

THE ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP

Sunday, December 31, 2017

The First Sunday of Christmastide

11:00 a.m.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

WELCOME

PRELUDE

O Jesus Sweet

arr. Lani Smith

Lucas Metler, piano Edgar Gonsales, organ

INTROIT

In the Bleak Midwinter

CRANHAM

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

*CALL TO WORSHIP

(Adapted from Luke 2:25-32)

Leader: God's Holy Spirit rests upon us;

People: So that we may see the Lord's Messiah before we see death.

Leader: Then, we may be dismissed in peace.

People: Then, we may at peace according to his word.

Leader: For, our eyes have seen God's salvation;

People: A salvation prepared in the presence of all peoples:

Leader: A light for revelation to all the nations,

People: A light for glory to God's people.

HYMN #40

Joy to the World

ANTIOCH

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Eternal God: You make all things new and forgive old wrongs that we cannot forget. We confess that we have spent time without loving and years without purpose. Daily we have done wrong and failed to do what You demand. Forgive the past; and do not let evil cripple or shame us. Lead us into the future, free from sin, free to love, and ready to work for the fulfillment of Your will; through Jesus Christ our everlasting Lord. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

KYRIE #572

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

HYMN OF OUR YOUNG CHURCH

Away in a Manger

Cherub Choir

WORDS WITH OUR YOUNG CHURCH

Children ages K-3rd grade are now invited downstairs for Children's Worship.

ANTHEM *See, On Mary's Arm He's Sleeping* W. Hatch
John Gump, flute

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION
SCRIPTURE

Galatians 4:1-7

Pastor: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks Be to God.

SERMON **“Heirs and Children of God”** Rev. Curtis Christian

*HYMN #48 *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming* ES IST EIN' ROS'

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

APOSTLES’ CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *Gloria* Gloria Patri
MOMENT FOR MISSION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

CHORAL RESPONSE *Amen* CRANHAM

OFFERINGS FOR THE MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH

OFFERTORY *O Jesus So Gentle* J.S. Bach
Madelynne Banderman, soprano

*DOXOLOGY #592 Old Hundredth

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

BEARING GOD'S WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN #23 *Angels We Have Heard on High* GLORIA

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE *Our God, Heaven Cannot Hold Him* CRANHAM

POSTLUDE *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* Felix Mendelssohn/

Lucas Metler, piano Edgar Gonsales, organ arr. Joel Raney

*Those who are able, please stand

***Late Arrivals Seated

Today’s Lay Reader is Phyllis Gump.