

*Born a King on Bethlehem's plain:
Gold I bring to crown Him again,
King forever, ceasing never
Over us all to reign.
Refrain.*

*Frankincense to offer have I:
Incense owns a Deity nigh;
Prayer and praising, all men raising,
Worship Him, God on high.
Refrain.*

*Myrrh is mine: its bitter perfume
Breathes a life of gathering gloom—
Sorr'wing, sighing, bleeding, dying,
Sealed in the stone-cold tomb.
Refrain.*

*Glorious now behold Him arise:
King and God and sacrifice;
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Earth to heav'n replies.
Refrain.*

Confessing

God invites us to be honest with Him

Prayer of Confession

Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy
blot out my transgressions.
**Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
and cleanse me from my sin.**
For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is ever before me.
**Against you, you alone, have I sinned,
and done what is evil in your sight,
so that you are justified in your sentence
and blameless when you pass judgment.**
You desire truth in the inward being;
therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.
**Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all my iniquities.**
Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and put a new and right spirit within me.
**Do not cast me from your presence,
and do not take your holy spirit from me.**

through your goodness we have these gifts to share.
Accept and use our offerings for your glory
and for the service of your kingdom.
Blessed be God forever. Amen.

Proclaiming
God speaks to us through His Word

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture Reading 2 Peter 1:3-8

³ His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence, ⁴ by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire. ⁵ For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, ⁶ and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, ⁷ and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love. ⁸ For if these qualities^[d] are yours and are increasing, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon *"Committed to Growth"*
 Rev. Tim Latham

Responding
We respond to God's Word

Hymn 455 *Come, All Christians, Be Committed*

*Come, all Christians, be committed to the service of the Lord.
Make your lives for Him more fitted, Tune your hearts with one accord.
Come into His courts with gladness, Each his sacred vows renew,
Turn away from sin and sadness, Be transformed with life a new.*

*Of your time and talents give ye, They are gifts from God above,
To be used by Christians freely to proclaim His wondrous love.
Come again to serve the Savior, Tithes and offerings with you bring.
In your work with Him find favor, and with joy His praises sing.*

*God's command to love each other is required of every man.
Showing mercy to a brother mirrors His redemptive plan.
In compassion He has given of His love that is divine.
On the cross sins were forgiven; Joy and peace are fully thine.*

*Come in praise and adoration, all who on Christ's name believe.
Worship Him with consecration, Grace and love will you receive.
For His grace give Him the glory, For the Spirit and the Word,
And repeat the gospel story till all men His name have heard.*

Profession of Faith

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

**People: I believe that the eternal Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who out of nothing created heaven and earth
and everything in them,
who still upholds and rules them
by his eternal counsel and providence,
is my God and Father
because of Christ the Son.
I trust God so much that I do not doubt
he will provide whatever I need
for body and soul,
and will turn to my good
whatever adversity he sends upon me
in this sad world.
God is able to do this because he is almighty God
and desires to do this because he is a faithful Father.**

Prayers of the People

Commissioning
God sends us out into the world as His witnesses

Hymn 382

Be Thou My Vision

*Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art—
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.*

*Be Thou my Wisdom, and Thou my true Word;
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father, I Thy true son,
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.*

*Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,
Thou mine inheritance, now and always;
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,
High King of heaven, my Treasure Thou art.*

*High King of heaven, my victory won,
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever be fall,
Still be my Vision, O Ruler of all. A-men.*

Benediction & Blessing

 **Organ Postlude**

Praise and Thanks for the New Year!

Ritter