



December 6, 2023

***Invitation to Praise**

The Praise Team

O Come, All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem
O come and behold Him, born the King of Angels

O come, let us adore Him (3x)
Christ the Lord

For He alone is worthy (3x)
Christ the Lord

We give Him all the glory (3x)
Christ the Lord

In Him there is no failure (3x)
Christ the Lord

I Will Bless Thee Oh Lord

With my hands lifted up
And my mouth filled with praise
With a heart of thanksgiving
I will bless thee Oh Lord

I will bless thee Oh Lord
I will bless thee Oh Lord
With a heart of thanksgiving
I will bless thee Oh Lord

Jesus, O What a Wonderful Child

Jesus, Jesus
Oh what a wonderful child
Jesus, Jesus
So holy, meek and mild
New life, new hope, new joy He brings
Won't you listen to the angels sing
Glory, glory, glory
To the new born king

(Verse)

He was herald by the angels
Born in a lowly manger
The Virgin Mary was His mother
And Joseph was His earthly father, oh
Three wise men came from afar
They were guided by a shining star
To see King Jesus where He lay
In a manger filled with hay

We Worship Christ the Lord

We worship Christ the Lord
We worship Christ the Lord
We lift our hands to Him in praise

***Call to Worship**

Rev. Lynn Casteel Harper

Please stand (in body or spirit, as you are able) and join in our Call to Worship.

One: Creator of hope, God of love. Awaken us so that we may see.
All: **Give us vision to see all that is around us.**
One: Make our ears clean so that we may hear.
All: **Advance our ability to listen so we may hear Your voice.**
One: We sit in anticipation of the coming of Jesus Christ.
All: **With great power and glory Christ will shine light into darkness. Filled with hope, let us worship God.**

***Opening Prayer**

***Welcome One Another**

Life of the Community

Rev. Lynn Casteel Harper

Call for the Offering

Rev. Lynn Casteel Harper

Offertory Hymn

There is No God Like Our God

There is no God like our God
There is no God like our God
You are absolutely awesome
You work wonders all the time
There is no God like our God

Hebrew Bible Scripture Lesson

Chiara Fuller

Isaiah 40:1-11

¹ Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. ² Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

³ A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴ Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. ⁵ Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

⁶ A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All flesh is grass; their constancy is like the flower of the field. ⁷ The grass withers; the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. ⁸ The grass withers; the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever. ⁹ Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" ¹⁰ See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him and his recompense before him. ¹¹ He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms and carry them in his bosom and gently lead the mother sheep.

One: The Word of God for the People of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermonic Selection

Pastor Terrance L. Kennedy

Sermon

In the Wilderness

Rev. Amanda Meisenheimer

Moment of Silent Reflection

Holy Communion

Rev. Lynn Casteel Harper

Great Prayer Of Thanksgiving

One: The Lord be with you.

All: **And with your spirit.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Prayer

Rev. Lynn Casteel Harper

*Benediction

Rev. Amanda Meisenheimer

*Closing Song

I Feel Like Goin' On

Today's Musical Leader: Pastor Terrance L. Kennedy

***Please stand as you are able.**

