

"We are rooted in God's love, united in connecting people to Jesus"

PRELUDE MUSIC

WELCOME and INVOCATION

OPENING PRAISE: "Angels from the Realms of Glory" (367)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SONG OF PRAISE: "You are My All in All" (Screens)

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CONFESSION OF SINS AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(We pause to remember our sin, but more importantly to remember God's great love and forgiveness)

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

KYRIE PRAYER (Spoken)

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

PRAYER FOR THE DAY

P: The peace of the Lord be with you.

C: And also with you!

P: Let us pray together:

C: O God, by the leading of a star and the Scriptures, You made known Your only-begotten Son, Jesus, to the Gentiles. As You led the Magi to Jesus, continue to lead others to come before You to worship in faith and love; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen!

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE (10:30)

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Our Old Testament reading is **Isaiah 60.1-6**. The prophet Isaiah highlights the themes of darkness and light. May we remember that Jesus is the light of the world that pierces the darkness and shines in it.

Our Epistle reading is **Ephesians 3.1-12**. The Apostle Paul writes about the great mystery of the Gospel and its implications for the church.

Today's Gospel is **Matthew 2.1-12**. Matthew recounts the story of the Magi visiting the boy Jesus. May we all acknowledge and bow down in faith, hope, and love to the Lord Jesus.

Please stand for the Gospel reading out of respect for the Lord Jesus

L: These are the Words of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

CONFESSION OF FAITH

APOSTLES' CREED (Screens)

SERMON HYMN: "Go Tell It on the Mountain" (388)

THE SERMON: Ephesians 3.1-12

OFFERTORY and OFFERING

PRAYERS & THE LORD'S PRAYER

AFFIRMATION OF HOPE

P: To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, in
Your holy Church forever and ever. Amen!

**C (Loudly): CHRIST HAS COME! CHRIST IS RISEN! CHRIST SHALL
COME AGAIN!**

THE BENEDICTION

C: Amen!

CLOSING HYMN: "Almighty God, Bless the Word" (923)

Pastor: We have gathered this morning to worship the Lord, to be renewed
and strengthened in God's love and the forgiveness of sins. As we go, let
us remember who we are and what we do:

**C: "We are rooted in God's love, united in connecting people to
Jesus."**

Pastor: You are dearly loved and treasured by God, planted and growing
in God's love. As God's beloved children, go in peace! Love one another!
Be a blessing! Share the faith! Serve the Lord with gladness!

C: Thanks be to God!

Service Acknowledgments

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