



Sunday Worship



January 1, 2023

Draw near to God

for God is waiting for you.

* indicates where the congregation is to stand if able
italic type is spoken by the liturgist – bold is spoken by the congregation

PRELUDE

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

A new day has dawned, a new year begun

O Lord, call us so we may hear your voice

The world turns to hopes and dreams of the future

O Lord, keep us in your ways and on your path

We enter this new year with hope and excitement

O Lord, remind us that you lead us. Guide us as look to you, and worship you.

***OPENING PRAYER**

Eternal God, our Alpha and Omega, our beginning and our end, we have gathered in this time and at this place to worship you. In your time, you created all things, and wove into their fabric a yearning for fulfillment in you. It is this yearning within us which has pulled us here this morning. Take these moments, O Lord of time and space, and complete them in us, through your Holy Spirit. May our labor bring forth a new creation in you. This is your hour, Christ Jesus, help us to make the most of each precious moment. For in your name we have gathered, and we pray. Amen.

***HYMN #110 Love Has Come**

1. Love has come: a light in the darkness! Love shines forth in the Bethlehem skies.
See, all heaven has come to proclaim it; hear how their song of joy arises:
Love! Love! Born unto you, a Savior! Love! Love! Glory to God on high.

2. Love is born! Come, share in the wonder. Love is God now asleep in the hay.
See the glow in the eyes of his mother; what is the name her heart is saying?
Love! Love! Love is the name she whispers. Love! Love! Jesus Emmanuel.

3. Love has come and never will leave us! Love is life everlasting and free.
Love is Jesus within and among us. Love is the peace our hearts are seeking.
Love! Love! Love is the gift of Christmas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

CALL TO CONFESSION AND RECONCILIATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND BROKENESS

God of forgiveness and of grace: Hear our confession both of sin and of faith. We confess the sin of wanting new life while holding on to the old. We confess that we have brought into this new year resentments and hurtful habits and attitudes from the past. We confess that, though we wouldn't mind being a little more loving, more patient, more understanding, we really do not want to be moved to radical newness. And yet we confess, also, a faith in your acceptance, forgiveness, and power to make new. Confessing both our sin and our faith, we ask that you renew us where we have opened ourselves to your grace, that you accept us where we are not able to change, and that you forgive that which we have chosen not to change. This we ask through Jesus Christ. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND BLESSING

... Remember the good news and say it aloud: **Jesus died for me. Jesus forgives me. Jesus loves me. Jesus is good to me. Amen.**

***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.

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON Isaiah 43:18-21

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

***HYMN #144** In the Bleak Midwinter

1. In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan; earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long ago.

2. Our God, heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain; heaven and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign:
in the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed the Lord God incarnate, Jesus Christ.

3. Angels and archangels may have gathered there; cherubim and seraphim thronged the air: but his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved with a kiss.

4. What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a wise man, I would do my part; yet what I can give him: give my heart.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

SERMON God is the Beginning, the End, and the Now

RECOGNITION OF THE OFFERING

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise him, all creatures here below. Praise him above, ye heavenly hosts. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

God of all good gifts, who gives freely to us, have mercy on us and grant us the peace that only the Prince of Peace can provide. Grant that our lives would be an offering, and that our work would be a good gift, just as the gifts that the magi brought, pleasing to you and fit for the king of all creation. We look to you, our Prophet, Priest and King, to rule the world with justice, and to give salvation to all who call upon you. Amen.

JOYS, CONCERNS, AND SHARING FRIENDSHIP (Please sign and pass the friendship pad located in the center of the pews)

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

SHARING THE ELEMENTS (Please hold your elements until we call can commune together symbolizing our unity in Christ.)

UNISON PRAYER

God our Father, in this celebration we have looked back to the past, to what is done and gone. With Jesus in our midst we look now forward to the future. Let neither the past nor the present, nor the future, neither joys nor sorrows ever separate us from him. Let you Son be the center of our lives and the bond that binds us to you and to one another, in faith, hope and lasting love. Go with us through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***HYMN #141** On This Day Earth Shall Ring

1. On this day earth shall ring with the song children sing to the Lord, Christ our King, born on earth to save us; him the Father gave us. Id-e-o-o-o, i-de-o-o-o, id-e-o, Gloria in excelsis Deo!
2. His the doom, ours the mirth, when he came down to earth Bethlehem saw his birth; ox and ass beside him from the cold would hide him. Id-e-o-o-o, i-de-o-o-o, id-e-o, Gloria in excelsis Deo!
3. God's bright star, o'er his head, wise men three to him led; kneel they low by his bed, lay their gifts before him, praise him and adore him. Id-e-o-o-o, i-de-o-o-o, id-e-o, Gloria in excelsis Deo!
4. On this day angels sing; with their song earth shall ring, praising Christ, heaven's King, born on earth to save us; peace and love he gave us. Id-e-o-o-o, i-de-o-o-o, id-e-o, Gloria in excelsis Deo!

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This week's carillon is in memory of our Thomas D. Frederick.

FIRST WEDNESDAY COMMUNITY LUNCH: On January 4 beginning at noon, there will be the next lunch at the church featuring a special speaker. This month we will hear from Nancy Haines Spears. Nancy served as a Lieutenant in the Army Nurse Corp, including a year in a Mash hospital in Vietnam. She will share reflections on the evolving roles of women in the military and her experiences as a young nurse in a war. Currently, she is a resident at Pine Run with her new friend, Gail Shaffer, member of Forest Grove. All are invited to hear her fascinating stories. Bring your own bag lunch.

FRIDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP – JANUARY 6, 2023, 6:00 – 7:30PM: Our mission focus will be on helping others keep warm. We will welcome donations of warm weather clothing, new or used, including coats, scarves, gloves, hats, socks, and thermal underwear. Please wash used clothes before you donate. We will also be making fleece blankets. Dinner will be potluck of soup and bread. We will need a few donated pots of soup and loaves of bread. Please sign up for the event and let us know if you want to donate food for the meal. Not everyone needs to bring food.

YOUTH GROUP NEWS: The first meeting of the new year will be next Sunday, January 8 at 6:30.

MLK DAY OF SERVICE OPPORTUNITY – JANUARY 16: Our friends at Thompson Memorial Church are having a special day of service that will partner with organizations like Rise Against Hunger, World Vision, and Fisherman's Mark. The day begins with registration at 9:00 followed by a performance by the Parkway Drumline. This is followed by a Rise Against Hunger Meal Packing project. The whole event will conclude at noon. Sign up for participation by going to the following link: <https://tmpe.org/mlk>.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS: This week we are asking for can soups/broths and produce that does not require refrigeration. Bring your item(s) to the church during the week or next Sunday morning. Donations are to be placed in the wagon located in the vestibule.

Calendar:

January 1	10:00am	Worship Service – Welcome 2023!
January 2		Offices Closed.
	7:00pm	Boys Scouts.
January 4	12:00pm	First Wednesday Community Lunch with speaker, bring your lunch.
January 5	7:00pm	Bible Study on Zoom
January 6	6:00pm	Friday Night Fellowship – wear your pajamas.
January 8	6:30pm	Youth Group

Elder of the Month: Michael Myers

Deacon of the Month: Marilyn Cook

In our thoughts and prayers:

The Conner/Lang Family, Aleena Lang, Raymond Tinari,
Jim Turner, Violet Sanders, Steve Rash, Bill Yerkes, David Posnett, Mary Lou Humlhanz

Church Staff

Susan Fall, Pastor

Leanne Yerkes, Director of Music

Susan Flanagan, Office Administrator

Frank Orzechoski, Financial Manager

Natalia Blinova, Childcare

Mark Lempp, Grounds Keeper

