

First Sunday After Christmas
Sunday, December 29, 2024
“Making Room for God’s Gifts”

Introit **Come All You People** (More Voices 2)

Please stand in body or spirit.

Words: Alexander Gondo, Zimbabwe; English Paraphrase: I-to Loh
Music: Alexander Gondo, Zimbabwe, notated by I-to Loh; Arrangement: John L. Bell, 1995
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Come all you people,
come and praise your Maker,
come all you people,
come and praise your Maker,
come all you people,
come and praise your Maker,
come now and worship the Lord. *Repeat*

Welcome & Announcements

Centring Music Where Are You Christmas

Words and music by James Horner, Will Jennings and Mariah Carey

Lighting of the Christ Candle

What a past year this has been!

**So much has happened; some wonderful
and some very challenging.**

In all of this, God journeyed with us, guiding,
healing, comforting, and rejoicing.

**We are filled with gratitude for God’s
presence with us.**

We light the Christ candle to invite the Spirit of God in.

**Together, we walk into this future as a faithful community
of generosity, compassion, and joyfulness.**

Opening Hymn **The First Nowell**

(Voices United 91, vs. 1 – 4 & 6)

Words: English traditional carol, ca. 17th century, alt.
Music: English traditional melody; harm. John Stainer 1851,
desc. and harmony, Healey Wiltan 1926

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1 The first Nowell the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
in fields where they lay akeeping their sheep
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
born is the King of Israel.

2 They looked up and saw a star,
shining in the east, beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night. *Refrain*

3 And by the light of that same star
three wise men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent,
and to follow the star wherever it went. *Refrain*

4 This star drew nigh to the northwest;
o'er Bethlehem it took its rest,
and there it did both stop and stay,
right over the place where Jesus lay. *Refrain*

6 Then let us all with one accord
sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
that hath made heaven and earth of nought,
and with his blood our life hath bought. *Refrain*

Prayer of Approach

Duet

Gift of New Sight

words by W. Farquarson, music by Ron Klusmeier

Scripture Readings

Colossians 3:12-17

Reflection

“The Ultimate Gift”

Hymn of the Day

There was a Child in Galilee

(Dreaming Mary)

More Voices 134

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- 1 There was a child in Galilee
who wandered wild along the sea.
A holy child, alone was she,
and they called her Dreaming Mary.
And she dreamed, rejoicing in her saviour;
she dreamed of justice for the poor.
She dreamed that kings oppressed no more
when she dreamed, that Dreaming Mary.
- 2 One holy day an angel came
with voice of wind and eyes of flame.
He promised blessed would be her name
when he spoke to Dreaming Mary.
Then she spoke, rejoicing in her saviour.
She spoke of justice for the poor.
She spoke that kings oppressed no more
when she spoke, that Dreaming Mary.
- 3 And did she dream about a son?
And did he speak, the angel one?
We only know God's will was done
in the son of Dreaming Mary.
Then she prayed, rejoicing in her saviour.
She taught him justice for the poor.
She taught that kings oppressed no more
when she taught, that Dreaming Mary.

- 4 Then Jesus grew in Galilee,
they wandered wild along the sea.
Now he calls to you and me
to dream with Dreaming Mary.
And we dream, rejoicing in our saviour.
We dream of justice for the poor.
We dream that kings oppress no more
as we dream with Dreaming Mary

The Holy Sacrament of Communion

Invitation

May God be with us.

God is here among us.

Let us open our hearts to God.

We open them to God and to one another.

Let us give thanks to God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Liturgy

Choral Response **And When You Call for Me** (More Voices 96)

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And when you call for me,
I have already answered.
And when you call for me,
I am already there.

Liturgy

Choral Response **And When You Call for Me**

And when you call for me,
I have already answered.
And when you call for me,
I am already there.

Liturgy

Response

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest,
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Liturgy

Response

**Christ had died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

The Remembrance

The Blessing

The Gifts for the People

Prayer After Communion

We give you thanks, Almighty God, that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world united in courage and peace. We pray this in your Son's name. Amen.

A New Year's Blessing
(the congregation is invited forward to receive a blessing)

Invitation to Offering

Offering Response

Give Thanks

Henry Smith CCLI #20235

Give thanks with a grateful heart
Give thanks to the Holy One
Give thanks because He's given
Jesus Christ His Son

And now let the weak say I am strong
Let the poor say I am rich
Because of what the Lord has done for us. Give Thanks.

Offering Prayer

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayers & The Lord's Prayer

Parting Hymn **Hark! The Herald Angels Sing**
(Voices United 48)

Words: Charles Wesley 1739, alt.

Music: Felix Mendelssohn 1840; adapt. William Hayman Cummings 1856

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- 1 Hark! the herald angels sing,
 'Glory to the newborn King,
 peace on earth, and mercy mild,
 God and sinners reconciled!
 Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
 join the triumph of the skies;
 with the angelic host proclaim,
 'Christ is born in Bethlehem!
 *Hark! the herald angels sing,
 'Glory to the newborn King!'*

- 2 Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come,
offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
hail, the incarnate deity,
pleased with us in flesh to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel! *Refrain*
- 3 Hail, the heavenborn Prince of Peace!
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth,
born to give us second birth. *Refrain*

Benediction

Postlude I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day

Worship Leadership – Pastor Beth Parsons
Music Leadership - Sharon Prindle-Collins and the CBU Choir
Centring Music and Postlude – Lynn Dennis
Duet – Christine Cardy and Alan Priestley
Welcome and Announcements – Stephen Godfrey
Greeters – Karen Strawn Samis and Marlowe May-Switner
Lighting of the Christ Candle – Rosalie Knogler
Scripture Reading – Ron Childs
Communion Servers – Sam Boehner, Glenn Davidson
and Stephen Godfrey
Offering Invitation and Prayer – Alan Priestley
Technical Support – Rob Glenn and Jiemei Li
Fellowship Time – Caring Ministry