

Seeking the peace and well-being of the city

January 2, 2022

11:00 a.m.





PRELUDE

From Heaven on High to Earth I Come VARIOUS COMPOSERS

GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

CALL TO WORSHIP

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN

SUSSEX CAROL #222 On Christmas Night All Christians Sing

*INVOCATION AND 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, for ever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Dear God.

You made us in your image, you call all of creation good, yet we still try to divide people into "us" and "them." You send us Jesus, the Prince of Peace, you show us how to love one another, yet we say and do hurtful things. You feed us with our daily bread, you invite us to share what we can, yet we try to hold on to gifts meant for all. Forgive us, we pray, for failing to learn and do what you teach us.

Open our eyes, hearts and hands to your ways of compassion, care and generosity. This we ask as children made in your image, safe in your love,

and showered by your grace.

(Silence for personal confession and reflection)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*GLORIA PATRI

R. Goodson

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.

FIRST TESTAMENT READING

Micah 5:2-5a

Response to the reading: "Thanks be to God"

*HYMN OF PRAISE

#229 The First Noel (sing vs. 1-5) THE FIRST NOEL

SECOND TESTAMENT READING

Matthew 2:1-12

Response to the reading: "Thanks be to God"

SERMON "Gifts of the Grateful" Rev. Dr. Ryan Sato

*HYMN OF APPROACH

#180 O Little Town of Bethlehem ST. LOUIS

GATHERING AT THE TABLE

*The Passing of the Peace

*Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles' Creed

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; he descended into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead;

he ascended into heaven,

and sits on the right hand of God the Father Almighty

from there 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. *catholic means the church universal or the church for all time

The Bread

The Cup

All who seek God and the presence of Christ are welcome to participate

WORDS OF SHARING

One: In an upper room, with his friends, Jesus took bread, gave thanks and broke it.

He gave it to his friends, and asked them to remember him.

He picked up a cup of wine,

he poured it out and shared it.

Again, he gave thanks and asked his friends to remember him. "Do this in remembrance of me."

Many: We now remember Jesus

-- his life of love and forgiveness

-- how he gathered little children and blessed them

-- how he cared for the sick and healed them

-- how he invited people like us to be his followers

-- how he promised to come alongside us

in sadness and gladness, and be with us always.

One: We gather today, around this table and many tables.

Separated by distance but united by the Spirit of God.

All: As we eat the bread and drink the cup, may the risen Christ fill our bodies so we might be the hands, feet and voice of Jesus to a world that needs to be

healed and loved.

CELEBRATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS Offertory

From Heaven on High to Earth I Come JOHANN PACHELBEL

*Offertory Response So, bring him incense, gold and myrrh, come, peasant, king, to own him; The King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him. This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;

haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!

*HYMN FOR THE JOURNEY

#198 Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

IN DULCI JUBILO

*THE BLESSING OF THE COMMUNITY

Leader: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you.

People: And also with you.

*The Sending of the Community

*Congregational Amen

The service of the church into the world - - begins again this week

*POSTLUDE

Sussex Carol

DALE WOOD

*Please stand, as you are able

We are grateful for those who serve with us today: Worship Leading: Warren Tasker, Gordon Dinwoodie Guest Organist - Lori Klingbeil

Video & Sound Technician - Evan Adnams

Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE, License #A-625688. All rights reserved.