

GATHERING FOR THE WORD

Let us take this time to quiet our hearts and minds and prepare for worship.

* Please stand if able Plain text = Leader **Bold text = People**

Prelude “In Dulci Jubilo!” Organist, Julie Pulliam
Arr. Wilbur Held

Welcome and Announcements The Rev. Dr. Whitney Dempsey

Call to Worship (Please stand) Elder

The Word became flesh and lived among us

and we have seen his glory.

The true light that enlightens everyone has come into the world.

Glory to God who has blessed us in Christ. Glory to God forever.

***Hymn** “O, Come All Ye Faithful” PH # 41

Prayer for Renewal (Be seated) Elder

Let us pray...

**Holy God, we confess that we are a distracted people
and forgetful of your love.**

**We make selfish choices,
hurt each other, and perpetuate injustice in your world.**

**We have sinned against you and are deeply sorry and repent of our
disregard**

of you, each other, and your creation.

By the power of your Spirit, forgive, restore, and strengthen us

to live in your light and walk in your truth; through Christ our Lord.

(time for silent prayer)

Declaration of Forgiveness Whit Dempsey

Amen. As children of the Holy One, God forgives you and loves you eternally.

By the power of God’s Spirit,

forgive yourself and forgive others as God in Christ has forgiven you.

And God in Christ has taken care of us and this world once again:

***Sung Response** “Love Has Come” GTG 110 v. 2 Tune: Bring a Torch

Love has come: a light in the darkness!

Love shines forth in the Bethlehem skies.

See all heaven has come to proclaim it; hear how their song of joy arises:

Love! Love! Born unto you a Savior! Love! Love! Glory to God on High.

HEARING THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination and Scripture Reading:

John 1: 1–18 (NT pg. 86)

Whit Dempsey

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Time with All Ages C.E. Director of Children & Youth, Linda Valo

(As the children and youth come forward, please join in singing)

This, this is where children belong, part of our family, part of our song.

Be with us, pray with us, help us grow strong, this is where children belong.

(After TWAA, children Pre-K-6th grade may leave with Linda Valo for Kids’ Kingdom.)

Sermon “Words with Friends” The Rev. Dr. Whit Dempsey

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

* **Affirmation of Faith** (Please Stand, responsive) Elder

Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God,

the firstborn of all creation;

**in him all things in heaven and on earth were created,
things visible and invisible.**

All things have been created through him and for him.

He himself is before all things,

and in him all things hold together.

He is head of the body, the church;

he is the beginning,

the firstborn of the dead,

so that he might come to have first place in everything.

For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,

and through him God was pleased to reconcile all things,

whether on earth or in heaven,

by making peace through the blood of his cross.

Amen.

Prayers of the People and Lord’s Prayer Pg 16 front of Hymnal

(Pray, “Forgive us our sins...”)

***Prayer of Dedication**

Offertory “A Lovely Rose Is Blooming” Organist, Julie Pulliam

Johannes Brahms,
Edited by John Holler.

***Presentation of Offering**

(Angels from the Realms of Glory Verse 4, No. 22)

**All creation, join in praising, God the Father, Spirit, Son;
Ever more your voices raising, to th'eternal Three in One:
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ the newborn King!**

Communion of the People

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Words of Institution

Serving Communion "Pastoral Symphony (From Messiah)" G. F. Handel

*Bread is taken individually. Please **wait to take juice/wine together.**
White grape juice is in the outer ring of the tray; red wine in the middle ring,
and water in the center.*

Prayer after Communion

P

***Hymn** "Once in Royal David's City" PH # 49

***Charge and Benediction**

*** Sung Congregational response:** *Christ, Be Our Light!* GTG 314



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the dark - ness.



Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered to - day.

Postlude "The Snow Lay on the Ground" Organist, Julie Pulliam
Arr. Leo Sowerby

Pulpit Elder: Bonnie Emge Greeter: Sonia Hills
Time with All Ages: Linda Valo Check-In Desk: Roxanne Foster
Ushers: Kerry Gardner and Chuck Miller
Communion Servers: Jo Ann Flores, Eleanor Fowler, Ann Ludvigsen, Janette Powers



*WPC Mission Statement
To worship God through faith and action,
To nurture the spirit of Jesus Christ in each of us,
To be an extended family to all,
And to serve the community
through programs, education, and prayer.*

***Second Sunday of Christmas
January 2, 2022***