

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY  
December 27, 2020  
First Sunday of Christmas  
10:30 am via Facebook Live & YouTube Live

OPENING VOLUNTARY

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

CALL TO WORSHIP

Praise the Lord, all you angels;

**Sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.**

Now we have seen the saving love of the Lord:

**the glory of God's people and a light to all.**

OPENING PRAYER

**Saving God, the prophet Anna and righteous Simeon sang your praise and proclaimed Jesus Lord to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. Let us who seek redemption in this day prepare our hearts, that we may believe the good news, receive the light of salvation, and live according to your word. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

HYMN 119

*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

MENDELSSOHN

*Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king.  
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"  
Joyful, all ye nations rise; join the triumph of the skies;  
with the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"*

*Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
late in time behold him come, offspring of the virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate deity,  
pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"*

*Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.  
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,  
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"*

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

The proof of God's amazing love is this: that despite our brokenness, we are loved, healed and we are forgiven. Confident in the grace of God, let us confess where we have fallen short, that might be reconciled to God and one another. Let us pray.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God, we confess that we have not lived as your faithful children. We have kept silent in the midst of prejudice and hatred. We have been idle in the face of violence and injustice. We have not been a light to the nations, and our lives have not revealed your glory and your love. Forgive us, Merciful God. Repair the brokenness of our sin and restore us in the beauty of your grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Silence is kept for personal prayer*

DECLARATION OF PROMISE AND FORGIVENESS

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

CAROL MEDLEY

- Hymn 132     *Good Christians friends rejoice with heart and soul and voice;  
give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;  
ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now.  
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!*
- Hymn 136     *(Refrain) Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;  
go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!*  
  
*While Shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,  
behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. (Refrain)*
- Hymn 140     *Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,  
where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed:  
Mary was that mother mild; Jesus Christ, her little child.*
- Hymn 143     *Angels from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
you, who sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth:  
come and worship, come and worship,  
worship Christ, the newborn king!*

Hymn 147     *The first Nowell the angel did say  
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay,  
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep,  
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.  
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,  
born is the King of Israel.*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Open our hearts, O God, that as the scriptures are read and your word is proclaimed, we might hear anew what you say to us this day. Amen.

READING FROM SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:22-40

The Gospel of the Lord. **May Jesus Christ be praised.**

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Cynthia Campbell

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*the Apostles' Creed*

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*Do You Hear What I Hear?*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

...Lord hear us, **Lord graciously hear us.**

...who taught us to pray together, saying:

**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.**

HYMN 546

*Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing*

SICILIAN MARINERS

*Lord, dismiss us with your blessing; fill our hearts with joy and peace;  
let us each, your love possessing, triumph in redeeming grace.  
O refresh us, O refresh us, traveling through this wilderness.*

*Thanks we give and adoration for your gospel's joyful sound;  
may the fruits of your salvation in our hearts and lives abound.  
Ever faithful, ever faithful to your truth may we be found.*

*Savior, when your love shall call us, from our struggling pilgrim way;  
let no fear of death appall us, glad your summons to obey.  
May we ever, may we ever reign with you in endless day.*

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

# Jesus, Be with Us

A hymn for Matthew 25 churches in the PC(USA)

Swing  $\text{♩} = \text{♩}^3$

*Refrain* Je - sus, be with us. Help us each day to fol - low the

gos - pel and live as we pray. Send us your Spir - it and

show us your way. Je - sus, be with us to - day.

*Leader or all*

1 Where there is hun - ger and thirst in the land,  
 2 Where there is ha - tred be - cause of our skin,  
 3 Where there are val - leys of bones, dry as dust,

shat - ter the sys - tems of greed.  
 break down the walls of our fear.  
 build up the bod - y of Christ.

Je - sus, be with us; make use of our hands.  
 Je - sus, be with us; to save us from sin.  
 Je - sus, be with us; and help us to trust.

Lift up your great peo - ple in need.  
 In your love, draw us near.  
 Teach us a new way of life.