

Second Sunday after Christmas • January 3, 2021 • Order of Worship

Prelude - He Comes to Us As One Unknown
Ben Weaver, organ Michael Burkhardt

Welcome and Announcements Megan McCarty

Call to Worship Doodle Harris

The Word became flesh and lived among us

And we have seen his glory.

The true light that enlightens everyone has come into the world.

Glory to God who has blessed us in Christ.

Glory to God forever.

Hymn No. 147 -The First Nowell (vv. 1, 2, 4, & 6) THE FIRST NOWELL

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, we confess that we are distracted people and forgetful of your love. We make selfish choices, hurt one another, and perpetuate injustice in your world. We have sinned and are deeply sorry and repent of our disregard of you, each other, and your creation. By the power of your Spirit, forgive, restore, and strengthen us to live in your light and walk in your truth; through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Our redemption is here. The Christ child, though humble, is mighty in power, overflowing in grace, and eager to forgive. Through the death and resurrection of the Christ, we receive eternal life.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Passing of the Peace

Prayer for Illumination Helen Jones

First Reading Ephesians 1:3-14

Be still and know that I am God. (x 3)

Time with Young Disciples Doodle Harris

Second Reading John 1: 1-18

Sermon "Lost in Awe, Wonder, and Praise" Megan McCarty

Call to Offering

Offertory Anthem - Nativity Lullaby

César Franck / arr. by K. Lee Scott

Mae Harrell, soprano and Ben Weaver, organ

Service of Holy Communion

Invitation

A child is born for us in Bethlehem, wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger;
and he will be our Shepherd, feeding his flock in the strength of the Lord.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, O holy God, creator and ruler of the universe. You created light out of darkness and brought forth life on the earth. You formed us in your image and called us to love and serve you. When we were unfaithful and turned from your ways, you did not forsake us, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and sent prophets to call us back to your way. In the fullness of time you sent your only Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Savior. In him, your Word, dwelling with you from all eternity, became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth, and we beheld your glory, Immanuel! Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with the celestial choirs and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Born in humility, he came to rule over all. Helpless as an infant, he showed the power of your love. Poor in things of the world, he brought the wealth of your grace. Rejected by many, he welcomed all who sought him. In his dying and rising, you gave birth to your church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit. Remembering your gracious acts in Jesus Christ, we take from your creation this bread and this wine and joyfully celebrate his dying and rising as we await the day of his coming. With thanksgiving we offer our very selves to you to be a living and holy sacrifice, dedicated to your service.

Great is the mystery of faith: **Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, that we may be one with all who share this feast, united in ministry in every place. As this bread is Christ's body for us, send us out to be the body of Christ in the world. Empower us by your Spirit, O God, to be Christ's presence in the world even as Jesus was God-with-us. Give us courage to speak his truth, to seek his justice, and to love with his love. Keep us faithful in your

service until Christ comes in final victory and we shall feast with all your saints in the joy of your eternal realm. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Eucharistic 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 debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Breaking of Bread

Prayer of Thanksgiving

God of grace and peace, as you have shared your life with us through the child in the manger and this simple meal together, let us share your life with others as the body of Christ in the world; through Jesus, bread of heaven. Amen.

Hymn No. 308 - O God in Whom All Life Begins

NOEL

Benediction

Postlude - Prelude on "We Three Kings"

John Henry Hopkins, Jr.

Ben Weaver, organ

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HIGHLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PRAYER LIST

This week, please include the following people in your daily prayers: Shirley Wicklander, John Reed, Bobby Franklin, Pat Dolack, Dennis Robertson, Adelaide Smith, and Betty Smith.
Condolences to Carol and Leah Pye on the death of Charlie Pye on December 31st.