

LORD'S DAY | December 8, 2024

A Service of Covenant Renewal

PRELUDE

Habakkuk 2:20: But the LORD is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before him. We encourage you to use the prelude as a time to prepare your heart and mind for worship.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE LORD CALLS US INTO HIS PRESENCE

CALL TO WORSHIP: Psalm 96:1-9

Lift up your hearts! We lift them up to the Lord! Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise. Let us worship the Triune God.

OPENING HYMN: No. 218, "Angels, from the Realms of Glory"

GREETING:

From where does our help come? From the LORD, the creator of the heavens and the earth.

PRAYER/INVOCATION

THE LORD CLEANSES US IN HIS SON

CALL TO REPENTANCE: 1 John 4:7-12

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN:

Merciful Father, we openly acknowledge and confess our sin to You. Our transgressions are many. We have been slow to do good and quick to do evil. We have allowed our hearts to grow cold in love for You. At times we have loved the things of this world more than You, our Creator and Redeemer. We have not loved You as we ought, and we have not grieved over our sins as we ought. In Your mercy, forgive us and renew our hearts. Blot out our transgressions for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ. By Your Spirit, enliven us to love You more and to walk in Your ways. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

SILENT PERSONAL CONFESSION

PROMISE OF COMFORT AND FORGIVENESS: John 3:16-17

HYMN OF THANKSGIVING: No. 317, "Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying"

PROFESSION OF FAITH: The Nicene Creed (page 846 in red Trinity Hymnal)

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets; and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church; we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE LORD CONSECRATES US WITH HIS WORD

THE GRACE OF GOD'S LAW: <u>Jeremiah 9:23-24</u> GLORIA PATRI: <u>No. 734</u> COLLECTION OF GOD'S TITHE AND OUR OFFERINGS CONGREGATIONAL PETITIONS OLD TESTAMENT: <u>Isaiah 55:3</u> NEW TESTAMENT: <u>Luke 1:26-38</u> SERMON: *The Hope of Christmas*

THE LORD COMMUNES WITH US AT HIS TABLE

MEANING AND FENCING OF THE TABLE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING INSTITUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

BREAD: No. 193, "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence" WINE: No. 231, "Lovely Child, Holy Child" *CLOSING HYMN: No. 196, "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

THE LORD COMMISSIONS US WITH HIS BLESSING

*BENEDICTION

*HYMN OF ADVENT: No. 194, "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (vv. 1-2)

POSTLUDE