

Liturgy
Sunday, January 1, 2023

Welcome and Announcements

Musical Prelude

Call to Worship

The Christ child is born! All you who would find him, prepare for a journey, as determined as the Magi. All you who would praise him, come with the faith to follow but a star. All you who would worship him, come with humility to the child who shows forth the immeasurable riches of God. —based on Matthew 2:1-12

Song of Adoration: Hymn #4- “All Praise to God, Who Reigns Above”, vs.1-4,6

Prayer of Invocation

Song of Praise: Red Book #8- “There Is a Redeemer”

Song of Thanksgiving: Hymn #152- “The Law of the Lord Is Perfect”

Confession of Faith

Minister: Christians, what do you believe.

Congregation:

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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.

—Apostles’ Creed

Scripture Reading: Ephesians 3:1-12

Confession of Sin

Minister: Let us confess our sin.

Congregation: Almighty and merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you and one another in both our actions and our inactions. We recognize that in Jesus Christ our light has come, yet often we choose to walk in shadows and ignore the light. Gracious God, forgive our sins and remove from us the veil of darkness that shrouds our lives. Illumined by your Word and sacrament, may we rise to the radiance of Christ’s glory. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Hear now the promises of God to those who truly repent of their sin and trust in Christ: This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. —based on 1 John 1:5-7

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession – Mr. Rick Moore, Ruling Elder

Song of Preparation: Hymn #224- “Go Tell It on the Mountain”

Sermon: Guest pastor: Pastor Bob Johnson, Oakhurst Evangelical Free Church – “Giving God Our Best”

Scripture: Malachi

There will be no Lord’s Supper celebrated today

The Collection of Tithes and Offerings

Emmanuel, God with us, the Magi followed the star to find you. Amazed, they gave gifts. We too are amazed by your presence among us, by the gift that you are to us. With joyful hearts, we bring you our gifts of time, of money, of ourselves. Use these and us to serve you and your world. Amen.

Closing Song: Red Book #51- “The Bond of Love”

Benediction

May the light of the glorious gospel of Christ shine in our hearts, transform our lives, and brighten the world. And the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, rest upon you always. Amen.