

VALLEY COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

JANUARY 1, 2023 † 10:00 AM

NEW YEAR'S DAY

Bold Text is spoken/sung by everyone

LEADER: Jenn Souders

LITURGIST: Debbie Purcell

MUSICIANS: Thomas Rheingans, Megan Wakefield, Giselle Jensen

VIDEO/SOUND: Jim Sandberg, Dan Rueff, Dean Bridges, Hayden Bach

GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ELEMENTS AND MUSICAL INTERLUDE

◆ CALL TO WORSHIP

In many and various ways God spoke of old to our ancestors through the prophets.

**But in these last days God has spoken to us by a Son,
whom he appointed to be the heir of all things,
through whom he also created the world.**

Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous, and give thanks to his holy name;
for to us has come a Savior, Christ the newborn king.

Let us worship the newborn king!

◆ OPENING HYMN No. 143 (Angels, from the Realms of Glory)

Verse 1: ***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!***

Verse 2: ***Shepherds, in the fields abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night, God with us is now residing;
yonder shines the infant light: come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king!***

Verse 3: ***Sages, leave your contemplations; brighter visions beam afar; seek the great desire of nations; you
have seen his natal star: come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king!***

Verse 4: ***All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son, evermore your voices raising to the eternal
Three in One: come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king!***

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of wonder, you surround us with signs of your glory and surprise us with your presence, yet we often miss the marvels you place before us. Forgive our inattention and make us alert to the ways you make yourself known, that we might be witnesses to your good news and proclaim your extravagant love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. AMEN!

CONFESSONAL RESPONSE No. 114 (Away in a Manger)

Verse 1: *Away in a manger, no crib for his bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head. The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay, the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.*

Verse 2: *The cattle are lowing; the poor baby wakes, but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes. I love thee, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky, and stay by my side until morning is nigh.*

Verse 3: *Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay close by me forever and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear children in thy tender care, and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.*

◆ ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the good news of the gospel: Jesus Christ is our light and our salvation. In him we are made new. Let us give thanks to God, and be at peace with ourselves and with one another. Amen.

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

◆ RESPONSE OF PRAISE No. 136 (Go, Tell It on the Mountain)

Refrain: *Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere; go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!*

Verse 1: *While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night, behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.* Refrain

Verse 2: *The shepherds feared and trembled when lo! Above the earth rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth.* Refrain

Verse 3: *Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born, and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.* Refrain

SCRIPTURE READING (Hebrews 2:10-18)

ANTHEM ("Il est ne' (He Is Born)"; Megan Wakefield and Giselle Jensen, vocalists)

MESSAGE ("Sanctified in the New Year" by Jenn Souders)

HYMN OF RESPONSE No. 159 (O Sing a Song of Bethlehem)

Verse 1: *O sing a song of Bethlehem, of shepherds watching there, and of the news that came to them from angels in the air. The light that shone on Bethlehem fills all the world today. Of Jesus' birth and peace on earth the angels sing alway.*

Verse 2: *O sing a song of Nazareth, of sunny days of joy; O sing of fragrant flowers' breath, and of the sinless boy. For now the flowers of Nazareth in every heart may grow. Now spreads the fame of his dear name on all the winds that blow.*

Verse 3: *O sing a song of Galilee, of lake and woods and hill, of him who walked upon the sea and bade its waves be still. For though, like waves on Galilee, dark seas of trouble roll, when faith has heard the Master's word, falls peace upon the soul.*

Verse 4: *O sing a song of Calvary, its glory and dismay, of him who hung upon the tree, and took our sins away. For he who died on Calvary is risen from the grave, and Christ, our Lord, by heaven adored, is mighty now to save.*

◆ **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 at 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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER (found on page 35 of the hymnal)

OFFERTORY ("We Three Kings")

(Offerings can be mailed to the church office or made online by visiting our website:
www.valleycommunity.org)

◆ **DOXOLOGY**

*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.*

PRAYER OF GRATITUDE

SHARE THE GOOD NEWS

◆ **CLOSING HYMN** No. 146 (Gentle Mary Laid Her Child)

Verse 1: *Gentle Mary laid her child lowly in a manger; there he lay the undefiled, to the world a stranger. Such a babe in such a place, can he be the Savior? Ask the saved of all the race who have found his favor.*

Verse 2: *Angels sang about his birth; wise men sought and found him; heaven's star shone brightly forth, glory all around him. Shepherds saw the wondrous sight, heard the angels singing; all the plains were lit that night; all the hills were ringing.*

Verse 3: *Gentle Mary laid her child lowly in a manger; he is still the undefiled, but no more a stranger. Son of God, of humble birth, beautiful the story; praise his name in all the earth; hail the King of glory!*

◆ **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

SENDING MUSIC