

***The First Church of Christ in Marblehead
Old North Church, United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation***

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

January 1, 2023

First Sunday After Christmas

10:00am

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Maria vanKalken, *piano*

WELCOME AND CONCERNS

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Let everyone who thirsts come and drink deeply!

ALL: Here all who hunger may satisfy themselves freely.

ONE: Why should we spend our money for that which is not bread?

ALL: Why do we labor for that which cannot satisfy?

ONE: Here you may feast on the goodness of the Lord.

ALL: Now those who hunger and thirst for righteousness shall be filled.

ONE: It shall be to the Lord a memorial,

ALL: And for us an everlasting sign that we shall not be cut off. Amen!

* HYMN

All Beautiful the March of Days

#525

CENTERING

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

One: The poet Madeline L'Engle writes,
*"He did not wait till the world was ready,
till men and nations were at peace
He came when the Heavens were unsteady
and prisoners cried out for release."*

ALL: God has come to us! God meets us just as we are and loves us too much to leave us there. God is healing us, forgiving us, growing us, and using us to bring peace in this world. Thanks be to God!

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Glory to the Creator, and to the Christ, and to the Spirit One,
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
World without end, Amen, Amen.

OFFERTORY

INVITATION

PRESENTATION OF OFFERINGS

Maria vanKalken, *piano*

* DOXOLOGY #48

To God, all glorious heavenly Light
To Christ revealed in earthly night,
To God the Spirit now we raise
Our joyful songs of thankful praise. Amen

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

LISTENING

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Isaiah 63:7-9

63:7 I will recount the gracious deeds of the LORD, the praiseworthy acts of the LORD, because of all that the LORD has done for us, and the great favor to the house of Israel that he has shown them according to his mercy, according to the abundance of his steadfast love.

63:8 For he said, "Surely they are my people, children who will not deal falsely"; and he became their savior

63:9 in all their distress. It was no messenger or angel but his presence that saved them; in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

MESSAGE

“ Reflection”

Rev. Don Remick

* HYMN

Love Came Down at Christmas

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RESPONDING

A CHRISTMAS COMMUNION

A MOMENT FOR CONFESSION

THE INVITATION

We are invited to Holy Communion as guests of God.
All who seek to know Christ more fully are welcome at the
Table of the Lord.

Children are invited at the discretion of their parents.

THE SANCTUS

(Sung to the tune of "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing")

*"Holy, Holy, Holy Lord! God of Hosts, by all adored!
Heav'n and earth cannot contain All the glory of your name!
Hail, hosanna, God most high! Blest is he who now draws nigh!
In the name of God the King, Hallelujahs glad we sing:
Hail, hosanna! Praises due Be forever, Lord, to you!"*

THE COMMUNION PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

(Sung to the tune of "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear")

*Our Father, Lord, on Heav'n's high throne,
Most Holy be your name.
Your Kingdom come, your will be done
On Earth, in heav'n the same.
Give us this day the food we need, Forgiven may we be;
Into temptation do not lead; From evil set us free!
Yours is the Kingdom, unto you In grateful love we bow;
And yours the pow'r, Lord, let us view Your mighty presence now.
The glory yours; your praise be sung By angels, women and men,
In ev'ry land by ev'ry tongue Forevermore.. AMEN!*

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

(Sung to the tune of "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen")

*Oh, thank the Lord and sing His praise, What he has done proclaim!
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.
Who leads His thankful people forth His promises to claim.
Oh, tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,
Oh, tidings of comfort and joy!*
*Lord, let Your servants go in peace, Your word has been fulfilled.
My eyes have seen the saving work Which for the world You willed:
The glory of Your chosen race As Light for all revealed.
Oh, tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,
Oh, tidings of comfort and joy!*

*O, Praise to God Creator, And praise to God the Son,
And praise to God the Spirit, Most blessed Three in One,
As 'twas, is now, and e'er shall be While endless ages run!
Oh, tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,
Oh, tidings of comfort and joy!*

SENDING

* HYMN

Great God, We Sing That Mighty Hand

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* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Maria vanKalken, *piano*