

OFFERING

We gather as a people of God, in the presence of God, to offer up our thanks and praise.  
Offering is one way in which we support and sustain our shared ministry.  
You may also text your gift: Text <amount> to 651-383-1504.

RLC Kids will be returning to the Worship Center at this time.  
Children are invited to bring their offering up to the front of the Worship Center.  
Everyone is invited to greet their neighbors.

✝ PRAYERS

THE LORD’S PRAYER

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 trespasses  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen

🎵 BLESSING

Christ has given us a new commandment:  
that we love one another, as Christ has loved us.  
By this, everyone will know that we are Christ’s disciples,  
if we share that love with the world.  
And through this love, all things will be made new.

Go in peace and serve the Lord  
Thanks be to God.

🎵 CLOSING HYMN      Go, My Children, with My Blessing      ELW 543

“Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone.  
Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own.  
In my love’s baptismal river  
I have made you mine forever.  
“Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own.”

“Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.  
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.  
Here you heard my dear Son’s story,  
Here you touched him, saw his glory,  
Go my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.”

“Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me.  
Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.  
Here my Spirit’s power filled you,  
Here my tender comfort stilled you.  
Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free.”

POSTLUDE

PARTICIPANTS

Pastor Rolf Olson  
Deacon Abby Matter, Director of Faith Formation  
Julie Hanson, Director of Children’s Ministry

Reader: Joe Zeigler

MUSICIANS: Katie Husby, John Helgen

VIDEO AND SOUND: Nick Clausen, Jeff Bowar, Lucas Byl

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# Christ Calls Us In Welcome

9:00 am • Sunday, January 23, 2022

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

 OPENING HYMN

Gather Us In  
vs. 1, 2, 4

ELW 532

Here in this place new light is streaming,  
Now is the darkness vanished away;  
See in this space our fears and our dreamings  
Brought here to you in the light of this day.  
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken,  
Gather us in, the blind and the lame;  
Call to us now and we shall awaken,  
We shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young, our lives are a myst'ry,  
We are the old who yearn for your face;  
We have been sung throughout all of history,  
Called to be light to the whole human race.  
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty,  
Gather us in, the proud and the strong;  
Give us a heart so meek and so lowly,  
Give us the courage to enter the song.

Not in the dark of buildings confining,  
Not in some heaven light years away;  
But here in this place the new light is shining,  
Now is the kingdom, and now is the day.  
Gather us in and hold us forever,  
Gather us in and make us your own;  
Gather us in, all peoples together,  
Fire of love in our flesh and our bone.


CALL TO WORSHIP

People of God, hear this –  
God loved the world,  
God loves the world,  
**we are the beloved!**

May the truth of this great love story,  
shine through our worship today,  
**and renew our sense of calling.**

So come, with your tiredness,  
your frustrations and your discouragements;  
come with your doubts, your fears,  
and your longings;  
**May we come, to discover yet again  
how Jesus reveals God's love and mercy.**

People of God,  
**Come, and let us worship!**

 HYMN OF PRAISE

Oh, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

ELW 886

Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,  
The glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace!

My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,  
To spread through all the earth abroad the honors of your name.

The name of Jesus charms our fears and bids our sorrows cease,  
Sings music in the sinner's ears, brings life and health and peace.

To God all glory, praise, and love be now and ever giv'n  
By saints below and saints above, the church in earth and heaven.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.

Amen

STORYTIME

*Storytime is for the entire congregation as we began our exploration of our text for the day.  
Children are invited forward for Storytime as the congregation sings:*

Halle, halle, hallelujah! Halle, halle, hallelujah!  
Halle, halle, hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

*As Storytime ends, children who are registered for RLC Kids are invited  
to leave the Worship Center for activities and education.  
Children who are not registered for RLC Kids may return to their seats.*

ANTHEM

Katie Husby, John Helgen


PREPARING FOR THE WORD

Listen, God is Calling

ELW 513

Leader: Listen,  
**All: Listen, God is calling, through the Word inviting,  
Offering forgiveness, comfort and joy.**

Leader: Jesus gave his mandate:  
**All: Share the good news**  
Leader: That he came to save us  
**All: And set us free.**

 SCRIPTURE

John 3:1-21

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

Word of God, word of life.  
**Thanks be to God.**

 MESSAGE

Pastor Rolf Olson

 HYMN OF THE DAY

Borning Cry

ELW 732

I was there to hear your borning cry, I'll be there when you are old.  
I rejoiced the day you were baptized, to see your life unfold.

I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well;  
In a blaze of light you wandered off to find where demons dwell.

When you heard the wonder of the Word, I was there to cheer you on;  
You were raised to praise the living Lord, to whom you now belong.

If you find someone to share your time and you join your hearts as one,  
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme from dusk 'till rising sun.

In the middle ages of your life, not too old, no longer young,  
I'll be there to guide you through the night, complete what I've begun.

When the evening gently closes in, and you shut your weary eyes,  
I'll be there as I have always been with just one more surprise.

I was there to hear your borning cry, I'll be there when you are old.  
I rejoiced the day you were baptized, to see your life unfold.