

## Order of Worship January 29, 2023

### Gathering Music

*God Is Here*

(Tune: Hymn To Joy)

1 God is here! As we your people meet to offer praise and prayer,  
may we find in fuller measure what it is in Christ we share.  
Here, as in the world around us, all our varied skills and arts  
wait the coming of the Spirit into open minds and hearts.

2 Here are symbols to remind us of our lifelong need of grace;  
here are table, font, and pulpit; here the cross has central place.  
Here in honesty of preaching, here in silence, as in speech,  
here, in newness and renewal, God the Spirit comes to each.

3 Here our children find a welcome in the Shepherd's flock and fold;  
here as bread and wine are taken, Christ sustains us as of old.  
Here the servants of the Servant seek in worship to explore  
what it means in daily living to believe and to adore.

4 Lord of all, of church and kingdom, in an age of change and doubt  
keep us faithful to the gospel; help us work your purpose out.  
Here, in this day's dedication, all we have to give, receive:  
we, who cannot live without you, we adore you! We believe!

### Welcome

*Rev. Barbara Macfie*

### Call To Worship

*Liturgist*

*(The Timeless Psalms, Prayers and Meditations, Joan Stott)*

L: Holy God, you invite us to come to worship you.

**C: In your Holy Presence, we discover forgiveness.**

L: Holy God, you invite us to come to worship you.

**C: In your Holy Presence, we discover unlimited love.**

L: Holy God, you invite us to come to worship you.

**C: In your Holy Presence, we discover empowerment, joy and peace.**

L. Come, let us worship our Holy God. Amen.

Hymn

*The Lord Is God*

GTG #63

The Lord is God, the Lord alone! Give honor, thanks, and praise  
To God, the maker of all things and giver of our days.

With all your heart, with all your soul, with all of your mind and might.  
O people, love the Lord your God, the source of truth and light.

At night or day, at home away, together, and apart  
O children, take these holy words and keep them in your heart.

The Lord is God, the Lord alone! Give honor, thanks, and praise  
To God, the maker of all things and giver of our days.

### PREPARING FOR THE WORD

**Call to Confession**

*Liturgist*

Great is the faithfulness of God, and yet our hearts are not always open to God. At times, we complicate our lives with anger and bitterness and falsehood. Let us come together, and with open hearts confess our sins, to God, and to each other as we seek God's love and mercy.

**Prayer of Confession**

**Almighty God, mother of mercy, father of grace: You have called us do what is right, and to speak the truth from our hearts, but we have not always done so. You have promised us the abundance of all creation, but in our greed, and in our envy, the world goes without. You have promised us the bread of life itself, but in our pride, and in our arrogance, the world goes hungry. You have promised us the waters of peace and justice, but in our violence, and in our discord, the world goes thirsty. And now we are famished, too, Lord. Have mercy on us. Forgive us, and help us to be servants of your righteousness, by the power of your Son, our Lord we pray. Amen.**

## Words of Forgiveness

*Rev. Barbara Macfie*

Friends, we have been called and claimed by the God. God loves each one of us unconditionally. By the abundance of God's grace, and by the power of God's love, know that our sins have been forgiven.

### **RESPONSE**

*I Will Come To You (You Are Mine)*

**GTG # 177**  
*(V-1, Refrain)*

**I will come to you in the silence**

**I will lift you from all your fear**

**You will hear My voice**

**I claim you as My choice**

**Be still, and know I am near**

**Do not be afraid, I am with you**

**I have called you each by name**

**Come and follow Me**

**I will bring you home**

**I love you and you are mine**

## **HEARING THE WORD**

### **Prayer of Illumination**

*Liturgist*

Almighty God, give us ears to hear your story in these words of Scripture; give us eyes to see your story in the faces of those that surround us; and give us faith enough, that by your grace, we might serve you until the end of our days.  
Amen.

### **A Reading From Micah 6:1-8**

*Liturgist*

Listen to what the Lord says: "Stand up, plead my case before the mountains; let the hills hear what you have to say. "Hear, you mountains, the Lord's accusation; listen, you everlasting foundations of the earth. For the Lord has a case against his people; he is lodging a charge against Israel. "My people, what have I done to you? How have I burdened you? Answer me.

I brought you up out of Egypt and redeemed you from the land of slavery. I sent Moses to lead you, also Aaron and Miriam. My people, remember what Balak, a king of Moab plotted and what Balaam, son of Beor answered. Remember your journey from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the righteous acts of the Lord." With what shall I come before the Lord and bow down before the exalted God. Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousand rivers of olive oil? Shall I offer my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul? He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

**A Reading from 1 Corinthians 1:18-31**

*Rev. Barbara Macfie*

For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written: "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise; the intelligence of the intelligent I will frustrate." Where is the wise person? Where is the teacher of the law? Where is the philosopher of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe. Jews demand signs and Greeks look for wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.

Brothers and sisters, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. God chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things—and the things that are not—to nullify the things that are, so that no one may boast before him. It is because

of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God—that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption. Therefore, as it is written: “Let the one who boasts boast in the Lord.”

**Sermon**

*Rev. Barbara Macfie*

*“What Does The Lord Require of Us?”*

**RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

**Affirmation of Faith**

*Rev. Barbara Macfie*

We believe in one holy, universal Christian church, the unity of the communion of saints of the entire human family. And we believe that this unity of the people of God must be manifest and active, in that we love one another; that we give ourselves willingly and joyfully to one another, that we share one baptism together, that we eat of one bread and drink of one cup together, that we confess one name, one Lord, for one cause, with one hope, which is the height and the breadth and the depth and the love of Christ, forever and ever. Amen. (*Adapted from the Belhar Confession*)

**Hymn**

*Take Me To The Water*

**GTG #480**

**(verse 1, 4)**

**Take me to the water. Take me to the water. Take me to the water to be baptized.**

**Glory hallelujah. Glory hallelujah. Glory hallelujah to be baptized.**

**Baptism of Coleson James Burton**, son of Jacob and Pamela Burton and great-grandson of Lois Anne Rayner

**Hymn**

*Child of Blessing, Child of Promise*

**Verse 1, 4**

**Child of blessing, child of promise, baptized with the Spirit's sign,  
with this water God has sealed you unto love and grace divine.  
Child of God, your loving Parent, learn to know whose child you are.  
Grow to laugh and sing and worship, trust and love God more than all.**

## Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Rev. Barbara Macfie

### Invitation To The Offertory

Liturgist

Let us give as people whose work is inextricably linked to God's great works of creation, redemption and empowerment.

### Offertory

*All the Way, My Savior Leads Me*

### Doxology

GTG #606

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise Him, all creatures here below;  
praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Amen.**

### Offertory Prayer

Liturgist

Almighty God, giver of every good and perfect gift, teach us to give to you all that we have, and all that we are, that we may praise you not with our words only, but with our whole lives. Amen. (<https://lifeinliturgy.wordpress.com>)

### Hymn

*Savior, Like A Shepherd Lead Us*

GTG #187

**Savior, like a shepherd lead us; much we need your tender care.  
In your pleasant pastures feed us; for our use your fold prepare.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have bought us: we are yours.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have bought us: we are yours.  
2 We are yours: in love befriend us; be the guardian of our way.  
Keep your flock: from sin defend us; seek us when we go astray.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear your children when we pray.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear your children when we pray.  
3 You have promised to receive us, poor and sinful though we be;  
you have mercy to relieve us, grace to cleanse, and power to free.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, early let us turn to you.**

**Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, early let us turn to you.  
4 Early let us seek your favor; early let us do your will.  
Blessed Lord and only Savior, with your love our spirits fill.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have loved us; love us still.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have loved us; love us still.**

**Benediction**

*Rev. Barbara Macfie*

**Postlude**

*Steve Johnson*