



ORDER OF WORSHIP

January 15, 2023

10:30 a.m. Service

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Hymn of Praise – “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee” (UMH#89)

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
hearts unfold like flowers before thee,
opening to the sun above.

Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
Drive the dark of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day!

All thy works with joy surround thee,
earth and heaven reflect thy rays,
stars and angels sing around thee,
center of unbroken praise.

Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain,
call us to rejoice in thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving,
ever blessing, ever blest,
well-spring of the joy of living,
ocean depth of happy rest!

Thou our Father, Christ our brother,
all who live in love are thine;
teach us how to love each other,
lift us to the joy divine.

Mortals, join the mighty chorus
which the morning stars began;

love divine is reigning o'er us,
binding all within its span.
Ever singing, march we on-ward,
victors in the midst of strife;
joyful music leads us sun-ward,
in the triumph song of life.

Call to Worship:

Pastor: Here is my servant, whom I uphold and in whom my soul delights.

People: God's Spirit is upon him to bring justice to the nations.

Pastor: See, former things are coming to pass as God declares a new way:

People: Even before it springs forth, God tells us of new life.

Pastor: Come now; join Christ at the waters and be transformed by God's Spirit.

People: God calls us by name and affirms us as beloved.

Act of Praise – “Glory be to the Father” (UMH#70)

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.

Affirmation of Faith - “The Apostles’ Creed” (UMH #881)

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord:
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
 born of the Virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, dead and buried;
The third day he rose from the dead;
 he ascended into heaven,
 and sitteth at the right hand of God
 the Father Almighty;
 from thence he shall come to judge
 the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,

the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Scripture Lesson – Isaiah 42:1-9

Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, through the waters of baptism you have marked us as your children and transformed our lives. Through the work of your Son and the power of the Holy Spirit we are made new: strengthened and gifted to reflect the glory of your Son. We give you thanks for the work of your grace in our lives. Yet we confess your new way is a struggle for us, as we often fail to love you with our all and to love our neighbors as we love ourselves. Forgive us, Lord. Free us for joyful obedience, such that we are strengthened to serve Jesus faithfully by serving others in our daily lives. We pray this in the name of Christ Jesus. Amen.

Prayer of Intercession

Extending the Peace of Christ

Adult Choir

Offering

Doxology - “Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow” (UMH #94)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God, the source of all our gifts!

Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

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.

Hymn – “Spirit Song” (UMH #347)

O let the Son of God enfold you
with his Spirit and his love.
Let him fill your heart and satisfy your soul.

O let him have the things that hold you,
and his Spirit like a dove
will descend upon your life and make you whole.

Jesus, O Jesus,
come and fill your lambs.

Jesus, O Jesus,
come and fill your lambs.

O come and sing this song with gladness
as your hearts are filled with joy.
Lift your hands in sweet surrender to his name.

O give him all your tears and sadness;
give him all your years of pain,
and you'll enter into life in Jesus' name.

Jesus, O Jesus,
come and fill your lambs.

Jesus, O Jesus,
come and fill your lambs.

Sermon – “Before They Spring Forth”
Scripture: Matthew 3:1-12

Commissioning of Church Leaders and Servants for 2023

Those who serve as staff members, in leadership positions, as members of ministry teams, and as teachers and Bible study leaders are invited to stand as they are commissioned for service through the following prayer.

Pastor: Lord Jesus, as we recall God's affirmation at your baptism in the Jordan, we want to give thanks for your calling in the lives of these faithful servants in your church. Thank you for the gifts of the Holy Spirit in their lives, and for their willingness to serve in your name. God, we ask

that you pour out many blessings on these servants, equipping them to love and serve you by faithfully serving others. Guide and strengthen them for the challenges that face your church. Uplift them when the task at hand feels overwhelming. And draw us all together in your love, such that Christ's kingdom is extended in our community and world through their service.

Today we bless and consecrate to Christ's service all those who will serve at St. John's in the coming year. Amen.

All: We commend our faithful servants to Christ's work, and we pledge to you our prayers, encouragement, and support. May the Holy Spirit guide and strengthen you, that in all things you may do God's will in the service of Jesus Christ.

Hymn – “Take My Life and Let It Be” (UMH #399)

Take my life, and let it be
consecrated, Lord, to thee.

Take my moments and my days;
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands, and let them move
at the impulse of thy love.

Take my feet, and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice, and let me sing
always, only, for my King.

Take my lips, and let them be
filled with messages from thee.

Take my silver and my gold;
not a mite would I withhold.

Take my intellect, and use
every power as thou shalt choose.

Take my will, and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine.

Take my heart, it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love, my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store.

Take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee.

Benediction

Congregational Response: Sanctuary

Lord prepare me to be a sanctuary / pure and holy, tried and true / with thanksgiving, I'll be a living / sanctuary for you.

Postlude

*Brian Barber, Organist
Roy Nelson, Director of Music Ministries*

*Rev. Brad Leight
Ruth Portzline, CLM*