

# THE DIVINE SERVICE

DECEMBER 2, 2018 – 9:30 AM

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

PRELUDE

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*And around God's throne, on each side of the throne, are four living creatures... each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and within, and day and night they never cease to say, "Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!"*

Revelation 4:6, 8

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GREETING

## GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP HIM

INTROIT

SALUTATION ..... MATTHEW 28:19

MINISTER: We are gathered in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

CALL TO WORSHIP ..... ISAIAH 12:2, 4-6

MINISTER: Behold, God is our salvation;  
Trust in Him and do not be afraid:

PEOPLE: **For the Lord God is our strength and song;  
He also has become our salvation.**

Praise the Lord; call upon His name;  
Declare His deeds among the peoples;  
Make mention that His name is exalted.

**We will sing to the Lord,  
For He has done excellent things;  
This is known in all the earth.**

Cry out and shout, O inhabitants of Zion,  
For great is the Holy One of Israel in your midst!

\* HYMN OF APPROACH ..... No. 2

*O Worship the King vs. 1-5*

\* PRAYER OF ADORATION

\* Congregation Stands

# GOD DIRECTS US TO HIS TRUTH

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

THE NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried, and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.**

**And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of Life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets; and we believe in one holy catholic<sup>1</sup> and apostolic church; we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins<sup>2</sup>; and we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen** <sup>1</sup>universal, <sup>2</sup>Acts 2:38

\* GLORIA PATRI

No. 735

**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.**

\* SCRIPTURE READING ..... PSALM 41

ELDER: The grass withers and the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

Isaiah 40:8

PEOPLE: AMEN!

# GOD RENEWS US IN CHRIST

CONFESSION OF SIN

MINISTER: *All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him, and stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel! For he has not despised or abhorred the affliction of the afflicted, and he has not hidden his face from him, but has heard, when he cried to him.*  
Psalm 22: 23-24

PEOPLE: **King of Heaven, we confess before you the pride and selfishness that closes our eyes to hurting people around us. We are quick to look away when their suffering and brokenness makes us uncomfortable. Instead of seeing their need, we quickly walk away and turn towards those who make us feel good.**

Forgive us for the help we should have offered but did not. Forgive us for the help that we offered for sinful reasons: to feel proud and superior, to purchase friendship, or to put people in our debt. Forgive us when our hearts have been resentful when others have needed us. Forgive us for feeling resentful towards you for asking us to help them.

Thank you that in your deep love for us, you have not despised and abhorred us. Rather, in our great affliction, you have treasured us and sent your Son to rescue us.

Melt our hard hearts, for we cannot soften them. Cause us to see how we have been rescued by our great Savior. Give us the desire and ability to open our eyes, to see people as they are, and to love them deeply from a heart of gratitude and concern.

Help us to enter the worlds of others. To celebrate with them, to grieve with them, and to walk alongside them with caring hearts and hands. May we grow into people who love as we have been loved, and who serve as we have been served. Amen.

(SILENT CONFESSION)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

MINISTER: *I wait patiently for the Lord; he inclined to me and heard my cry. He drew me up and from the pit of destruction, out of the miry bog, and set my feet upon the rock, making me steps secure. He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God. Many will see and fear, and put their trust in the Lord.*  
Psalm 40:1-3; 103:11-13

PEOPLE: AMEN!

\* HYMN OF THANKSGIVING ..... No. 196

*Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*

PEOPLE: AMEN!

# GOD INVITES US TO JOYFUL SACRIFICE

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

\* DOXOLOGY ..... No. 731  
**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

THE LORD'S PRAYER ..... Matthew 6:9-13  
**Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

## GOD FEEDS US FROM HIS WORD

\* THE SERMON TEXT ..... JOHN 13:36 – 14:7  
MINISTER: This is the word of the Lord.  
PEOPLE: AMEN!

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

### LET NOT YOUR HEARTS BE TROUBLED



## GOD FEEDS US AT HIS BANQUET TABLE

\* SONG OF PREPARATION ..... See Insert  
*How Deep the Father's Love*  
PEOPLE: AMEN!

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

## GOD BLESSES & SENDS US OUT

\* HYMN OF RESPONSE ..... No. 642  
*Be Thou My Vision*  
PEOPLE: AMEN!

\* BENEDICTION ..... NUMBERS 6:24-26

\* CONGREGATIONAL THREEFOLD AMEN ..... No. 740

# SUNDAY EVENING SERVICE

DECEMBER 2, 2018 – 6:00 PM

CALL TO WORSHIP

OPENING PRAYER

\* RESPONSIVE READING ..... PAGE 841

PSALM 150

\* PSALM 108 ..... Trinity Psalter

EVENING PRAYER

\* SERMON TEXT ..... PSALM 121

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

### FROM WHERE DOES MY HELP COME?

BENEDICTION ..... 2 CORINTHIANS 13:14

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