

Communion Hymn "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" # 162

Holy Communion

Invitation

One: This table is open to all. Come to this sacred table not because you must, but because you may. Come not because you are fulfilled, but because in your emptiness you stand in need of God's mercy and assurance. Come to this table then, sisters and brothers as you are. Partake and share. It is spread for you and me that we might again know that God has come to us, shared our common lot, and invited us to join the people of God's new age.

Communion Prayer

Words of Institution and Consecration of the Elements

One: The bread which we break is the communion of the body of Christ. The cup of blessing which we bless is the communion of the blood of Christ. The gifts of God for the people of God. Come, for all things are ready.

Sharing the Elements

Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: Let us pray

Many: We thank you, God, for inviting us to this table where we have known the presence of Christ and have received all Christ's gifts. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and let us show forth your praise in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

*Closing Hymn "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" #164

*Benediction

*Postlude

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**January 1, 2023
10:30 am**

SERVICE OF WORSHIP

Welcome/Announcements

Prelude

*Call to Worship

One: Let all of creation praise the name of the Holy One!

Many: The rhythms of life praise the Everlasting God through the markings of time.

One: Let all of creation praise the name of the Holy One!

Many: The flowers, land, and trees praise the Divine Gardener through rest and renewal.

One: Let all of creation praise the name of the Holy One!

Many: Living creatures praise the Spirit of God through our breathing, living and being. Praise God!

*Invocation (in unison)

Loving God, you make us a community. You gather us as your offspring and knit us together with grace and mercy. In your presence, there is fullness of love, joy, hope, and peace. Thank you for being among us this day and with us in every moment of our being. Receive our praise, dwell in our midst, and create in us a heart that yearns for you and your kingdom. In the name of Emmanuel, we pray.

*Opening Hymn "Angels, from the Realm of Glory" # 149

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Eternal God, the dawn of a new year prompts us to reflect on our past and hope for our future. Help us live every day seeking your way and moving on your path. Help us commit to love and resolve to extend the grace and mercy we need from you and our neighbor. Make us new. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness

One: The God who counts our days knows us intimately, loves us abundantly, and abides with us relentlessly. Receive the brand new mercies of this day. Hold the love of God closely, firmly, and freely. Transformation, grace, and new life is assured this day.

Many: Thanks be to God!

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Morning Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (in unison)

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.

Special Music

"Messiah"

(Battistelli, Reed, & Pardo)

Scripture

Luke 2: 15-21 & 2 Timothy 4: 1-5

Sermon

"Good News from 2022"

Invitation to the Offering

Let us put our trust in the Living God, who is faithful. Let us praise God for the abundance of creation in the sharing of our gifts of time, talent, and treasure.

Offertory

"He is Born, the Divine Christ Child"

(Traditional/Arr. Bock & Larson)

Response

"Doxology"

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Prayer of Thanksgiving (in unison)

Generous God, bless these offerings. Stir up the gifts within for your glory, show your provision through the sharing of our resources, and empower us to steward our days as precious and holy. Amen.

(*) All who are able please stand when noted.