

THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Welcome, Announcements, and Service Notes

Prelude *Thine Is the Glory* JUDAS MACCABEUS

Call to Worship & Prayer of the Day

Hymn *From All That Dwell Below the Skies* LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Call to Confession

Corporate Prayer of Confession (unison)

Living God, we confess that our faith is sometimes weak, our love for others can be faint, our prayers are often timid, and our gratitude is frequently unconvincing. When we stand looking toward heaven, yet feel far from you, you drawn near in mercy to forgive us, and fill us with your power, through the grace of Jesus, our resurrected Savior. Amen.

(Moment for Silent Reflection)

Declaration of Forgiveness & The Peace of Christ

THE WORD OF GOD READ AND PROCLAIMED

New Testament Lesson Acts 1: 1 – 11

Special Music *Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun* DUKE STREET

New Testament Lesson Ephesians 1: 15 – 23

Sermon *Grace-full to Overflowing* Rev. Anthony L. Larson

Hymn *In the Midst of New Dimensions* NEW DIMENSIONS

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

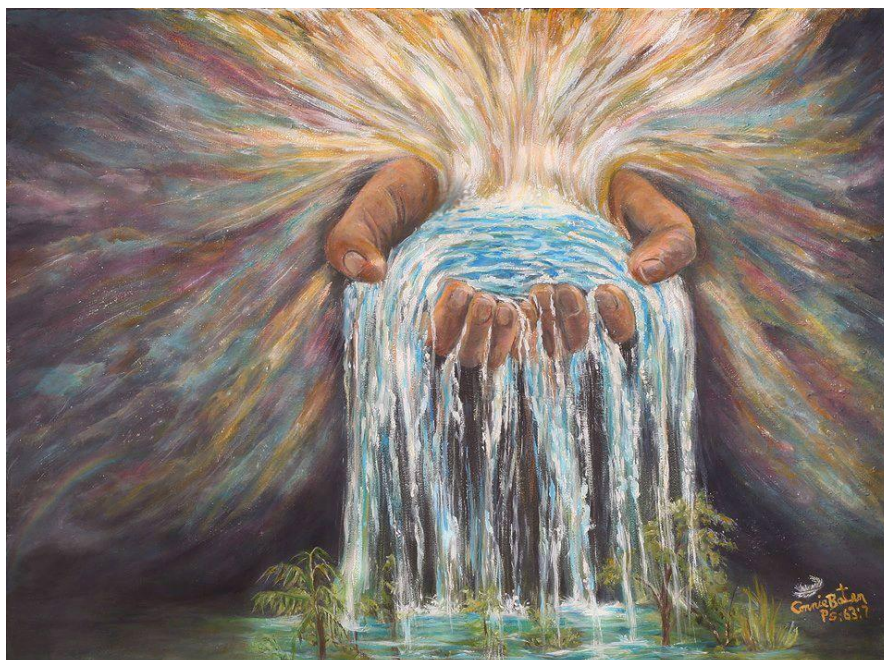
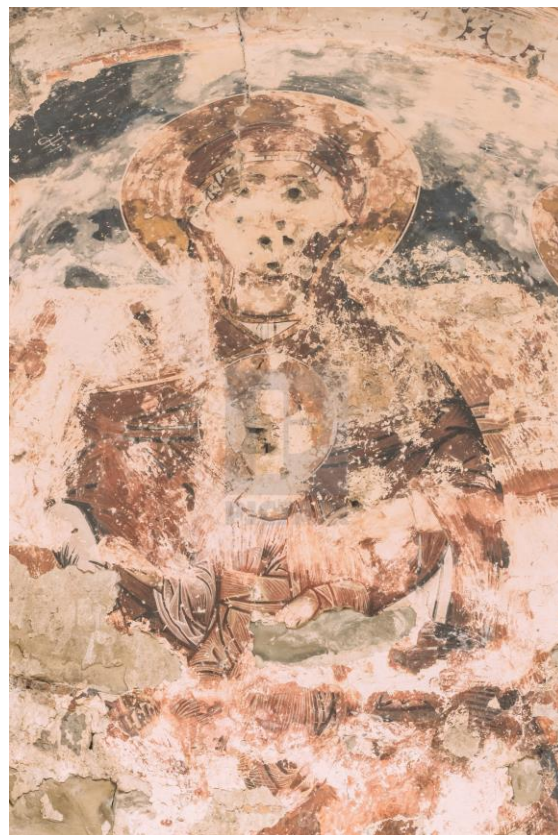
Sung Refrain: O Lord, how excellent is thy name!

SENT BY GOD'S WORD INTO THE WORLD

Hymn *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee* HYMN TO JOY

Charge & Benediction

Postlude



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(Psalm 117)

Unison

1 From all that dwell be-low the skies let the Cre-a-tor's praise a-
 2 In ev-ery land be-gin the song; to ev-ery land the strains be-
 3 E-ter-nal are thy mer-cies, Lord; e-ter-nal truth at-tends thy

Harmony *Unison*

rise: long: word: Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Let the Re-deem-er's In cheer-ful sound all Thy praise shall sound from

name be sung through ev-ery land, in ev-ery tongue.
 voic-es raise and fill the world with joy-ful praise.
 shore to shore, till suns shall rise and set no more.

Harmony

Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

Unison

Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

In the Midst of New Dimensions

1 In the midst of new di - men - sions, in the face of
 2 Through the flood of starv - ing peo - ple, war - ring fac - tions,
 3 As we stand, a world di - vid - ed by our own self -
 4 We are man and we are wom - an, all per - sua - sions,
 5 Should the threats of dire pre - dic - tions cause us to with -

chang - ing ways, who will lead the pil - grim peo - ples
 and de - spair, who will lift the ol - ive branch - es?
 seek - ing schemes, grant that we, your glob - al vil - lage,
 old and young, each a gift in your cre - a - tion,
 draw in pain, may your blaz - ing phoe - nix spir - it

Refrain

wan - dering in their sep - arate ways?
 Who will light the flame of care?
 might en - vi - sion wid - er dreams. God of rain - bow, fi - ery pil - lar,
 each a love song to be sung.
 res - ur - rect the church a - gain.

lead - ing where the ea - gles soar, we your peo - ple, ours the jour - ney

now and ev - er, now and ev - er, now and ev - er - more.

In this simultaneously created text and tune, the author/composer was seeking to incorporate imagery from both Native American and Hebrew spiritual traditions. Also included is the mythological phoenix, which had received a Christian interpretation as early as the first century.

Joy to the World

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1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let
 3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and

earth re - ceive her king; let ev - ery heart pre -
 all their songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks,
 thorns in - fest the ground; he comes to make his
 makes the na - tions prove the glo - ries of his

pare him room, and heaven and na - ture sing.
 hills, and plains re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 bless - ings flow far as the curse is found.
 righ - teous - ness and won - ders of his love.

While Isaac Watts did not write this text strictly for Christmas use, he did purposely cast his paraphrase of Psalm 98:4-9 in Christian terms, titling it "The Messiah's coming and kingdom." So "the Lord" here is Jesus Christ, rather than the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.