



January 1, 2023

Experiencing Christ's Love

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Welcome and Greeting

Please Stand

Call to Worship

P The Lord is our light and our salvation; whom shall we fear?

C **The Lord is the stronghold of our lives; of whom shall we be afraid?**

P The Lord will protect us and guide us.

C **Let us gladly offer ourselves before our God with shouts of joy.**

P We make our beginning in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Let us sing praises to the Lord, our God.**

900 Jesus! Name of Wondrous Love

sts. 1, 3–5



1 Je - sus! Name of won - drous love, Name all oth - er names a - bove,
3 Je - sus! Name of price - less worth To the fall - en of the earth
4 Je - sus! Name of mer - cy mild, Giv - en to the ho - ly Child
5 Je - sus! On - ly name that's giv'n Un - der all the might - y heav'n



Un - to which must ev - 'ry knee Bow in deep hu - mil - i - ty.
For the prom - ise that it gave, "Je - sus shall His peo - ple save."
When the cup of hu - man woe First He tast - ed here be - low.
Where - by those to sin en - slaved Burst their fet - ters and are saved.

Text: William W. How, 1823–97, alt. Tune: Geist-reiche s Gesang-Buch, 1704, Halle, ed. Johann A. Freylinghausen, alt. Text and tune: Public domain

Confession and Absolution

P Our God of light brought hope to the world and joy to our lives through his Son, Jesus. Yet darkness hovers over and clings to our lives. Selfishness and greed block the simple views of God's light. Anger and violence overpower gentle words and extinguish the light for others. Despair casts shadows of doubt, but our God calls us back into His light once more. As we confess our failures, God meets us with love and forgiveness. There's no need to fear God, because He offers us mercy as we come to him honestly.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Prayer of Confession

P Let us pray:

C **Merciful Lord, even with the wonder of Your birth still fresh in our minds, we confess our failure to welcome Your presence with us. We have gone our own ways rather than walked in Your light. We have been stingy with Your love after You have lavished us with grace. We humbly pray for Your**

forgiveness again and acknowledge our unworthiness of Your mercy. We simply cling to Your promises and pray for more of Your love. In Jesus' name, amen.

P We once walked in darkness, but now we have seen a great light! God's light has come into our world and into our lives in Jesus Christ in whom we put our trust. The darkness of our sin is cast away and new life is ours once more. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit

C **Thanks be to God we are set free to worship our King!**

Please be seated

Hymn of Praise Video: " Overwhelmed" by Big Daddy Weave

Prayer of the Day

Proverbs 8:1-11

Does not wisdom call?

Does not understanding raise her voice?

On the heights beside the way,

at the crossroads she takes her stand;

beside the gates in front of the town,

at the entrance of the portals she cries aloud:

"To you, O men, I call,

and my cry is to the children of man.

O simple ones, learn prudence;

O fools, learn sense.

Hear, for I will speak noble things,

and from my lips will come what is right,

for my mouth will utter truth;

wickedness is an abomination to my lips.

All the words of my mouth are righteous;

there is nothing twisted or crooked in them.

They are all straight to him who understands,

and right to those who find knowledge.

Take my instruction instead of silver,

and knowledge rather than choice gold,

for wisdom is better than jewels,

and all that you may desire cannot compare with her.

P This is the Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God.

Please Stand

John 1:35-42

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples, and he looked at Jesus as he walked by and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God!” The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. Jesus turned and saw them following and said to them, “What are you seeking?” And they said to him, “Rabbi” (which means Teacher), “where are you staying?” He said to them, “Come and you will see.” So they came and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day, for it was about the tenth hour. One of the two who heard John speak and followed Jesus was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which means Christ). He brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, “So you are Simon the son of John? You shall be called Cephas” (which means Peter).

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Apostles’ Creed

C **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, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

Please be seated

826 Hark, the Voice of Jesus Crying



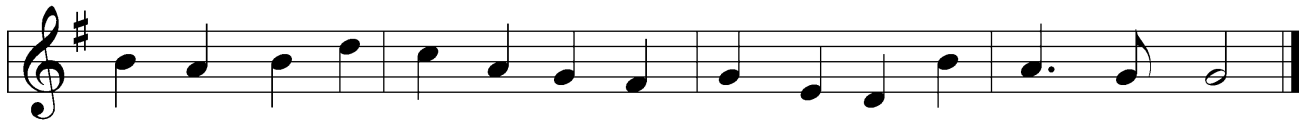
1 Hark, the voice of Je - sus cry - ing, "Who will go and work to - day?
2 If you can - not speak like an - gels, If you can - not preach like Paul,
3 If you can - not be a watch - man, Stand - ing high on Zi - on's wall,
4 Let none hear you i - dly say - ing, "There is noth - ing I can do,"



Fields are white and har - vests wait - ing— Who will bear the sheaves a - way?"
You can tell the love of Je - sus, You can say He died for all.
Point - ing out the path to heav - en, Of - f'ring life and peace to all,
While the mul - ti - tudes are dy - ing And the Mas - ter calls for you.



Loud and long the Mas - ter call - eth; Rich re - ward He of - fers thee.
If you can - not rouse the wick - ed With the judg - ment's dread a - larms,
With your prayers and with your boun - ties You can do what God com - mands;
Take the task He gives you glad - ly, Let His work your plea - sure be;



Who will an - swer, glad - ly say - ing, "Here am I, send me, send me"?
You can lead the lit - tle chil - dren To the Sav - ior's wait - ing arms.
You can be like faith - ful Aar - on, Hold - ing up the proph - et's hands.
An - swer quick - ly when He call - eth, "Here am I, send me, send me!"

Text (sts. 1–2, 4): Daniel March, 1816–1909, alt.; (st. 3): unknown, alt. Tune: Joseph Barnby, 1838–96 Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON: POINTING AND CALLING JOHN 1:35-42



Please Stand

386 Now Sing We, Now Rejoice

sts. 1-3



1 Now sing we, now re - joice, Now raise to heav'n our voice;
2 Come from on high to me; I can - not rise to Thee.
3 Now through His Son doth shine The Fa-ther's grace di - vine.



He from whom joy stream - eth Poor in a man-ger lies;
Cheer my wea-ried spir - it, O pure and ho - ly Child;
Death was reign-ing o'er us Through sin and van - i - ty



Not so bright-ly beam - eth The sun in yon - der skies.
Through Thy grace and mer - it, Blest Je - sus, Lord most mild,
Till He o - pened for us A bright e - ter - ni - ty.



Thou my Sav - ior art! Thou my Sav - ior art!
Draw me un - to Thee! Draw me un - to Thee!
May we praise Him there! May we praise Him there!

Text: Latin and German, 14th cent.; tr. Arthur T. Russell, 1806-74, al tTune: German, 14th cent. Text and tune: Public domain

Prayer of the Congregation

A Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Lord's Prayer

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 trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

Please remain standing

Words of the Institution

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

Please be seated

Video During Communion: "Make Room In Your Heart" by Casting Crown featuring Matt Maher

Continuous Distribution by Pastor

(Family units come forward to receive the elements and take them to their seats. Please wait to eat and drink until instructed.)

All Receive the Sacrament together

(Pastor will indicate when to take the wafer and then the cup.)

368 Angels We Have Heard on High



1 An - gels we have heard on high, Sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing;



And the moun - tains in re - ply, Ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
What the glad - some tid - ings be Which in - spire your heav' - n - ly song?
Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.

Refrain



Glo - - - - - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - - - - -



- - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Text: tr. The Crown of Jesus, 1862, Part 2, London, alt. Text and tune: French Text and tune: Public domain

Benediction

924 Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

1 Lord, dis - miss us with Your bless - ing, Fill our hearts with
2 Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion For Your Gos - pel's
3 Sav - ior, when Your love shall call us From our strug - gling
joy and peace; Let us each, Your love pos - sess - ing,
joy - ful sound. May the fruits of Your sal - va - tion
pil - grim way, Let not fear of death ap - pall us,
Tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace. O re - fresh us;
In our hearts and lives a - bound. Ev - er faith - ful,
Glad Your sum - mons to o - bey. May we ev - er,
O re - fresh us, Trav - 'ling through this wil - der - ness.
ev - er faith - ful To Your truth may we be found.
may we ev - er Reign with You in end - less day.

Text (sts. 1-2): attr. John Fawcett, 1740-1817, alt.; (st. 3): Godfrey Thring, 1823-1903, alt. Tune: Henry T. Smart, 1813-79 Text and tune: Public domain

Dismissal

P Go in Joy, serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

Please be seated and please wait for the ushers to dismiss you.

Acknowledgments

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