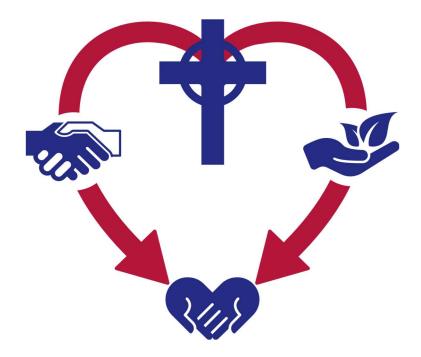
## We are imperfect believers, passionate about sharing the love of Christ: by Connecting, Growing, and Serving.



# A Service of Worship for the Lord's Day Second Sunday after Christmas Sacrament of Communion January 5, 2025

Welcome! If you are visiting, please use the QR code on the visitor card found in the pew rack to share your information online or fill out the back of the card and drop it in the offering plate. Prayer cards, with the same options, are also available and we invite you to share your concerns and allow us to pray with you.



## We Gather to Worship God

\*Congregation stands as noted

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome and Announcements

#### Introit

Call to Worship Leader: The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all. People: Glory to God in the highest! Leader: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. People: Glory to God in the highest! Leader: For a child has been born for us, a Son has been given to us. People: Glory to God in the highest! Leader: He is Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. People: Glory to God in the highest! Leader: To us is born in the city of David a Savior, the Messiah, the Lord. People: Glory to God in the highest! Leader: And the Word became flesh and lived among us. People: Glory to God in the highest! Leader: Christ is born! Give him glory! Christ has come down from heaven! Receive him! Christ is

now on earth! Exalt him! O earth, sing to the Lord! O you nations, praise him in joy, for he has been glorified! **Amen.** 

#### Invocation

\*Opening Hymn #143

"Angels from the Realms of Glory"

## We Acknowledge Our Brokenness and Seek Reconciliation with God

Preparing Our Hearts for Confession - "Confession" Words/Music by Kenneth Jones (front cover of hymnal)

Lord, I come before you, asking your forgiveness. I am broken. I have faltered. I have turned from you. Create in me a new heart. Fill me with your love. Grant that I receive your grace, I pray. Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Amen.

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

God of grace and truth, in Jesus you came among us as light shining in the darkness. We confess that we have not welcomed the light, or trusted good news to be good. We have closed our eyes to glory in your midst, expecting little, and hoping for less.

Forgive our doubt, and renew our hope, so that we may receive the fullness of your grace and live in the truth of Christ the Lord. Amen.

#### Time of Silent Reflection and Personal Prayer of Confession

Leader: And all the people of Christ say,

People: Amen.

#### \*Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Hear the promise of God: See, your salvation has come! You are a holy people, redeemed

by God; sought out and not forsaken. In the name of Jesus the Christ, we are forgiven! **People: Thanks be to God!** 

#### \*Thanks for God's Forgiveness (#581)

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.

#### \*Passing of the Peace

Leader: Grace to you, and peace from God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. The peace of Christ be with you.

#### People: And also with you.

\*Transition Hymn #627

"I Love You, Lord"

## We Respond to God's Faithfulness in Our Life

Offering Our Lives to Jesus through Our Time, Gifts, and Resources

(see the 'Giving' card in the pew rack for information about options for digital giving)

\*Doxology (#606)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

## God's Word Is Read and Proclaimed

Time for Young Disciples (Children are dismissed at this time for Children's Church)

| Special Music  | "Fix Your Eyes Upon That Star" | Kenneth Jones  |
|--|--------------------------------|----------------|
| Words and Music by Lowell Alexander and Jess Grant     |                                |                |
| Scripture Reading                                      |                                | Luke 2:41-52   |
| Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God. |                                |                |
| People: Thanks be to God.                              |                                |                |
| Proclamation of God's Word                             |                                | Rev. AJ Ochart |
| "My Father's House"                                    |                                |                |

**Responding to God's Word** 

**Ordination and Installation of Ruling Elders** 

\*Hymn of Preparation for Communion #510

"We Gather Here in Jesus Name"

Sacrament of Holy Communion (see liturgy on laminated card in pew rack) Invitation to the Table Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and Lord's Prayer Words of Institution Communion of the People Prayer after Communion

### Sending Out Into the World

\*Sending Hymn #301

"Let Us Build a House"

\*Charge and Blessing

\*Congregational Benediction #541 (v.1)

"God Be with You Till We Meet Again"

\*Postlude

<u>Sanctuary Flowers</u> – The flowers were placed in the sanctuary by contributor in honor/celebration of person or event.

Thank you for choosing to worship with us today. We hope you were blessed so you can go and be a witness to Christ's love in the world. May your spirits be renewed for the days ahead.



Rev. AJ Ochart, Pastor Kenneth Jones, Director of Music Dana Tate, Lay Leader

