

BETHESDA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

9:30 a.m. Sunday 25 December 2022

Christmas Day

(2)

ENTRANCE

Announcements

*Greeting**:
Christ is born; give him glory!
Christ has come down from heaven; receive him!
Christ is now on earth; exalt him!

O you earth, sing to the Lord!

O you nations, praise him in joy,
for he has been glorified!

(Traditional Byzantine Christmas Prayer, Alt.)

*Opening Prayer: 231 "Christmas"

*Opening Hymn: 242 "Love Came Down at Christmas"

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Prayer for Illumination: 2100 *(Verse 1 only)*

"Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne"

First Lesson: Isaiah 52:7-10

Psalter: 818 Psalm 98 *(Response 2)*

Second Lesson: Hebrews 1:1-12

*Hymn of Preparation: 221 "In the Bleak Midwinter"

*Gospel Lesson: John 1:1-14

Sermon: "One"

Affirmation of Faith: 885 "A Modern Affirmation"

Joys, Concerns, Prayers

*Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession**:

Holy God, heaven and earth are met this day
in the newborn Child, Savior of the world.

We celebrate his birth,

for in him you come to be close to us,
that we might be close to you.

Especially, we give thanks

for the birth, life, death, and resurrection
of our Lord Jesus Christ

and all he means to us...

for prospects of peace in the world...

for confidence in your almighty love...

for those who generously give...

for those who graciously receive...

for the Church's nurturing us in the faith...

God of all mercy,

as you have come in Jesus Christ to be our guest,
inspire our hearts to a hospitality

that welcomes all your children in his name.

Especially we pray

for those who have not heard your good news...

for the sick and suffering...

for those who know no laughter, only tears...

for those who govern and rule...

for those enslaved by tyranny...

for prisoners of addiction or abuse...

for the Church as a refuge for the needy...

All this we pray, as we offer ourselves and our gifts
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(Presbyterian Daily Prayer, U.S.A., 20th Cent., Alt.)

(3)

The Peace: Let us offer one another signs of reconciliation & love.
The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION (Page 12ff)

Everyone is welcome

SENDING FORTH

*Closing Hymn: 246 "Joy to the World"

*Dismissal with Blessing**:

May the Christ who by his Incarnation
gathered into One things earthly and heavenly,
fill you with the sweetness of inward peace and goodwill;
and the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always.

Amen.

Go forth in peace and joy.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

***Going Forth**

*Indicates the people standing, if able and willing___

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