

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

February 4th, 2024

10:00 A.M.

PRELUDE:

PROCESSIONAL HYMN: *Songs Of Thankfulness And Praise #135*

- 1. Songs of thankfulness and praise, Jesus, Lord, to thee we raise, manifested by the star to the sages from afar; branch of royal David's stem in thy birth at Bethlehem; anthems be to thee addressed, God in man made manifest.*
- 2. Manifest at Jordan's stream, Prophet, Priest and King supreme; and at Cana, wedding guest, in thy Godhead manifest; manifest in power divine, changing water into wine; anthems be to thee addressed, God in man made manifest.*
- 3. Manifest in making whole palsied limbs and fainting soul; manifest in valiant fight, quelling all the devil's might; manifest in gracious will, ever bringing good from ill; anthems be to thee addressed, God in man made manifest.*

WELCOME: Pastor Beverly Collinsworth

Priest: Blessed be God, Father, Son and the Holy Spirit.

Everyone: And Blessed be his Kingdom, now and forever. Amen

Priest: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open and all desires known and from you no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts and the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Everyone: . *Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.*

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father, Amen.

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Priest: Let us Pray:

Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

People: Amen

LESSONS: *Please be seated for the readings of the lessons.*

1st LESSON: **Isaiah 40:21-31**

Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in; who brings princes to

naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing. Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble. To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? Says the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing. Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"? Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.

He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. Even youths will faint and be weary and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

Reader: Here ends the reading from the Book of Isaiah.

Response: Thanks be to God.

The Psalms: Psalm 147:1-12, 21c

Let us read it responsively by full verse.

Reader: Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God! how pleasant it is to honor him with praise!

Response: The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem; he gathers the exiles of Israel.

Reader: He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

Response: He counts the number of the stars and calls them all by their names.

Reader: Great is our LORD and mighty in power; there is no limit to his wisdom.

Response: The LORD lifts up the lowly, but casts the wicked to the ground.

Reader: Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; make music to our God upon the harp.

Response: He covers the heavens with clouds and prepares rain for the earth;

Reader: He makes grass to grow upon the mountains and green plants to serve mankind.

Response: He provides food for flocks and herds and for the young ravens when they cry.

Reader: He is not impressed by the might of a horse; he has no pleasure in the strength of a man;

Response: But the LORD has pleasure in those who fear him, in those who await his gracious favor.

Reader: Hallelujah!

Reader: Here ends the reading of Psalm 147

Response: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE: 1 Corinthians 9:16-23

If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them.

To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak.

I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

Reader: Here ends our reading from Paul's 1st letter to the Corinthians.

Response: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL HYMN: *O Bless The Lord, My Soul #411*

1. O bless the Lord, my soul! His grace to thee proclaim! And all that is within me join to bless his holy Name!

2. O bless the Lord, my soul! His mercies bear in mind! Forget not all his benefits! The Lord to thee is kind.

3. He will not always chide; he will with patience wait; his wrath is ever slow to rise and ready to abate.

Priest: *Please stand for the reading of the Gospel.*

Priest/Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ according to St. Mark.

Response: Glory to you Lord Christ.

The Gospel: Mark 1:29-39

After Jesus and his disciples left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

That evening, at sundown, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him. In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do."

And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

Priest: The Gospel of our Lord.

Everyone: Praise to You Lord Christ.

MESSAGE: PASTOR BEVERLY

MESSAGE RESPONSE: CARSON

NICENE CREED

Priest: Let us confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed:

Everyone: **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.

Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit, he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son, he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

LEM/Deacon: In peace, Let us pray to you, Lord God.

Reader: For all people in their daily life and work;

Response: *For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.*

Reader: For this community, the nation, and the world;

Response: *For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.*

Reader: For the just and proper use of your creation;

Response: *For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.*

Reader: For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

Response: *For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.*

Reader: For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

Response: *For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.*

Reader: For Michael our Presiding Bishop, and Anne our Bishop and for all bishops and other ministers;

Response: *For all who serve God in his Church.*

Reader: Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble; especially: **Maria, Diane, Nana Jo, Patricia K., Scott, Fr. John, Alec, Roseann, David, Michael, Steve, Sue, Eliza, Linda, Donna and Catherine:**

Response: **That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Reader: We pray for the men and women serving in our armed forces, especially:

Mitchell, Michael, Ethan, Emily, Alan, Chris and Chelsey, the 200th Red Horse Squadron and the 983rd, Army Combat Engineer Battalion.

Response: Protect, guide and comfort them and bring them home safely when their work is done.

Reader: Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Response: To thee, O Lord our God.

LEM/Deacon: Let us confess our sins against God and one another:

Everyone: Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Priest: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

OFFERTORY: CARSON

Music: *While the Table is Set*

COMMUNION:

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also, with you.**

Priest: Lift up your hearts

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Priest: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Priest: Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

People: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

Priest: Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said,

"Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Everyone: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him.

Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *AMEN*.

AMEN, AMEN, AMEN

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Priest: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Priest: Alleluia, Christ our Passover Lamb is sacrificed for us.

People: **Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Priest: The Gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Priest: Let us pray with those who are unable to receive the Eucharist with us this morning:

EVERYONE: Dear Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Holy Sacrament, but since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, I ask that you come spiritually into my heart. Unite me with you and never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

Priest: Let us all pray for peace in our world.

EVERYONE: Lord, Healer of the Nations, from the noise of war and the drumbeat of vengeance, give us undiminished determination to wage peace. Out of brokenness, violence, and destruction let us plant seeds of hope. Out of chaos, confusion, and hatred, let us build bridges of love. Out of distrust, disunity, and distance, let us walk together in harmony. Heal our divisions, make us whole, and bring us peace. Amen.

Priest: St. Thomas practices open communion which means that all baptized Christians are welcome at the Lord's Table.

Communion can be received either by drinking from the Chalice or by intinction. Either way is acceptable.

Priest: The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven.

LEM/Deacon: The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation.

MUSIC: (*sing during communion*)

1. As we gather at your Table, as we listen to your Word, help us know, O God, your presence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.

Nourish us with sacred story till we claim it as our own; teach us through this holy banquet how to make Love's vict'ry known.

2. Turn our worship into witness in the sacrament of life; send us forth to love and serve you, bringing peace where there is strife.

Give us, Christ, your great compassion to forgive as you forgave; may we still behold your image in the world you died to save.

3. Gracious Spirit, help us summon other guests to share that Feast where triumphant Love will welcome those who had been last and least.

There no more will envy blind us nor will pride our peace destroy, as we join with saints and angels to repeat the sounding joy.

Priest: Let us Pray:

Everyone: Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us spiritually with the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.

Send us now into the world in peace and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

People: Amen

Priest: May the Lord bless you and keep you, May the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you, May the Lord look upon you with favor and bring you peace.

RECESSIONAL HYMN: *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise #423*

1. Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible hid from our eyes, most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, almighty, victorious, thy great Name we praise.

2. Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light, nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might; thy justice like mountains high soaring above thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

3. To all life thou givest, to both great and small; in all life thou livest, the true life of all; we blossom and flourish, like leaves on the tree, then wither and perish; but nought changeth thee.

Please be seated for the Postlude.

POSTLUDE: CARSON

LEM/Deacon: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THANKS: Pastor Beverly Collinsworth

ANNOUNCEMENTS: