

The Lord's Service

December 15, 2019

**Standing together is our ordinary practice,
but you are welcome to remain seated.*

Prelude

Alayne Griffin and Evangeline Wykoff

*Song of Praise and Greeting

When Love Came Down



1. When love came down to earth and made His home with
2. When ev - ery un - clean thought, and ev - ery sin - ful
3. Come lay your heav - y load down at the Mas - ter's



men, the hope - less found a hope, the sin - ner found a
deed was scourged up - on His back and ham - mered through His
feet; your shame will be removed. Your joy will be com -



friend. Not to the pow - er - ful but to the poor He
feet. The in - no - cent is cursed, the guilt - y are re -
plete. Come cru - ci - fy your pride, and en - ter as a



came, and hum - ble hun - gry hearts were sat - is - fied a -
leased; the pun - ish - ment of God, on God, has brought us
child; For those who bow down low He'll lift up to His



gain.
peace. What joy, what peace has come to
side.



us! What hope, what help, what love!_____

Welcome and Announcements

God Calls Us

In silent meditation, let us prepare to meet God in worship.

Lighting of the Advent Candle The Todd Keith Family

*Call to Worship Psalm 40.1-3

LEADER: I waited patiently for the Lord; he inclined to me and heard my cry.

PEOPLE: **He drew me up from the pit of destruction, out of the miry bog, and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure.**

LEADER: He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God.

PEOPLE: **Many will see and fear, and put their trust in the Lord.**

*Hymn No. 196

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

*Invocation Elder John Wykoff

God Cleanses Us

Call to Confession Romans 7.21-24

LEADER: So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand.

PEOPLE: **For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being.**

LEADER: But I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members.

PEOPLE: **Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?**

Call to Worship

We are called into worship by God Himself. He sets the terms for worship because He makes worship possible through Jesus Christ.

Invocation

This prayer addresses God in three persons, asking Him to be present with us in worship to help us worship Him according to His will.

Call to Confession

As we see God in His invitation and our praise, we cannot help but see how we have fallen short of His glory. God's Holy Scripture has the authority to reveal us to ourselves and transition our hearts to confession.

**Corporate
Confession of Sin**

We sin in thought, word, and deed every week. Our prayer includes time not only for individual silent confession, but also confession that unites our voices as a body of people equally and desperately in need of God's grace.

Assurance of Pardon

God's Holy Scripture reminds us not only of who we are as sinners, but also assures us of who we are as Christians united to Jesus in His death and resurrection.

Scripture Lesson

We hear and read Holy Scripture throughout the service. This lesson, or reading, helps prepare us for the Scripture lesson that will be preached from later.

*Whether seated or kneeling,
let us approach the Lord together with a posture of reverence.*

Corporate Confession of Sin (in unison)

**Heavenly Father,
You have loved us with an everlasting love,
but we have often gone our own way
and rejected Your will for our lives.
We are sorry for our sins
and turn away from them.
For the sake of Your Son who died for us,
forgive us, cleanse us, and change us.
By Your Holy Spirit
enable us to live for You
and to please You in every way,
for the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

John 1.16-17

LEADER: Lift up your heads and hear the Good News:
“For from his fullness we have all received,
grace upon grace. For the law was given
through Moses; grace and truth came through
Jesus Christ.”

The peace of the Lord be with you!

PEOPLE: And also with you!

*Hymn

No. 200 vs. 3-4

It Came upon the Midnight Clear

God Consecrates Us

Scripture Lesson

Elder Ken Henry

Micah 5.1-5a (p. 778)

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.

Sacrament of Baptism

Chris and Colleen Bailey present Levi Christopher for Baptism.

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Choral Worship

Venite, Adoremus

Adeste fideles,
Laeti, triumphantes:
Venite, venite in Bethlehem:
Natum videte Regem Angelorum:
Venite, adoremus Dominum.

Approach, ye faithful,
Ye joyful and triumphant:
Come, O come to Bethlehem:
See the newborn King of Angels:
Come, let us adore the Lord.

(Forrest, 2010 Hinshaw Music)

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

The tithe is our regular, worshipful setting apart of a portion of our resources for the purpose of God, while an offering is an additional portion we return to God for His glory. Both are a display of our joyful dependence upon God rather than our money.

*Doxology

No. 732

Doxology

A *doxology* is a hymn or word of praise to God for His goodness and glory. The *Gloria Patri* is another example of a doxology.

Musical score for Doxology No. 732, featuring a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The score is in G major and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: "Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heav'n - ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost." The score includes chord markings above the vocal line: G, D, Em, D, G, Am, G, D, G, Am, G, D, G.

Prayer of the Church

We share in our health and sickness, happiness and sorrow, assurance and doubt, as we bring our prayers to God, together. Holy Scripture commands pastors to pray with and for God's people, not just in corporate worship, but privately, as well.

Scripture Lesson

We hear and read Holy Scripture throughout the service, but this lesson, or reading, prepares us for the sermon text.

Sermon

A preacher is commanded to faithfully steward God's Holy Scripture by submitting to it, studying it, and expositing it (holding it forth), bearing witness to Jesus, by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Confession of Faith

By confessing our faith together using statements believed by Christians over the ages, we join in the sweep of Christian history even as we await the return of Jesus.

Benediction

Just as God calls us to worship at the beginning of the service with Holy Scripture, He sends us into our week with a Holy Scripture reminder (*a good word*) of the blessing of Christ, by God's grace, through the indwelling Spirit.

*Prayer of the Church

Pastor Mullinax

*Hymn

No. 214

Angels We Have Heard on High

Scripture Lesson

Luke 2.8-19 (p. 857)

Sermon

Pastor Bennett

FEAR NOT

*Hymn

No. 203

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

*Confession of Faith

Heidelberg Catechism 31

LEADER: Why is He called "Christ", meaning "anointed"?

PEOPLE: Because He has been ordained by God the Father and has been anointed with the Holy Spirit to be our Chief Prophet and Teacher Who perfectly reveals to us the secret counsel and will of God for our deliverance; our only High Priest Who has set us free by the one sacrifice of His body, and Who continually pleads our cause with the Father; and our Eternal King Who governs us by His Word and Spirit, and Who guards us and keeps us in the freedom He has won for us.

*Gloria Patri

No. 734

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. Amen, amen.

God Commissions Us

*Benediction

Pastor Bennett

Postlude

Evangeline Wykoff and Alayne Griffin