

The Divine Service of Covenant Renewal

on the Lord's Day
December 18, 2022

Prelude

But the Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before Him.
Habakkuk 2:20

Welcome

God Calls Us to Worship Him

Choral Introit (11:00)

See, the loveliest blooming rose, Alleluia! From the branch of Jesse grows. Alleluia! On this day God gave us Christ, His Son, to save us.

† Call to Worship John 1:14-18

Pastor: And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us,
People: and we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.
Pastor: John bore witness about Him, and cried out, "This was He of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, because He was before me.'"
People: For from His fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

Δ† Hymn of Adoration

208 *O Come All Ye Faithful*

† Salutation and Responsive Scriptures

Pastor: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit!
People: Amen!
Pastor: The Lord be with you!
People: And also with you!
Pastor: Our help is in the Name of the Lord!
People: Who made heaven and earth!
Pastor: The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit;
People: A broken and contrite heart, O God, You will not despise.

† Prayer of Thanksgiving and Praise

† The Lord's Prayer Together as God's People

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.

† Affirmation of Faith The Rev. Nathan E. Currey

The Apostles' Creed (p. 845, together as God's people)

Δ† Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

God Graciously Renews Us in Christ

§ We Confess Our Sin

O Lord, forgive us for our failure to keep your commandments. We confess that we often cleanse the outside of our lives, yet do nothing about the inside of our hearts. Outside we look righteous, moral and upright, yet inside we are filled with anger, lust, greed, lies, and idolatry. Outwardly we go to church, give money and read your Bible, yet inwardly we neglect justice, purity, love, encouraging speech and mercy. Lord, we should have done the latter without neglecting the others. We have thrust ourselves into the best positions, because we thought we deserved them, yet the truth is we are unworthy of any blessing. Have mercy on us for being like the Pharisees. May you cleanse us- all of us and all of who we are- from the inside out. Amen.

§ Individual Silent Confession of Sin

§ God Forgives Us in Christ Galatians 4:4-7

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God. *In Jesus Christ our sins are forgiven!*

Interlude for Meditation

Lighting of the Fourth Advent Candle

Pierce Family (8:30 a.m.), Noé Family (11:00 a.m.)

Δ† Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs

226 *As with Gladness Men of Old*

(11:00) Children ages 3 to Kdg. to Children's Church (look for the flag bearer)

† The Passing of the Peace

Pastor: May the peace of Christ be with you!

People: And also with you!

Pastor: Let us offer one another a sign of peace!

(Members of the congregation greet one another with a sign of friendship such as the ancient words which the church has used over the centuries, "The peace of Christ be with you," and the response, "And also with you.")

The Sacrament of Covenant Baptism (11:00 a.m.)

Lydia and Charlotte Fredrickson

§ Morning Prayer Elder Galen Mussman

We Give Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

† Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Him all creatures here below; praise Him above ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

God Instructs Us With His Word

Scripture Reading

The Rev. Dr. Anthony J. Felich

John 1:8-9

Prayer for Illumination

Preaching of the Word

The True Gifts of Christmas

"Light"

† Hymn of Response (as the Elders prepare the Table)

200 *It Came upon a Midnight Clear* (1-2)

God Meets and Feeds Us at His Table

Invitation and the Words of Institution

Rev. Currey

Prayer of Consecration

Distribution of the Elements

The Elders

(Partake of the Bread individually and the Cup together. Wine is used for communion with a limited amount of grape juice in the center rings. Please note the bread in the center of the plate is gluten free.)

God Blesses Us and Sends Us Out

† Hymn of Dedication

200 *It Came upon a Midnight Clear* (3-4)

† Benediction

Rev. Felich

† Hymn of Dismissal

162 *Of the Father's Love Begotten* (5)

Christ, to thee, with God the Father, and, O Holy Ghost to thee, hymn and chant, and high thanksgiving, and unwearied praises be, honor, glory, and dominion, and eternal victory, evermore and ever-more!

Postlude

The Order of Divine Worship concludes with your silent prayer of praise and thanksgiving.

† Indicates the congregation standing

§ Indicates the congregation kneeling (if able)

Δ Ushers may seat latecomers