



January 5, 2025

Livestream & In-Person

10:00 a.m.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Keith L. DeVries

Click [HERE](#) to register your attendance

* GREETING ONE ANOTHER

PRELUDE

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Alexis Davidson

Leader: Arise, shine; for your light has come.

People: The glory of the Lord has risen upon us.

Leader: Come, worship the Lord of glory.

People: Proclaim God's praise among the nations.

* OPENING SONG

"Here I Am to Worship"

Hughes

Light of the World, You stepped down into darkness, Opened my eyes, let me see
Beauty that made this heart adore You, Hope of a life spent with You.

Here I am to worship, here I am to bow down, Here I am to say that You're my God
You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy, Altogether wonderful to me.

King of all days, Oh so highly exalted, Glorious in heaven above
Humbly You came to the earth You created, All for love's sake became poor.

I'll never know how much it cost to see my sins up on that cross.

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Alexis Davidson

Leader: In the light of Christ, we see the shadows of our world and of our hearts. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sins before God and one another.

Silence

All: Merciful God, you have given light to the world in Jesus Christ, but we have preferred to live in darkness. Your justice protects the weak and the distressed, yet we seek the shelter of privilege and power. Your righteousness redeems the poor and the needy, yet we seek the status of wealth and possessions. Your peace upholds the oppressed and the defenseless, yet we seek the security of weapons and retribution. Forgive us our sins, and lead us to true repentance. That we may trust you in all things; through Jesus Christ we pray, Amen.

Leader: This is the good news: Christ is the light of the world, who grants forgiveness and healing of our sins. Thanks be to God.

* RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE **"Glory Be to the Father (Gloria Patri)"**

No. 581
Glory to God

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the
Ho - ly Ghost; As it was in the be - gin - ning, is
now, and e - ver shall be, world with - out
end. A - men, A - men.

ANTHEM

"The Best of Heaven's Treasure"

German Hymn

Sanctuary Choir

arr. Elwood Coggin

The best of heaven's treasure was born in Bethlehem. He came to earth a Baby, that you and I might live!
Twas in a stable lowly that Christ the Lord was born, Jesus, Jesus, the Lord of all the earth.

From God our heavenly Father the blessed offspring came, and lay within a manger, the Son of God by name.
It was a place most humble that Jesus Christ was born. Holy, holy is He, the Lord of all.

O Child from heaven we bow before thee now. We bring gifts to Thee, they are our very own.
To Thee we now surrender, our lives we give to Thee. Jesus, Jesus, we give our all to Thee!

TIME FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

(All children are invited to the front of the church. Afterwards, they may return to their seats to participate in the remainder of worship and Communion.)

1 A - rise, your light is come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;
 2 A - rise, your light is come! Fling wide the pris - on door;
 3 A - rise, your light is come! All you in sor - row born,
 4 A - rise, your light is come! The moun - tains burst in song!

show forth the glo - ry of your God, which shines on you to - day.
 pro - claim the cap - tives' lib - er - ty, good ti - dings to the poor.
 bind up the bro - ken - heart - ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.
 Rise up like ea - gles on the wing; God's power will make us strong.

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

SERMON

The Light of God's Love

Pastor Keith L. DeVries

Lord, the light of your love is shining
In the midst of the darkness shining
Jesus, Light of the World, shine upon us
Set us free by the truth You now bring us
Shine on me, shine on me

Shine, Jesus, Shine, fill this land with the Father's glory
Blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire
Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy
Send forth Your word, Lord, and let there be light

Lord, I come to Your awesome presence
From the shadows into Your radiance
By the blood, may I enter Your brightness
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness
Shine on me, shine on me

As we gaze on Your kingly brightness
So our faces display Your likeness
Ever changing from glory to glory
Mirrored here, may our lives tell Your story
Shine on me, shine on me

COMMUNION

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Leader: Come to your new journey to be sustained by the food and drink of this holy table.

People: We come following the light of your guidance.

Leader: We come in spite of all the detours of your life.

People: We know God shows us every year, every day, an oasis of safety and rest when we are escaping from dangers all around us, and the “home by another way” which may be a new staying place or a new adventure.

Leader: Come, for there is always a table waiting.

People: We come to share what strengthens us and to receive the gifts of others.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We remember that scripture tells us that people are fed on the roads of life. There is manna in the wilderness, one innkeeper's unexpected kindness, and another's, much later, in Jericho for a Samaritan, inspiring the first warming shelter. But mostly we remember that final evening with his disciples when Jesus shared a meal with a friend, betrayer, denier, in a borrowed room, under fear's shadow, in the Passover tradition. We give thanks for bread and wine redefined as a promise to us and to all who carry the baggage of life packed for every road – both the tourism of life's joys and the paths we take through sorrow. May this holy meal call us back to your way, opening our eyes to the solidarity of love. Give us strength and courage to rest our travel-weary souls in the deep and refreshing pool of your unconditional grace. May we be ready for your next chapter of hope for all who hunger and thirst for the loaf and cup of shalom. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING OF COMMUNION

If you are worshiping via live stream, place a plate with bread or crackers and a cup with juice, wine, water, or other common beverage in your home worship space.

If you are worshiping in person, please come down the center aisle to receive the communion elements; partake and return to your seat using the side aisles. Ushers will bring communion to the seats of those who cannot come forward.

COMMUNION INTERLUDE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We thank you, O God, for welcoming us to your table. Teach us to be cooks and servers for the hungry in the world, those who are escaping tyranny, and those who just need a gift, a home, a community of belonging. Nourished at your table, we go forth to share your kindness, your wisdom, your open heart and resting place. Amen.

OFFERING AND PRAYER

OFFERTORY

“In Him Is Life” Sanctuary Choir

Clifford McCormick

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God,
and the Word was God, and the Word, the Word was God.

And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us,

And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory.

In Him is life, and the life is the light of all. In Him is life; in Him is life, and the life is the light of all.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God,
and the Word was God, and the Word, the Word was God.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: In confidence let us pray to the Lord, saying, God of Wisdom, Glorious Light, hear our prayer.

Loving God, through Christ you call us all into your covenant with Abraham and Sarah. For your church throughout the world, that it may be a faithful witness, declaring your wisdom to all authorities: God of Wisdom, Glorious Light:

People: Hear our prayer.

Pastor: The wise men came to King Herod in trust, but he betrayed their trust and perpetuated unspeakable evil. For the leaders of the government, that they reject the way of Herod and exercise their authority in truth, justice, and mercy: God of Mercy, Glorious Light,

People: Hear our prayer.

Pastor: Joseph, Mary, and Jesus fled before the wrath of Herod and became refugees in Egypt. For all those who suffer from political oppression, injustice, or war, and especially for refugees: God of Justice, Glorious Light,

People: Hear our prayer.

Pastor: Joseph dreamed of a future for his son, and obeyed your will for his family. For all families that they may live in peace according to your will, God of Peace, Glorious Light,

People: Hear our prayer.

Pastor: The Holy Family lived with neighbors, and received help from strangers. For our neighborhoods, that they may be communities of human flourishing, offering kindness to strangers, God of Harmony, Glorious Light,

People: Hear our prayer.

Pastor: Hear our prayers, Gracious God, and grant us to live as heirs of your promise; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray, saying

All: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

(If you would like to privately share a concern, thanksgiving, or request for healing, please come to the Stephen Ministry banner on the east wall of the Sanctuary immediately following the service for individual prayer with a Stephen Minister.)



1 A - wake! A - wake, and greet the new morn, for an - gels
 2 To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em - man - u -
 3 In dark - est night his com - ing shall be, when all the
 4 Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night. Though dark the



her - ald its dawn - ing. Sing out your joy, for soon he is
 el comes a - sing - ing; his hum - ble song is qui - et and
 world is de - spair - ing, as morn - ing light so qui - et and
 win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall crown you with



born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing. Come as a ba - by
 near, yet fills the earth with its ring - ing; mu - sic to heal the
 free, so warm and gen - tle and car - ing. Then shall the mute break
 light; be strong and lov - ing and fear - less. Love be our song and



weak and poor, to bring all hearts to - geth - er, he o - pens
 bro - ken soul and hymns of lov - ing - kind - ness. The thun - der
 forth in song, the lame shall leap in won - der, the weak be
 love our prayer and love our end - less sto - ry; may God fill



wide the heaven - ly door and lives now in - side us for - ev - er.
 of his an - thems rolls to shat - ter all ha - tred and vio - lence.
 raised a - bove the strong, and weap - ons be bro - ken a - sun - der.
 ev - ery day we share and bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE **“The Lord Whom We Love”**
Congregation may join hands

Kurt Kaiser

The Lord whom we love, whom we wor-ship and a-
dore, we will serve through - out this com-ing week. He it
is who binds us to- geth-er, and he it is who sends us a -
part, to be God's peo-ple, be God's peo-ple. A - men.

* POSTLUDE **“Go Tell It On the Mountain”**

arr. Mark Hayes

* Please rise in body or in spirit.

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Music Director: Keith Atwater

Organ: Heidi van Regenmorter

Piano: Gabe Bisho

Drums: Will Condrey

Guitar: Michael Schwab

Bass: Merlyn van Regenmorter

Vocalists: Anita Lawson, Laura Leek, and Julie Ueltzen



CARMICHAEL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH