

Order of Worship

DECEMBER 18, 2022

Meditation – Romans 14:19

So then let us pursue what makes for peace and for mutual upbuilding.

Songs of Adoration – 2

Call to Worship – Isaiah 52:7-10

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.” The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice; together they sing for joy; for eye to eye they see the return of the Lord to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem, for the Lord has comforted his people; he has redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Prayer of Adoration

Confession of Sin

Lord, our hearts are restless. They are deceitful and full of sin. Yet You are gracious because of Christ. Lord, we ask that our hearts find rest in You. Here are our hearts, Lord. We offer them to You, promptly and sincerely, for the sake of Your Son. Amen.

(adapted from Augustine and Calvin)

Assurance of Pardon

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the Lord’s hand double for all her sins.

(Isaiah 40:1-2)

Advent Wreath / Candle Lighting

Songs of Worship – 2

Offering and Doxology

Old Testament Reading – Ezekiel 37:24-28

My servant David shall be king over them, and they shall all have one shepherd. They shall walk in my rules and be careful to obey my statutes. They shall dwell in the land that I gave to my servant Jacob, where your fathers lived. They and their children and their children's children shall dwell there forever, and David my servant shall be their prince forever. I will make a covenant of peace with them. It shall be an everlasting covenant with them. And I will set them in their land and multiply them, and will set my sanctuary in their midst forevermore. My dwelling place shall be with them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Then the nations will know that I am the LORD who sanctifies Israel, when my sanctuary is in their midst forevermore.

Reader: "The Word of the Lord"

Congregation: "Thanks Be to God"

NCF CHOIR – "His Name is Wonderful"

Welcome / Announcements

Dismissal of Children to Children's Church

Song of Preparation – 1

Sermon Text – Matthew 5:9

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

Sermon – "The Bringers of Peace"

Song of Response – 1

Benediction