

Order of Worship **DECEMBER 25, 2022**

Meditation – Romans 5:8

But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Songs of Adoration – 2

Call to Worship – 1 John 4:8–12

Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

Prayer of Adoration

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of the saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Confession of Sin

Most merciful God, whose Son Jesus Christ was tempted in every way, yet without sin, we confess before You our own sinfulness; we have hungered after that which does not satisfy; we have compromised with evil; we have doubted Your power to protect us. Forgive us for our lack of faith; have mercy on our weakness. Restore us in such trust and love that we may walk in Your ways and delight in doing Your will. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

(a traditional Reformed confession)

Assurance of Pardon

L - Both we and our fathers have sinned. We did not consider His wondrous works or remember the abundance of His steadfast love. Yet He saved us for His name's sake, that He might make known His mighty power. Blessed be the Lord God of Israel from everlasting to everlasting! Let all the people say,

C - Amen!

(from 45th General Assembly, adapted from Psalm 106)

Songs of Worship – 2

Offering and Doxology

Old Testament Reading – Isaiah 53:3–7

He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth.

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 – John 3:16–21

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God.”

Sermon – “The Great Gift” (Elder Doc Murdoc)

The Lord’s Supper

Song of Response – 1

Benediction