

Mercy

Presbyterian Church

ORDER OF WORSHIP SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2022

CALL TO WORSHIP

Ephesians 5:14; 2 Corinthians 4:6

Leader: Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

People: **For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.**

PRAYER OF ADORATION

HYMN OF GATHERING

Go Tell it on the Mountain

Chorus

Go, tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and everywhere.
Go, tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born.

1. While shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night,
Behold throughout the heavens,
There shone a holy light.
Chorus

2. The shepherds feared and trembled
When lo! above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus
That hailed our Savior's birth.
Chorus

3. Down in a lowly manger
Our humble Christ was born,
And God sent us salvation,
That blessed Christmas morn.
Chorus 2x

Go, tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born.

*Authors: words- John W., Jr. Work
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OLD TESTAMENT READING

Psalm 24:7-10

7 Lift up your heads, O gates!
And be lifted up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.
8 Who is this King of glory?
The Lord, strong and mighty,
the Lord, mighty in battle!
9 Lift up your heads, O gates!
And lift them up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.
10 Who is this King of glory?
The Lord of hosts,
he is the King of glory! Selah

HYMN OF ADORATION

1. Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before Thee,
Opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
Drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day!

2. All Thy works with joy surround Thee,
Earth and Heav'n reflect Thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around Thee,
Center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
Flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,
Singing bird and flowing fountain
Call us to rejoice in Thee!

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

3. Thou art giving and forgiving,
Ever blessing, ever blessed,
Wellspring of the joy of living,
Ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother,
All who live in love are Thine;
Teach us how to love each other,
Lift us to the joy divine!

4. Mortals join the happy chorus,
Which the morning stars began;
Father love is reigning o'er us,
Brother love binds man to man
Ever singing, march we onward,
Victors in the midst of strife,
Joyful music lifts us Sunward
In the triumph song of life!

Authors: Words by Henry van Dyke; Music by Ludwig van Beethoven
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CONFESSION OF SIN

Holy Lord, forgive us for thinking more highly of ourselves than we ought. We are blinded by self-love and imagine ourselves better than others. The gifts you bestow, we secretly believe we deserve. The abilities you grant, we act as if are achieved on our own. We pretend to be gods, but you were willing to be born in our likeness. Though we desire to rise above others, you were willing to be lowered into a manger and lifted upon a cross. Forgive us, we pray. And give us the mind of Christ, who came not to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Matthew 1:21

She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.

HYMN OF ASSURANCE

1. What Child is this who laid to rest,
On Mary's lap is sleeping;
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, This is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing.
Haste, Haste to bring Him laud,
The Babe, the Son of Mary.

2. Why lies He in such mean estate
Where ox and cattle are feeding?
Good Christian fear, for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce Him through,
The cross be borne for me for you.
Hail, Hail the Word made flesh,
The Babe, the Son of Mary.

What Child is This?

3. So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh;
Come peasant king to own Him.
The King of Kings salvation brings;
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.
Raise, Raise the song on high;
The virgin sings her lullaby.
Joy, Joy for Christ is born,
The Babe, the Son of Mary.

Raise, Raise the song on high;
The virgin sings her lullaby.
Joy, Joy for Christ is born,
The Babe, the Son of Mary.

Author: William Chatterton Dix © Public Domain

MISSIONS MINUTE

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

Please note, Equip for Worship will not meet today and will resume on January 15.

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 60:1-5, 15-16

¹ Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.
² For behold, darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the Lord will arise upon you,
and his glory will be seen upon you.
³ And nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your rising.
⁴ Lift up your eyes all around, and see;
they all gather together, they come to you;
your sons shall come from afar,
and your daughters shall be carried on the hip.
⁵ Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and exult,
because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you,
the wealth of the nations shall come to you. ...
¹⁵ Whereas you have been forsaken and hated,
with no one passing through,
I will make you majestic forever,
a joy from age to age.
¹⁶ You shall suck the milk of nations;
you shall nurse at the breast of kings;
and you shall know that I, the Lord, am your Savior
and your Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob.

COLLECTION OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

HYMN OF THANKSGIVING

Angels We Have Heard on High

1. Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply
Echo back their joyous strains:

Chorus

Glo . . . ria in excelsis Deo!
Glo . . . ria in excelsis Deo!

2. Shepherds, why this jubilee,
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heav'nly song?
Chorus

3. Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing.
Come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Chorus

*Authors: Edward Shippen Barnes, James Chadwick
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SENDING HYMN

Joy to the World

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n, and heav'n, and nature sing.

2. Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let men their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.

3. No more let sins and sorrows grow,
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as, the curse is found.

4. He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders of His love.
And wonders, wonders of His love.

*Authors: Isaac Watts, George Frederic Handel
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BENEDICTION

DISMISSAL

Minister: Let us go forth to serve the world as those who love our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

People: THANKS BE TO GOD!

POSTLUDE

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