



Call to Worship
Time of Silence

Prelude

Liturgical Response

Pastor: For God alone my soul waits in silence.

Congregation Response: from Him comes my salvation.

Psalm 62:1

Lighting the Christ Candle

✠ Song
“One Light”

*One light shining for me
Lighting the darkness
Helping me see.*

*One light leading the way
Out of the shadows
into the day.*

*One light breaking the dawn,
Born of a promise
Leading us on.*

*One light faithful and true,
Shining in glory, coming anew.*

*All we need is one light
All we need is one light*

All we need is one light, just one light.

One light leading the way out of the shadows into the day

All we need is one light

All we need is one light

All we need is one light, just one light.

Presenting the Word

Worship Leader: Your Word, O Lord, is eternal;

Congregation: It stands firm in the heavens forever!

Psalm 119:89

✠ Song #144 (LYH)
Light of the World”

“I Am the

CHORUS:

Ref: I am the Light of the World

You people come and follow me

If you follow and love, you'll learn the mystery

Of what you were meant to do and be

Vs 1 - When the song of the angels is stilled

When the star in the sky is gone

When the kings and the shepherds have found their way home

The work of Christmas is begun!

Ref: I am the Light of the World

You people come and follow me

If you follow and love, you'll learn the mystery

Of what you were meant to do and be

Vs 2 - To find the lost and lonely one

To heal that broken soul with love

To feed the hungry children with warmth and good food

To feel the earth below the sky above!

Ref: I am the Light of the World

You people come and follow me

If you follow and love, you'll learn the mystery

Of what you were meant to do and be

Vs 4 - To bring hope to every task you do

To dance at a baby's new birth

To make music in an old man's heart

And sing to the colors of the earth!

Ref: I am the Light of the World

You people come and follow me

*If you follow and love, you'll learn the mystery
Of what you were meant to do and be.*

Leader: *This is our hope,*

Response: *To know Christ and make Him known.*

Greeting:

*You are somebody,
somebody on the Lord's side.
You are somebody,
Somebody on the Lord's side.*

Leader: *May the peace of Christ be with you.*

Response: *And also with you.*

Welcome and Announcements

- *Welcome to visitors.*
- *The pink rose on the altar last Sunday was in honor of the birth of Abigail June Johnson born December 10.*
- *The Children and Youth leader meeting scheduled for after worship on January 5 has been postponed. The leaders will meet online at another time*
- *Beginning after worship on January 5, Bea Feddy and Nathan Johnson will be teaching A Good and Beautiful God with Chawezi Mwantembe advising them, for those interested in joining our church formally. Copies of the book are available today. This ten- week class is useful for anyone seeking spiritual formation and does not obligate you to join the church.*
- *Installation of Officers January 12.*
- *Annual Meeting of the Corporation, Sunday, February 2 following worship service.*
- *2025 Envelopes: you can pick up your giving envelopes for 2025; they are on the windowsill outside of the Chapel. **Please remember to get rid of your 2024 boxes.***
- **Per Capita and Initial Offering for 2025:**
 - *Per Capita: \$37.00*
 - *Initial Offering: \$9.00*
- **Prayer Requests**

Affirmation of Faith:

Pastor: *God is good!*

Response: *All the time!*

Pastor: *All the time!*

Response: *God is good to me!*

**✠ Song #376 (BH)
All Love Excelling“**

“Love Divine,

Vs. 1 - Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heaven, to earth come down,

*Fix in us Thy humble dwelling, all Thy faithful mercies crown!
Jesus, Thou, are all compassion, pure, unbounded love Thou art.
Visit us with Thy salvation, enter every trembling heart.*

*Vs 3 – Come, Almighty to deliver, let us all Thy life receive;
Suddenly return, and never, never-more Thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, Serve Thee as Thy hosts above;
Pray, and praise Thee without ceasing, glory in Thy perfect love.*

*Vs 4 – Finish, then, Thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in Thee:
Changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before Thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.*

Confession of Sin

Invitation to Silent Confession: Assurance of Pardon: *God does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is His steadfast love toward those who fear Him; as far as the east is from the west, so far He removes our transgressions from us.*

Congregation Response: *Create in me a pure heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Amen!*

Assurance of Pardon; Worship Assistant: *Believe the good news, we are God's healed and forgiven people!*

**Response to Pardon #608 (PH)
“Doxology”**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Christ, all people here below.*

Praise Holy Spirit evermore.
Praise Triune God whom we adore.

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

- **Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be Your name,
Your kingdom come,
Your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours
now and forever. Amen.**

Consecration of Gifts:

The Bread and the Cup Offering

Worship Assistant: For God so loved the world he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish, but have everlasting life!

Now, as Christ humbled himself and gave Himself on the cross on our behalf, let us consecrate our tithes and offerings to Him! Even more than this: Let us "present our bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is our spiritual worship!

✠ Song #322 (BH) "Spirit of the Living God"

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
(repeat as needed)

Prayer of Dedication

Congregation Carol Selections

Scripture Lesson

Luke 2:41-52

Hear the Word of the Lord!

⁴¹ Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover.

⁴² And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival.

⁴³ When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it.

⁴⁴ Assuming that he was in the group of travellers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends.

⁴⁵ When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him.

⁴⁶ After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions.

⁴⁷ And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers.

⁴⁸ When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, 'Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety.'

⁴⁹ He said to them, 'Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?'

⁵⁰ But they did not understand what he said to them.

⁵¹ Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

⁵² And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favour.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord!

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

Sermon
Fast"

"These Kids Grow Up So

✠ Song #40 (BH) "Joy to the World"

Vs 1 - Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room,
And Heaven and nature sing,
And Heaven and nature sing,
And Heaven, and Heaven,
and nature sing.

Vs 2 - Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!

Let men their songs employ;

*While fields and floods,
rocks, hills and plains*

Repeat the sounding joy,

Repeat the sounding joy,

Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.

The Lord's Supper

Leader: *The Lord be with you.*

Congregation: *And also with you.*

Leader: *Let us confess our faith.*

Leader: *Do you believe in one God, the Father Almighty?*

Congregation: *I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.*

Leader: *Do you believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son?*

Congregation: *I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day He rose again; He ascended into heaven, He is seated at the right hand of the Father, and He will come to judge the living and the dead.*

Leader: *Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?*

Congregation: *I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.*

Leader: *Now, all who have confessed faith in Jesus Christ are invited to share in this bread and the cup when they are served and participate in the mystery of faith.*

Congregation: *Thanks be to God!*

Leader: *Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:*

Congregation: *Christ has died! Christ is risen! Christ will come again!*

Elements Are Served

Leader: *Thanks be to God for the victory that is ours through Jesus Christ our Lord!*

Response: *O give thanks to the Lord for He is good; God's steadfast love endures forever!*

Charge and Benediction

† Song #40 (BH)

"Joy to the World!"

Vs 4 – He rules the world with truth and grace,

And makes the nations prove

The glories of His righteousness,

And wonders of His love,

And wonders of His love,

And wonders, wonders of His Love.

Postlude