

Christmas Day  
December 25, 2022  
Welcome  
Silent Meditation

Call to Worship: Luke 1:46-47

"My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

Hymn: God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen  
Invocation

#211

The Law of Christ:

Eph 4:21-24

Pastor: The Apostle Paul summarized the moral law of God when he said:

**Congregation: Surely you heard of him and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus. You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.**

Pastor: Beloved we have not done this as we ought; therefore, let us confess our sin:

Corporate Confession of sin:

**Almighty God, who has given us your only begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and was born of a pure virgin; grant that we being regenerate, and made your children by adoption and grace may be daily renewed in the Holy Spirit. We confess and bewail our manifold sins. We denounce them since we are no longer merely the Children of Adam but rather have been born from above, and united to our blessed Savior Jesus Christ. Turn us from serving self to loving as you have loved us. Turn us from greed to follow the self-denial of your Son. At this Christmas season, subdue us that we may demonstrate the love of Christ to all we meet. Through Christ your incarnate Son. Amen**

Personal (silent)

Assurance of Pardon: Matt 1:21

She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

**Congregation: We give praise to God for although he was angry with us his anger has been turned away and by faith in Christ our sins are forgiven.**

Pastor: How far has he separated your sins from you?

**Congregation: As far as the East is from the West, and he has replaced them with the righteousness of Christ**

**All: Praise and glory be to God our Father and to his Son Jesus our only Savior!**

Response:

Minister: It is good to praise the LORD and make music to your name, O Most High, to proclaim your love in the morning and your faithfulness at night. ( Ps 92:1 )

**Congregation: For you make me glad by your deeds, O LORD; I sing for joy at the works of your hands. How great are your works, O LORD, how profound your thoughts! (Ps 92:4-5)**

Pastor: John 3:17-21

<sup>17</sup> For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. <sup>18</sup> Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. <sup>19</sup> And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. <sup>20</sup> For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. <sup>21</sup> But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God."

**Congregation: We give thanks to you, Heavenly Father, for sending your Son into this world to be the Light to us. We pray that we will live according to that light and do things that are true, thereby and demonstrating that you are at work in us by your Holy Spirit.**

Hymn: Angels We Have Heard on High

#218

Confession of Faith: Belgic Confession:

*Article 20: The Justice and Mercy of God in Christ*

**We believe that God-- who is perfectly merciful and also very just-- sent his Son to assume the nature in which the disobedience had been committed, in order to bear in it the punishment of sin by his most bitter passion and death.**

**So God made known his justice toward his Son, who was charged with our sin, and he poured out his goodness and mercy on us, who are guilty and worthy of damnation, giving to us his Son to die, by a most perfect love, and raising him to life for our justification, in order that by him we might have immortality and eternal life.**

Song: Song: Glorious Impossible

Glorious Impossible

See the Virgin is delivered  
In a cold and crowded stall  
Mirror of the Father's glory  
Lies beside her in the straw  
He is Mercy's incarnation  
Marvel at this miracle!  
For the Virgin gently holds  
The Glorious Impossible

He has come to walk on water  
Turn the water into wine  
Touch the leper, bless the children  
Love both human and divine  
Praise the wisdom of the Father  
Who has spoken through His Son  
Speaking still, He calls us to  
The Glorious Impossible

Halle lu jah  
Halle lu jah  
Hallelu jah  
Glorious Impossible

He was bruised for our transgressions  
And He bears e - ter - nal scars  
He was raised for our salvation  
And His righteousness is ours  
Praise, oh praise Him, praise the glory  
Of this lavish grace so full  
Lift your souls now and receive the  
Glorious Impossible!

Halle lu jah  
Halle lu jah  
Hallelujah  
Glorious Impossible

Pastoral Prayer

Gospel: Mark 15

Psalter: Ps 95:1-6 O Come, Let Us Sing to the Lord

#13

Epistle: 1 Cor 14:26-40

What then, brothers? When you come together, each one has a hymn, a lesson, a revelation, a tongue, or an interpretation.

**Let all things be done for building up.**

If any speak in a tongue, let there be only two or at most three, and each in turn, and let someone interpret.

**But if there is no one to interpret, let each of them keep silent in church and speak to himself and to God.**

Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others weigh what is said.

**If a revelation is made to another sitting there, let the first be silent.**

For you can all prophesy one by one, so that all may learn and all be encouraged, and the spirits of prophets are subject to prophets.

**For God is not a God of confusion but of peace.**

As in all the churches of the saints, the women should keep silent in the churches.

**For they are not permitted to speak, but should be in submission, as the Law also says.**

If there is anything they desire to learn, let them ask their husbands at home. For it is shameful for a woman to speak in church.

**Or was it from you that the word of God came? Or are you the only ones it has reached?**

If anyone thinks that he is a prophet, or spiritual, he should acknowledge that the things I am writing to you are a command of the Lord.

**If anyone does not recognize this, he is not recognized.**

So, my brothers, earnestly desire to prophesy, and do not forbid speaking in tongues.

**But all things should be done decently and in order.**

Sermon: The Promise Fulfilled

Luke 2:1-20

Lord's Supper

Bread: What Wondrous Love is This

#261

Cup: Depth of Mercy

Depth of Mercy! Can there be  
Mercy reaching even me?  
God, the just, his wrath forbears,  
Me, the chief of sinners spares.  
So many times my heart has strayed  
From his kind and perfect ways,  
Making clear my desp'rate need  
For his blood poured out for me.

Give me grace, Lord, let me own  
All the wrongs that I have done.  
Let me just my sins deplore,  
Look to you and sin no more.  
There, for me, the Savior stands  
Holding forth his wounded hands,  
Scars which ever cry for me  
Once condemned but now set free

Offering:  
Doxology:

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise him all creatures here below.  
Praise him above ye heavenly host.  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Prayer

Closing Song:       **May the Grace of Christ Our Savior**

May the grace of Christ our Savior  
And the Father's boundless love,  
With the Holy Spirit's favor,  
Rest upon us from above.

Thus may we abide in union  
With each other and the Lord,  
And possess, in sweet communion,  
Joys, which earth cannot afford.

Benediction

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