

December 31st, 2023
1st Sunday of Christmas
GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE: Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

QUIET HYMN: Like a Child #2092

SILENT PRAYER

COVENANT PRAYER #607

***HYMN: Silent Night, Holy Night** #239

CENTERING FOR WORSHIP

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: The Christ child declared the glory of God's salvation that comes to us.

P: And yet, still, we wait.

L: We welcome a new year, thankful for how God has brought us through the past year and anxious to discover what the new year might bring.

P: We watch and work for God's kingdom on earth as it is in heaven.

L: We join generations of Simeons and Annas who taught us to listen, notice, and discern God's love at work in the world.

P: Come, let us worship God, whose love endures from generation to generation, guiding us from one year to the next. Amen.

*** PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Almighty creator, we come to shout and rejoice in the wonderful gift of your Son for our world. It is a miracle that fills our lives with your glory.

On this last day of the year, may our celebration honor the good we have received from you, even as we look forward to walking faithfully with you in the year ahead. Amen.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Isaiah 61:10 – 62:3

Luke 2:22-40

***HYMN: O Little Town of Bethlehem** #230

THE WORD OF GOD EXPLORED

Pastor Joel Holcomb

GRATEFUL RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY** #95

***DEDICATION OF TITHES AND OFFERING**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND PASTOR

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

***HYMN: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing** #240

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE: Go Tell It on the Mountain

**Indicates standing if that is comfortable for you.*
