

THE ORDER FOR THE CELEBRATION AND PUBLIC WORSHIP OF GOD ON

The Lord’s Day, December 25, 2016
The Christian Year: Christmas Day

10:30 AM Morning Service

*And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory, glory
as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.
John 1:14*

[Please turn off cell phones and observe silence when the prelude begins.]

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Advent Candle

The Voluntary for Silent Prayer

*Call to Worship Luke 2:10-14

Minister: And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.

People: For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.”

Minister: And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

Unison: “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom He is pleased!”

*Hymn of Adoration No. 215
While by the Sheep We Watched at Night

*Prayer of Adoration and Congregational Prayer

O God, take me in spirit to the watchful shepherds, and enlarge my mind; let me hear good tidings of great joy, and hearing, believe, rejoice, praise, and adore, my conscience bathed in an ocean of repose, my eyes uplifted to a reconciled Father; place me with ox, camel, goat, to look with them upon my Redeemer’s face, and in Him account myself delivered from sin; let me with Simeon clasp the new-born child to my heart, embrace Him with undying faith, exulting that He is mine and I am His. In His name we come to you. Amen.

from “The Gift of Gifts” in The Valley of Vision

*Confession of Faith HEIDELBERG CATECHISM, Q. 29 & 31

Minister: Why is the Son of God called Jesus, that is, Savior?

People: Because He saves us from our sins; and no salvation is to be either sought or found in any other.

Minister: Why is He called Christ, that is, Anointed?

People: Because He is ordained of God the Father, and anointed with the Holy Ghost, to be our chief Prophet and Teacher, who fully reveals to us the secret counsel and will of God concerning our redemption; and our only High Priest, who by the one sacrifice of His body has redeemed us, and ever liveth to make intercession for us with the Father; and our eternal King, who governs us by his Word and Spirit, and defends and preserves us in the redemption obtained for us.

Unison: Thanks be to God!

*Gloria Refrain, Tune: Gloria

Gloria in excelsis Deo,
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

New Testament Reading John 1:1-16

*Hymn of Response No. 217
All My Heart This Night Rejoices (verses 1-4)

Prayers of the People-A Litany for Christmas

Unison: O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive Him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence, behold Him when He comes to be our Judge; and, as we have known Him to be the light of the world, so may we enjoy Him perfectly in the new heaven and earth; where, with you and the Holy Spirit, He lives and reigns in glory everlasting. Amen.

For the incarnation of the Eternal Son of God, let us give thanks to the Lord:

We praise you, Lord Christ.

For His life of perfect obedience that secured our righteousness, let us give thanks to the Lord.

We praise you, Lord Christ.

For the one, full, perfect and sufficient sacrifice of Himself for the sins of his people, let us give thanks to the Lord.

We praise you, Lord Christ.

For His resurrection, ascension, reign and promised return, let us give thanks to the Lord.

We praise you, Lord Christ.

For the gospel of grace that assures us that we are forgiven by His blood, accepted because of His righteousness and made children by adoption, let us give thanks to the Lord.

We praise you, Lord Christ.

Silent Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

Words of Assurance

Minister: Give thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and

transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Unison: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name.

*Hymn of Thanksgiving No. 217
All My Heart This Night Rejoices (verses 5-7)

Worship of God through Tithes and Offerings

*Doxology Verse 3, Tune: Antioch
No more let sins and sorrows grow;
Nor thorns infest the ground.
He comes to make his blessings flow
Far as the curse is found;
Far as the curse is found;
Far as, far as the curse is found!

*Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

*Reading of the Holy Scriptures Matthew 1:18-25

*The Prayer for Illumination

Sermon Clayton Shaver
“CHRIST THE SAVIOR”

*Hymn of Response No. 195
Joy to the World

*Closing Prayer

Postlude

**Denotes congregation standing, if able.*

There will be no Cookies & Catechism today or next week.