

Grace Presbyterian Church

Worships God at 11:00 a.m.

December 27, 2020

The First Sunday after Christmas

In the sanctuary and live streamed

The Bell Calls Us to Worship

Prelude Joyful Worship (Joy to the World/Angels from the Realms of Glory)

Arr. Paul Curnow

Bob Vawter, trombone; Rickie Cooke, baritone horn; Susan Steppe, piano

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 31 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing Mendelssohn

Opening Sentences

Pastor: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

People: **The Maker of heaven and earth.**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray.

Prayer for the Day (spoken by the pastor; the congregation joining the **Amen**.)

Almighty God, you wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature. In your mercy let us share the divine life of Jesus Christ, who came to share our humanity and who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

Hymn 34 In Bethlehem a Babe Was Born Discovery

Pastor: The peace of Christ be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Passing of the Peace (Worshippers greet one another with the peace of Christ.)

Welcome, Announcements, and a Word to Children

Hymn and Carol Sing

Hymn 27 Gentle Mary Laid Her Child Tempus Adest Floridum

Hymn 47 Still, Still, Still Still, Still, Still

Prayer for Illumination
Old Testament

Akwi Aseh
Isaiah 61:10-62:3

Psalm 148

Unison

Praise the Lord.

Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights.

Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host.

Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars.

Praise him, you highest heavens and you waters above the heavens.

Let them praise the name of the Lord,

for he commanded and they were created.

He established them forever and ever;

he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.

Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps,

fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling his command.

Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and cedars,

wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds.

Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth,

young men and women alike, old and young together.

Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted;

his glory is above earth and heaven.

He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his faithful,

for the people of Israel who are close to him. Praise the Lord.

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 49

Once in Royal David's City

Irby

The congregation sits.

Epistle

Galatians 4:1-7

Gospel

Luke 2:21-40

Sermon

Growing Up with Jesus

Mike Krech

“When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.”

Luke 2:39-40

The congregation stands to sing

Hymn 29 Go, Tell It on the Mountain Go Tell It

Apostles' Creed Unison; Hymnal, page 14, Traditional

Gloria in Excelsis Refrain of Hymn 23 Gloria

The congregation sits.

Pastoral Prayer of Thanksgiving, Intercession, and Dedication

The Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors) Unison; Hymnal, page 16, Traditional

Offertory Sentence

Offertory Canticle of Joy J. S. Bach
arr. Van Denman Thompson

The congregation stands to sing the

Doxology 592 Old Hundredth

Benediction

Hymn 40 Joy to the World Antioch

Worshippers are invited to sit and conclude worship through the postlude.

Or you may depart the sanctuary quietly and briskly.

Postlude Joy to the World arr. Fred Bock

Following the postlude, weather permitting, the pastor will make his way to the outdoors, where masked and physically distanced conversations can occur for all worshippers.

To increase our safety, the session strongly urges that we sharply limit our talking with others inside the sanctuary.

Welcome to worship at Grace Presbyterian Church.

Today we continue the season of Christmas with Luke's account of Jesus being presented in the temple at about 40 days old. There, two dear believers, Simeon and Anna, are blessed with hope through the Christ child. (JMK)