

The Lord's Service

December 16, 2018

**Standing together is our ordinary practice,
but you are welcome to remain seated.*

Prelude

*Song of Praise with Greeting

When Love Came Down



1. When love came down to earth and made His home with
2. When ev - ery un-clean thought, and ev - ery sin - ful
3. Come lay your heav - y load down at the Mas - ter's

2



men, the hope - less found a hope, the sin - ner found a
deed was scourged up - on His back and ham - mered through His
feet; your shame will be removed. Your joy will be com -

4



friend. Not to the pow - er - ful but to the poor He
feet. The in - no - cent is cursed, the guilt - y are re -
plete. Come cru - ci - fy your pride, and en - ter as a

6



came, and hum - ble hun - gry hearts were sat - is - fied a -
leased; the pun - ish - ment of God, on God, has brought us
child; For those who bow down low He'll lift up to His

8



gain.
peace. What joy, what peace has come to
side.

12



us! What hope, what help, what love!_____

Welcome and Announcements

God Calls Us

In silent meditation, let us prepare to meet the loving God in worship.

Lighting of the Advent Candle

The Josh Perrel Family

*Call to Worship

Psalm 136.1-3

LEADER: Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good,

PEOPLE: **For His steadfast love endures forever.**

LEADER: Give thanks to the God of gods,

PEOPLE: **For His steadfast love endures forever.**

LEADER: Give thanks to the Lord of lords,

PEOPLE: **For His steadfast love endures forever.**

*Hymn

No. 198

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates!

*Invocation

Elder Tony DeMarco

God Cleanses Us

Reading of the Law of God

Psalm 32.3-5

LEADER: For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.

PEOPLE: **For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.**

LEADER: I acknowledged my sin to You, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,"

PEOPLE: **And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

*Whether seated or kneeling,
let us approach the Lord together with a posture of reverence.*

Corporate Confession of Sin (in unison)

**Almighty and most merciful Father;
we have erred and strayed from Your ways
like lost sheep.**

**We have followed too much the devices
and desires of our own hearts.**

We have offended against Your holy laws.

**We have left undone those things
which we ought to have done;
and we have done those things
which we ought not to have done.**

O Lord, have mercy upon us.

Spare those, O God, who confess their faults.

Restore those who are penitent;

according to Your promises

declared unto us in Christ Jesus our Lord.

And grant, O merciful Father, for His sake;

**that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous,
and sober life;**

to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Colossians 2.13-14

LEADER: Lift up your heads and hear the Good News:

**“And you, who were dead in your trespasses
and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God
made alive together with Him, having forgiven
us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of
debt that stood against us with its legal
demands. This He set aside, nailing it to the
cross.”**

The peace of the Lord be with you!

PEOPLE: **And also with you!**

*Hymn

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

1. The King of love my Shep - herd is, Whose
 2. Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow My
 3. Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, But
 4. In death's dark vale I fear no ill With
 5. Thou spread'st a ta - ble in my sight; Thine
 6. And so through all the length of days Thy

good - ness fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
 ran - somed soul He lead - eth, And where the ver - dant
 yet in love He sought me, And on His shoul - der
 Thee, dear Lord, be - side me; Thy rod and staff my
 unc - tion grace be - stow - eth; And O what trans - port
 good - ness fail - eth nev - er; Good Shep - herd, may I

I am His And He is mine for - ev - er.
 pas - tures grow, With food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
 gent - ly laid, And home, re - joic - ing, brought me.
 com - fort still, Thy cross be - fore to guide me.
 of de - light From Thy pure chal - ice flow - eth!
 sing Thy praise With - in Thy house for - ev - er.

God Consecrates Us

New Testament Reading

Elder Mark Lander

Matthew 1.17-25 (p. 807)

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Anthem

Choir

How Great Our Joy

*(Rebecca James, violin; Steven James, violin;
Casie Runkle; viola, Heather Smith, cello)*

While by the sheep we watched at night,
Glad tidings brought an angel bright.
How great our joy! How great our joy!

There shall be born, so He did say,
In Bethlehem a Child today.
How great our joy! How great our joy!

There shall the Child lie in a stall,
This Child who shall redeem us all.
This gift of God we'll cherish well,
That ever joy our hearts shall fill.
Praise we the Lord in heav'n on high!

How great our joy!

(2012 Beckenhorst Press)

*Doxology

No. 731

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. Amen.

*Prayer of the Church

Pastor Jones

*Hymn

No. 221

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

THE GOD WHO IS WITH US

*Hymn



1. Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King;
 2. Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord!
 3. Hail the heav'n - born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righ - teous - ness!
 4. Come, De - sire of na - tions, come, Fix in us Thy hum - ble home;

peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"
 Late in time be - hold Him come, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb.
 Light and life to all He brings, ris'n with heal - ing in His wings.
 Rise, the wo - man's con - q'ring Seed, Bruise in us the ser - pent's head.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God - head see; hail th'in - car - nate De - i - ty,
 Mild He lays His glo - ry by, born that man no more may die,
 Ad - am's like - ness, now ef - face, Stamp Thine im - age in its place!

with th'an - gel - ic host pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
 pleased as man with men to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el.
 born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them sec - ond birth.
 Sec - ond A - dam from a - bove, Re - in - state us in Thy love.

Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King."

Charles Wesley, 1739, 1753; alt.

MENDELSSOHN 7.7.7.7.D.ref.
 Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy, 1840
 Arr. by William H. Cummings, 1856

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

*Confession of Faith (in unison) Belgic Confession, 20

We believe that God,
Who is perfectly merciful and just,
sent His Son to assume that nature
in which the disobedience was committed,
to make satisfaction in the same,
and to bear the punishment of sin
by His most bitter passion and death.
God therefore manifested His justice against His Son,
when He laid our iniquities upon Him,
and poured forth His mercy and goodness on us,
who were guilty and worthy of damnation,
out of mere and perfect love,
giving His Son unto death for us,
and raising Him for our justification,
that through Him we might obtain immortality
and life eternal.

*Gloria Patri No. 734

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen, amen.

God Commissions Us

*Benediction

Postlude