

**1st Sunday of Christmas
December 27, 2020**

Gathering
God invites us to enter His presence

Prelude *Mary, Did You Know?
Joy to the World*

Welcome & Announcements

Preparation for Worship (*Time for Silent Preparation*)

! Call to Worship

Let us praise our Lord Jesus Christ.

Alleluia! Jesus is coming!

At Christmas Jesus came as a baby.

Alleluia! Jesus is coming!

He came to be like us because he loves us.

Alleluia! Jesus is coming!

He came to save us from our sin.

Alleluia! Jesus is coming!

He died, rose from the dead, and lives in heaven.

He will come again because he loves us.

Alleluia! Jesus is coming!

We praise Jesus, who came as a baby
and will come again at the end of time.

Alleluia! Jesus is coming!

Let us worship the Triune God. Amen.

! Invocation

Covenant God,
you heard your people yearning for a Savior.
Thank you for sending your Son so long ago.
We now rehearse your promise
that Christ will come again,
that death and suffering will end
and every tear will be wiped away.
Come, Lord Jesus, come.

As you fulfilled Israel's hopes long ago,
so we long for all these promises to be fulfilled. **Amen.**

Hymn of Praise

Blessed be Your Name

Verse 1

*Blessed be Your name
In the land that is plentiful
Where Your streams of abundance flow
Blessed be Your name*

Verse 2

*Blessed be Your name
When I'm found in the desert place
Though I walk through the wilderness
Blessed be Your name*

Pre-Chorus

*Ev'ry blessing You pour out I'll
Turn back to praise
When the darkness closes in Lord
Still I will say*

Chorus

*Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your name
Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your glorious name*

Verse 3

*Blessed be Your name
When the sun's shining down on me
When the world's all as it should be
Blessed be Your name*

Verse 4

*Blessed be Your name
On the road marked with suffering
Though there's pain in the offering
Blessed be Your name*

Bridge

*You give and take away
You give and take away
My heart will choose to say
Lord blessed be Your name*

Confessing

God invites us to be honest with Him

Prayer of Confession

Lord, we have not kept watch for you.

We have occupied ourselves with our own concerns.
We have not waited to find your will for us.
We have not noticed the needs of the people around us.
We have not acknowledged the love that has been shown to us.
Forgive us for our lack of watchfulness.
Help us to wait to know your will.
Help us to look out for the needs of others.
Help us to work and watch for your coming. **Amen.**

Time for Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

O Holy Child of Bethlehem,
descend to us, we pray.
Cast out our sin and enter in;
be born in us today.

Leader: This is the Promise of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God!

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.
A-men, A-men.*

Offering

Thankful of the gifts God has given us, we offer ourselves to Him

Invitation What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb.
If I were a wise man, I would do my part.
Yet what I can, I give him, give him my heart.

Offering **Please place your offerings in the plate in the back
of the church on your way out.*

Offertory *All I Have is Christ*

 **Doxology**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. A-men.*

 **Prayer of Dedication**

Gracious God,
you have shown your great love for your children
by using commonplace things for your purpose—
water to mark your children,
bread and wine to feed and nourish us ordinary people to be disciples,
a child in a manger to announce your grace.
Take these commonplace things,
these gifts of paper and metal and the lives that stand behind them.
Bless and use them to proclaim your gracious love,
for we offer them in the name of Jesus, the Lamb of God. **Amen.**

Hymn 136

The First Noel

*The first Noel, the angel did say,
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.*

*Refrain
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
Born is the King of Israel.*

*They looked up and saw a star shining in the east,
Beyond them far, and to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night.
Refrain*

*And by the light of that same star Three wise men came from country far;
To seek for a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went.
Refrain*

*This star drew nigh to the northwest,
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest,
And there it did both stop and stay,
Right over the place where Jesus lay.
Refrain*

*Then entered in those wisemen three,
Full rev'rently upon their knee,
And offered there in His presence
Their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense.
Refrain*

*Then let us all with one accord sing praises
To our heav'nly Lord,
That hath made heav'n and earth of naught,*

*And with His blood mankind hath bought
Refrain*

Proclaiming
God speaks to us through His Word

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 25:6-9, 65:17-19

- 25 ⁶ On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine,
of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined.
- ⁷ And he will swallow up on this mountain
the covering that is cast over all peoples,
the veil that is spread over all nations.
- ⁸ He will swallow up death forever;
and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces,
and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the LORD has spoken.
- ⁹ It will be said on that day,
"Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us.
This is the LORD; we have waited for him;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation."
- 65 ¹⁷ "For behold, I create new heavens
and a new earth,
and the former things shall not be remembered
or come into mind.
- ¹⁸ But be glad and rejoice forever
in that which I create;
for behold, I create Jerusalem to be a joy,
and her people to be a gladness.
- ¹⁹ I will rejoice in Jerusalem
and be glad in my people;
no more shall be heard in it the sound of weeping
and the cry of distress.

New Testament Reading *Revelations 21:1-4*

21 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ² And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place^[a] of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people,^[b] and God himself will be with them as their God.^[c] ⁴ He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."

Sermon

"The Promised Future"
Rev. Tim Latham

Responding
We respond to God's Word

Hymn of Praise

The Revelation Song

Worthy is the Lamb Who was slain
Holy holy is He
Sing a new song to Him Who sits on
Heaven's mercy seat

Chorus
Holy holy holy
Is the Lord God Almighty
Who was and is and is to come
With all creation I sing
Praise to the King of kings
You are my ev'rything
And I will adore You

Clothed in rainbows of living color
Flashes of lightning rolls of thunder
Blessing and honor strength and glory
And power be to You the only wise King
Chorus

Filled with wonder awestruck wonder
At the mention of Your name
Jesus Your name is power breath and living water
Such a marv'lous mystery yeah
Chorus

Profession of Faith

Leader: Let us now profess our faith along with the saints through the ages.

People: We believe that God fulfilled the promise that He made to the early fathers, by the mouth of His holy prophets, when He sent His only and eternal Son into the world. The Son took the form of a servant and was made in the likeness of man, truly assuming a real human nature, with all its weaknesses, except for sin. He not only assumed human nature as far as the body is concerned, but also a real human soul, in order that He might be a real human being. For since the soul had been lost as well as the body, He had to assume them both to save them both together. He is truly our Immanuel - God with Us.

Prayers of the People/Lord's Prayer

Commissioning

God sends us out into the world as His witnesses

Hymn of Praise

Mighty to Save

Verse 1

Ev'ryone needs compassion
Love that's never failing
Let mercy fall on me
Ev'ryone needs forgiveness
The kindness of a Saviour
The hope of nations

Chorus

Saviour He can move the mountains
My God is mighty to save
He is mighty to save
Forever Author of salvation
He rose and conquered the grave
Jesus conquered the grave

Verse 2

So take me as You find me
All my fears and failures
Fill my life again
I give my life to follow
Ev'rything I believe in
Now I surrender

Bridge
Shine your light and let the whole world see
We're singing
For the glory of the risen King
Jesus
Shine your light and let the whole world see
We're singing
For the glory of the risen King

 **Benediction & Blessing**

 **Postlude** *We Three Kings*