

Order of Worship **FEBRUARY 26, 2023**

Meditation – James 4:13-14

Come now, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit” — yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes.

Songs of Adoration – 2

Call to Worship – Psalm 103:1-14 *(Read Responsively)*

L - Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name!

C - Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits,

L - who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases,

C - who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,

L - who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

C - The LORD works righteousness and justice for all who are oppressed.

L - He made known his ways to Moses, his acts to the people of Israel.

C - The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

L - He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever.

C - He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.

L - For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;

C - as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

L - As a father shows compassion to his children, so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him.

C - For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust.

Prayer of Adoration

Confession of Sin

Eternal Light, shine into our hearts. Eternal Goodness, deliver us from evil. Eternal Power, be our support. Eternal Wisdom, scatter the darkness of our ignorance. Eternal Pity, have mercy upon us, that with all our heart and mind and soul and strength we may seek Your face and be brought by Your infinite mercy to Your holy presence, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(by Alcuin of York)

Assurance of Pardon

The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; He will rejoice with gladness; He will quiet you by His love; He will exult over you with loud singing.

(Zephaniah 3:17)

Songs of Worship – 2

Offering and Doxology

New Testament Reading – Ephesians 4:17-23

Now this I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds. They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart. They have become callous and have given themselves up to sensuality, greedy to practice every kind of impurity. But that is not the way you learned Christ!— assuming that you have heard about him and were taught in him, as the truth is in Jesus, to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds.

Reader: “The Word of the Lord”

Congregation: “Thanks Be to God”

Welcome / Announcements

Dismissal of Children to Children’s Church

Song of Preparation – 1

Sermon Text – Ecclesiastes 1:1-11

The words of the Preacher, the son of David, king in Jerusalem. ² Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity. ³ What does man gain by all the toil at which he toils under the sun? ⁴ A generation goes, and a generation comes, but the earth remains forever. ⁵ The sun rises, and the sun goes down, and hastens to the place where it rises. ⁶ The wind blows to the south and goes around to the north; around and around goes the wind, and on its circuits the wind returns. ⁷ All streams run to the sea, but the sea is not full; to the place where the streams flow, there they flow again. ⁸ All things are full of weariness; a man cannot utter it; the eye is not satisfied with seeing, nor the ear filled with hearing. ⁹ What has been is what will be, and what has been done is what will be done, and there is nothing new under the sun. ¹⁰ Is there a thing of which it is said, “See, this is new”? It has been already in the ages before us. ¹¹ There is no remembrance of former things, nor will there be any remembrance of later things yet to be among those who come after.

Sermon – “Life Under the Sun: Vanity, Weariness and Unhappiness” *(James Richters)*

The Lord’s Supper

Song of Response – 1

Benediction