

Call to Worship

Galatians 4:4-5

Minister: *When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.*

Invocation

Minister

✠Hymn of Worship

O Come, All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful, / Joyful and triumphant, / O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem! / Come and behold Him, / Born the King of angels!

O come, let us adore Him, / O come, let us adore Him, / O come, let us adore Him, / Christ the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels, / Sing in exultation, / Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above! / Glory to God, / All glory in the highest!

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, / Born this happy morning: / Jesus, to Thee be all glory given; / Word of the Father, / Now in flesh appearing!

✠Prayer of Promise

The Book of Prayer, Matthew Henry

O Lord, Your understanding is infinite. You know the exact number of the stars. You even have a name for each one of them. You are fantastic in Your design, and excel in Your achievements. Your wisdom is profound and Your strength enormous. O the depth of the wisdom and knowledge of God. (Ps. 147:4; Is. 28:29; Job 9:4; Ps. 104:24)

Leader: *All glory be to God for His grace and mercy.*

People: Amen.

Hymn of Praise

Come, Behold the Wondrous Mystery

Come, behold the wondrous mystery / In the dawning of the King; / He the theme of heaven's praises / Robed in frail humanity. / In our longing, in our darkness / Now the light of life has come; / Look to Christ, who condescended / Took on flesh to ransom us.

Come, behold the wondrous mystery / He the perfect Son of Man; / In His living, in His suffering / Never trace nor stain of sin. / See the true and better Adam / Come to save the hell-bound man; / Christ the great and sure fulfillment / Of the law; in Him we stand.

Come, behold the wondrous mystery / Christ the Lord upon the tree; / In the stead of ruined sinners / Hangs the Lamb in victory. / See the price of our redemption / See the Father's plan unfold; / Bringing many sons to glory / Grace unmeasured, love untold.

Come, behold the wondrous mystery / Slain by death the God of life; / But no grave could e'er restrain Him / Praise the Lord; He is alive! / What a foretaste of deliverance / How unwavering our hope; / Christ in power

✠Those who are able, please stand.

resurrected / As we will be when He comes.

Confession of Faith

Q.119 The Geneva Catechism, John Calvin

Leader: *In what manner then do you say we are justified by Faith?*

People: When by a sure confidence of heart, we embrace the promises of the gospel, then we obtain possession of this righteousness.

Pastoral Prayer

Minister

✠Hymn of Preparation

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

Come, Thou long expected Jesus, / Born to set Thy people free; / From our fears and sins release us, / Let us find our rest in Thee. / Israel's strength and consolation, / Hope of all the earth Thou art; / Dear Desire of every nation, / Joy of every longing heart.

Joy to those who long to see Thee / Dayspring from on high, appear. / Come, Thou promised Rod of Jesse, / Of Thy birth, we long to hear! / O'er the hills the angels singing / News, glad tidings of a birth; / "Go to Him your praises bringing / Christ the Lord has come to earth!"

Come to earth to taste our sadness, / He whose glories knew no end. / By His life He brings us gladness, / Our redeemer, Shepherd, Friend. / Leaving riches without number, / Born within a cattle stall; / This the everlasting wonder, / Christ was born the Lord of all.

Born Thy people to deliver, / Born a Child, and yet a King, / Born to reign in us forever, / Now Thy gracious kingdom bring. / By Thine own eternal Spirit Rule in all our hearts alone; / By Thine all sufficient merit, / Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

✠Sermon Scripture Reading

Minister

The Sermon

Dr. Renton Rathbun

Measuring Up

Ephesians 4:11-13

✠Hymn of Response

Doxology

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.

✠Hymn of Benediction

Go, Tell it on the Mountain

Go, tell it on the mountain. / Over the hills, and everywhere. / Go, tell it on the mountain / That Jesus Christ is born.

While shepherds kept their watching / O'er silent flocks by night, / Behold, throughout the heavens / There shown a holy light.

The shepherds feared and trembled / When, lo! Above the earth / Rang out the angel chorus / That hailed our Savior's birth.

Down in a lowly manger / Our humble Christ was born, / And God sent us
salvation / That blessed Christmas morn.

✠Benediction



Advent

*To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest;
to all who mourn and long for comfort;
to all who struggle and desire victory;
to all who sin and need a Savior;
to all who are strangers
and want fellowship;
to all who hunger
and thirst after righteousness;
and to all who will come,
this church opens wide her doors
and offers welcome in the name of the
Lord Jesus Christ.*

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Online Giving

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10:30 a.m.*