



GRACE COVENANT

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Service of Worship January 1, 2023 9:30am
1st Sunday After Christmas

Gathering

SONG TO GATHER

"All Glory be to Christ"

Kings Kaleidoscope

ALL

Tune of Auld Lang Syne

**Should nothing of our efforts stand, No legacy survive,
Unless the Lord does raise the house, In vain its builders strive.
To you who boast tomorrow's gain, Tell me, what is your life?
A mist, it vanishes at dawn, All glory be to Christ.**

**All glory be to Christ our King, All glory be to Christ.
His rule and reign we'll ever sing, All glory be to Christ.**

**His will be done, His kingdom come, On earth as is above.
Who is Himself our daily bread, Praise Him the Lord of love.
Let living waters satisfy the thirsty without price.
Come eat of Him, our Living Bread, all glory be to Christ.**

**All glory be to Christ our King, All glory be to Christ.
His rule and reign we'll ever sing, All glory be to Christ.**

**When on the day, the great I Am, the faithful and the true,
The Lamb who was for sinner's slain, Is making all things new.
Behold our God shall live with us, And be our steadfast Light,
And we shall e'er his people be, All glory be to Christ.**

**All glory be to Christ our King, All glory be to Christ.
His rule and reign we'll ever sing, All glory be to Christ.
All glory be to Christ our King, All glory be to Christ.
His rule and reign we'll ever sing, All glory be to Christ.**

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Mitch Trigger

*CALL TO WORSHIP (*responsive*)

ONE: We waited.

ALL: And imagined a savior.

One: We imagined power.

ALL: One like the world but stronger and on our side.

One: We imagined a king on a white horse wielding a sword.

ALL: We got a baby born in a stable among the livestock.

One: We imagined the work done for us
through the destruction of our enemies.

**ALL: We receive a baby who will teach us our calling
to seek reconciliation and to love expansively.**

One: Praise be to God for the unexpected babe of Bethlehem.

ALL: Praise to the wisdom of love. Amen!

HYMN SING *A time to sing a stanza of your favorite songs of the season*

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (*unison*)

Creator God, we have waited for a long time for your hope, your joy, your love to shine in the darkness of this world. Almighty God, even now, in our gathering here, we await you. In our hearts, we still hope that your light will blaze forth, banishing the shadows of this world and guiding all the people back to you.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE & SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

One: May the peace and love of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you and all others!

SONG TO SHARE

"Gonna Sing, My Lord"

by Joe Wise

ALL

**Gonna sing my Lord for all that I'm worth, Gonna sing my Lord for all that I'm worth,
Gonna sing my Lord for all that I'm worth, Gonna sing my Lord, Lord, Lord, 'til I see your face.**

**Gonna love my Lord for all that I'm worth, Gonna love my Lord for all that I'm worth,
Gonna love my Lord for all that I'm worth, Gonna love my Lord, Lord, Lord, 'til I see your face.**

**Gonna LAUGH my Lord for all that I'm worth,
Gonna DIE my Lord for all that I'm worth,
Gonna LIVE my Lord for all that I'm worth,
Gonna SING my Lord, Lord, Lord, 'til I see your face.**

Equipping

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON **Hebrews 2:10–18 (CEB)** Nelson Townsend

It was appropriate for God, for whom and through whom everything exists, to use experiences of suffering to make perfect the pioneer of salvation. This salvation belongs to many sons and daughters whom he's leading to glory. This is because the one who makes people holy and the people who are being made holy all come from one source. That is why Jesus isn't ashamed to call them brothers and sisters when he says, I will publicly announce your name to my brothers and sisters. I will praise you in the middle of the assembly. He also says, I will rely on him. And also, Here I am with the children whom God has given to me. Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, he also shared the same things in the same way. He did this to destroy the one who holds the power over death—the devil—by dying. He set free those who were held in slavery their entire lives by their fear of death. Of course, he isn't trying to help angels, but rather he's helping Abraham's descendants. Therefore, he had to be made like his brothers and sisters in every way. This was so that he could become a merciful and faithful high priest in things relating to God, in order to wipe away the sins of the people. He's able to help those who are being tempted, since he himself experienced suffering when he was tempted.

SONG TO REFLECT **"O Come All You Unfaithful"** by Sovereign Grace Worship
Carrie DeVries

O come, all you unfaithful; Come, weak and unstable; Come, know you are not alone
O come, barren and waiting ones Weary of praying, come See what your God has done
Christ is born, Christ is born, Christ is born for you
O come, bitter and broken, Come with fears unspoken; Come, taste of His perfect love
O come, guilty and hiding ones, There is no need to run; See what your God has done
Christ is born, Christ is born, Christ is born for you
He's the Lamb who was given, Slain for our pardon, His promise is peace
For those who believe He's the Lamb who was given, Slain for our pardon
His promise is peace For those who believe
So come, though you have nothing, Come, He is the offering Come, see what your God has done
Christ is born, Christ is born Christ is born for you
Christ is born, Christ is born, Christ is born for you

GOSPEL LESSON **Matthew 2:13–23** (CEB)

When the magi had departed, an angel from the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said,
“Get up. Take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod

will soon search for the child in order to kill him.” Joseph got up and, during the night, took the child and his mother to Egypt. He stayed there until Herod died. This fulfilled what the Lord had spoken through the prophet: I have called my son out of Egypt. When Herod knew the magi had fooled him, he grew very angry. He sent soldiers to kill all the children in Bethlehem and in all the surrounding territory who were two years old and younger, according to the time that he had learned from the magi. This fulfilled the word spoken through Jeremiah the prophet:

A voice was heard in Ramah,
weeping and much grieving.
Rachel weeping for her children,
and she did not want to be comforted,
because they were no more.

After King Herod died, an angel from the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt. “Get up,” the angel said, “and take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel. Those who were trying to kill the child are dead.” Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus ruled over Judea in place of his father Herod, Joseph was afraid to go there. Having been warned in a dream, he went to the area of Galilee. He settled in a city called Nazareth so that what was spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled: He will be called a Nazarene.

Holy Wisdom, Holy Words
Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Rev. Mitch Trigger

A CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

(Individual bread and juice sets are available in the Concourse as you enter the Sanctuary. If you desire a gluten-free option, please see the Communion server at the Sanctuary entrance.)

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed by your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD
COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

“Noel”
Praise Team

recorded by Lauren Daigle

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Sending

*SONG TO SEND

“Go Tell It on the Mountain”

African American Spiritual

ALL

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

**While shepherds kept their watching O'er silent flocks by night
Behold throughout the heavens There shone a Holy light**

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

**The shepherds feared and trembled When, lo! Above the Earth
Rang out the angel chorus That hailed our Savior's birth.**

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

**Down in a lowly manger Our humble Christ was born
And brought us all salvation That blessed Christmas morn**

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

*CHARGE & BENEDICTION

GOD'S PEACE TO YOU

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