

Greeters Susan Espiritu, Brett Miller
Liturgist Meghan Tidwell
Music Bob Eubanks, Nancy Wells, George Hill, Allison Carroll
Interim Pastor Rev. Dr. Carl Grosse

Announcements

The Church Office will be closed tomorrow, January 1st and will reopen on Tuesday, January 2nd.

Guess Who's Coming to Dinner? Have you signed up? We are excited to rollout this new dinner for 8 as a way for all of us to get to know each other better and strengthen our relationships. There is a signup form on the website under events and in the weekly word. You can sign up as a host or just as a participant! The hosts will draw names from a hat to form each group of 8. Once groups are formed the host will be in contact about a day and time to meet. Each host will provide the entrée and each couple/individual will be asked to bring a side! If you have any questions please contact Dana Lamb.

Did you know you can tithe online? Scan this QR code with your smart phone camera and it will take you straight to our online tithing. Don't know how to scan it? Ask a friend around you!



**First Sunday of Christmas
December 31, 2023**

Prelude

Word of Welcome

Rev. Dr. Carl Grosse

Call to Worship

Leader: Break forth into joy, sing together!

All: For the LORD has comforted His people, and has redeemed Jerusalem!

Leader: The LORD has shown His holy arm in the sight of all the nations,

All: And all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God!

Meghan Tidwell

***Hymn #277 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing**

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King:
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"

Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;
with th'angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Refrain:

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King"

Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb:
veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail th'incarnate Deity,
pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Jesus, our Immanuel. [Refrain]

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!

Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.

Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth. [Refrain]

Ritual of Friendship

Meghan Tidwell

*Members and Guests – Please sign and pass the friendship register
located on the center aisle under the pew in front*

Call to Confession

Meghan Tidwell

Leader: The LORD is good and ready to forgive, abundant in mercy to all who call upon Him. Let us pray for God's forgiveness together.

Prayer of Confession

Meghan Tidwell

All: Holy God, You have been patient and kind to us this past year. We don't even know all the ways we've failed to live right. But there are plenty we do know about, and You've been gracious to us. As we close out this year and enter a new one, help us mend our ways, and learn more of Yours, for we ask in the Name of Jesus Christ our Lord, AMEN.

(Time for Silent Confession)

Assurance of Forgiveness and Peace

Meghan Tidwell

Leader: Surely God's salvation is near to those who fear Him, bringing glory to God among us!

****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.**

****Passing the Peace***

Meghan Tidwell

Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all

All: And also with you

Anthem "Wexford Carol"

solo, Allison Carroll

Prayer of Illumination

Rev. Dr. Carl Grosse

Scripture Reading Luke 2:25-40

Rev. Dr. Carl Grosse

Sermon Doing our duty

Rev. Dr. Carl Grosse

****Hymn #251 It Came upon the Midnight Clear***

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, good will to men, from heaven's all-gracious King."
The world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come with peaceful wings unfurled,
and still their heavenly music floats o'er all the weary world;
above its sad and lowly plains, they bend on hovering wing,
and ever o'er its Babel sounds the blessed angels sing.

And ye, beneath life's crushing load, whose forms are bending low,
who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow,
look now! for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing.
O rest beside the weary road, and hear the angels sing!

For lo! the days are hastening on, by prophet seen of old,
when with the ever-circling years shall come the time foretold
when peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,
and the whole world send back the song which now the angels sing.

Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

Rev. Dr. Carl Grosse

All: 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

Call for Offering

Meghan Tidwell

Leader: Let's worship God with our tithes and offerings.

Offertory

****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**

****Prayer of Dedication***

Rev. Dr. Carl Grosse

****Hymn #271 Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You***

Joyful joyful, we adore You, God of glory Lord of light;
Angels lifting praise before You Sing throughout this holy night.
In a manger lies a baby Child of Mary Son of God.
Voices joined in joyful chorus Praise You for Your gift of love.

All Your works declare Your glory All creation joins to sing.
Praise resounds as earth rejoices In the birth of Christ the King.
Shepherds kneel before the Infant Trumpets sound and anthems raise
As with joy our hearts are lifted, Joined in wonder love and praise.

****Charge and Benediction***

Rev. Dr. Carl Grosse

****Congregational Benediction***

**Make us one, Lord, make us one;
Holy Spirit, make us one.
Let your love flow so the world will know
we are one in you**

Postlude