

The Divine Service of Covenant Renewal

on the Lord's Day

December 10, 2023

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)

"Wake, awake, for night is flying," the watchmen on the heights are crying; "Awake, Jerusalem, arise!" Midnight hears the welcome voices and at the thrilling cry rejoices; "Oh, where are ye, ye virgins wise? The Bridegroom comes, awake! Your lamps with gladness take! Alleluia! With bridal care yourselves prepare to meet the Bridegroom, who is near." Zion hears the watchmen singing, and all her heart with joy is springing, she wakes, she rises from her gloom; for her Lord comes down all-glorious, the strong in grace, in truth victorious, her Star is risen, her Light is come. "Now come, Thou blessed One, Lord Jesus, God's own Son, Hail! Hosanna! The joyful call we answer all and follow to the nuptial hall."

† Call to Worship

 Isaiah 40:3-5

Pastor: A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

People: Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low;

Pastor: the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.

People: And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

Δ† Hymn of Adoration

203 *Hark! the Herald Angels Sing*

† 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 Nicene Creed (p. 846, 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, we thank you for Christ our Savior. We accept His worthiness for our unworthiness, His sinlessness for our transgressions, His purity for our uncleanness, His sincerity for our guile, His truth for our deceits, His meekness for our pride, His constancy for our backslidings, His love for our enmity, His fullness for our emptiness, His faithfulness for our treachery, His obedience for our lawlessness, His glory for our shame, His devotedness for our waywardness, His holy life for our unchaste ways, His righteousness for our dead works, His death for our life. Amen.

§ Individual Silent Confession of Sin

§ God Forgives Us in Christ

 Titus 3:4-7

But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, He saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to His own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that being justified by His grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. *In Jesus Christ our sins are forgiven!*

Interlude for Meditation

Lighting of the Second Advent Candle

Bodine Family (8:30 a.m.), Guinn Family (11:00 a.m.)

Δ† Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs

201 *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

(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.")

§ Morning Prayer

 Elder Scott Creecy

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

Genesis 37-50

Prayer for Illumination

Preaching of the Word

Promises and Patriarchs

"Footprints"

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

213 *What Child is This* (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

213 *What Child is This* (3)

† Benediction

 Rev. Felich

† Hymn of Dismissal

218 *Angels From the Realms of Glory* (5)

All creation join in praising, God the Father, Spirit, Son; Ever more your voices raising to th'eternal Three in One. Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King!

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