

Order of Worship
Sunday, December 26, 2021

Prelude

Processional Hymn: 141, The First Nowell

Call to Worship:

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of one who brings good tidings.

Rejoice and be glad, for Christ is born this day.

God has delivered comfort to all people, brought bloom to the wasteland, shown grace throughout the world.

Rejoice and be glad, for Christ is born this day.

The prophet's hopes are made flesh, and all our longings are made human in joy.

Rejoice and be glad, for Christ is born this day.

Let us worship God.

Invocation/The Lord's Prayer

Welcome and Announcements

Hymn #135: Angels We Have Heard on High

A Christmas Reading: Poor Little Innocent Lamb (Part I), by Katherine Paterson

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Music

Doxology:

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God all creatures here below;

Praise God for all that love has done;

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.

Prayer After the Offering

Scripture Reading:

Matthew 1: 18-25

18 Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah[i] took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. 19 Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public

disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. 20 But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. 21 She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” 22 All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

23 “Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel,”

which means, “God is with us.” 24 When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, 25 but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son;[j] and he named him Jesus.

Hymn #148, Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

A Christmas Reading: Poor Little Innocent Lamb (Part II), by Katherine Paterson

Pastoral Prayer

Pastoral Prayer Response

A Christmas Reading: Poor Little Innocent Lamb (Part III), by Katherine Paterson

Closing Hymn, #139, There's a Star in the East (Rise Up, Shepherd)

Benediction

Postlude