

Order of Worship
December 31, 2017 – 11:00 a.m.
First Sunday after Christmas

Welcome & Announcements

Introit: Spirit of Living God" # 322

PRAISE AND ADORATION

Call to Worship: (responsively) (based on Psalm 148:1-5 & 13)

Leader: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights!

People: Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host!

Leader: Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars!

People: Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!

Leader: Let them praise the name of the Lord, for he commanded and they were created.

People: Let us also praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven.

*Hymn: "Angels from the Realms of Glory" # 22

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession: (in unison)

God of Bethlehem: you bless us richly; forgive our reluctance to share with others. You hold us close to your heart; forgive us for keeping others at arm's length. You shine in the shadows of our soul, forgive us for not sharing the light you give with those in need. You lift us up from where we have fallen; forgive us for not offering a helping hand in your name. And you grace us with joy and peace and love; forgive us when we continue to live in fear. Send your Spirit to renew us, O God. For the sake of Jesus we pray. Amen.

Confession Response: "Lord have mercy upon us. Christ have mercy upon us. Lord have mercy upon us." # 574

Assurance of Pardon

Greeting One Another

*Response "Gloria Patri" # 579

HEARING THE WORD

Let the Children Come

Choral Music

Scripture Reading: Luke 2:22-40

Sermon: "God's Promise Fulfilled"

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*Hymn: "What Child Is This?" # 53

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Offertory and Presentation of Gifts to God

*Doxology # 592

*Prayer of Dedication

Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and in Jesus Christ His only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead, he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty. From thence he shall come to judge the quick 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.

*Hymn: "Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing" # 538

*Charge and Benediction

*Benediction Response: "God be with you til we meet again; by his counsels guide, uphold you; with his sheep securely fold you; God be with you til we meet again."