks for each new beginning.

*RESPONSE

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee, v. 1

GG: 611

All: Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love!

Hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above.

Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the dark of doubt away.

Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: Hear the teaching of Christ: A new command I give you, that you love one another as I have loved you. The peace of Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us share the peace of Christ with one another!

HEARING THE WORD

ANTHEM

I Wonder As I Wander

John Jacob Niles
Matthew Singer, cello

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

*HYMN

Once in Royal David's City

GG: 140

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 132:11-12, pg. 574

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 1:1-17, pg. 1

One: This is the Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“A Book of Genesis and Promises”

Rev. Abbie Huff

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Canon On Forest Green

English Folk Melody
Matthew Singer, cello

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

All: 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.

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

Invitation

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

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

All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

One: It is truly right and our greatest joy...Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with choirs of angels, and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, GG. 552

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, hosanna in the highest.

Words of Institution

Communion of the People

Prayer after Communion

RECOMMITMENT TO HOLY LIVING (Looking to the Ten Commandments)

Leader: Since God has given us God's great promises, how shall we live in relationship to the God who walks with us?

People: We will have no other gods before Him; we will not make for ourselves any substitute gods; we will not abuse the name of the Lord but speak it only in reverence and love; we will honor the Lord's day through worship, witness and fellowship with all people.

Leader: How shall we live in relationship to others?

People: We will honor our parents and hold the family in high esteem; we will not abuse, hate or injure our friends or neighbors by word, gesture or deed; we will not commit adultery, but live holy disciplined lives; we will not steal; we will not lie; we will not grasp for what we do not have, nor reject others for having it.

Leader: How does Jesus summarize these commandments?

People: He says that we should love the Lord our God with all our heart, mind and strength, and our neighbors as ourselves, and by God's grace, we will do it!

GOING OUT INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

GG: 136

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Praise Ye The Lord of Hosts

Camille Saint Saens

***Latecomers Seated. *All who are able please stand.