

NPC Celebration of Worship
Sunday— January 22, 2023

Welcome and Announcements

Passing of the Peace

Prelude

Call to Worship - (*responsively*)

One: God is where life finds its beginning.

All: God is where life finds its sustaining.

One: God is where life is nurtured.

All: So let us be nurtured in the presence of God.

One: Let us be nurtured so that we can give of ourselves for others, so that we can nurture the community, and every corner of creation that we come into contact with.

All: So be it. Let us Worship God.

† **Hymn #308** (*Glory To God Hymnal*)

O God in Whom All Life Begins

O God in whom all life begins,
who births the seed to fruit,
bestow your blessing on our lives;
here let your love find root.
Bring forth in us the Spirit's gifts
of patience, joy, and peace;
deliver us from numbing fear,
and grant our faith increase.

Unite in mutual ministry
our minds and hands and hearts
that we may have the grace to seek
the pow'r your peace imparts.
So let our varied gifts combine
to glorify your Name
that in all things by word and deed

we may your love proclaim.

Through tears and laughter, grief and joy,
enlarge our trust and care;
so bind us in community
that we may risk and dare.
Be with us when we gather here
to worship, sing, and pray,
then send us forth in pow'r and faith
to live the words we say.

A time for meditation

† Response to meditation (*hymn # 582—Glory To God Hymnal*)

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
And to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

† Prayer for Illumination (*unison*)

Eternal God, whose Word silences the shouts of the mighty, quiet within us every voice but your own. Speak to us through every avenue possible, including ones we have not even thought of before, that by the power of your Holy Spirit we may receive grace to show love in lives given to your service. Amen.

† Hymn #451 (*Glory To God Hymnal*)

Open My Eyes, That I May See

1 Open my eyes that I may see
glimpses of truth thou hast for me.

Place in my hands the wonderful key
that shall unclasp and set me free.
Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my eyes, illumine me,
Spirit divine!

2 Open my ears that I may hear
voices of truth thou sendest clear,
and while the wave notes fall on my ear,
ev'rything false will disappear.
Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my ears, illumine me,
Spirit divine!

3 Open my mouth and let me bear
gladly the warm truth ev'rywhere.
Open my heart and let me prepare
love with thy children thus to share.
Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my mouth, illumine me,
Spirit divine!

First Reading

Isaiah 9.1-4

Second Reading

Matthew 4.12-23

Third Reading

I Peter 5.5b-7

Post-Reading Rubric - *(responsively)*

One: May we approach that which is sacred through this reading and in this time.

All: Now and always, let us so do.

Sermon

What we DO believe

Rev. Dr. Matthew M. Fry

† Hymn #749 (*Glory To God Hymnal*)

Come! Live in the Light!

Come, live in the light
Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord
We are called to be light for the kingdom
To live in the freedom of the city of God

We are called to act with justice
We are called to love tenderly
We are called to serve one another
To walk humbly with God

Come, open your heart
Show your mercy to all those in fear
We are called to be hope for the hopeless
So all hatred and blindness will be no more

We are called to act with justice
We are called to love tenderly
We are called to serve one another
To walk humbly with God

Sing, sing a new song
Sing of that great day when all will be one
God will reign and we'll walk with each other
As sisters and brothers united in love.

We are called to act with justice
We are called to love tenderly
We are called to serve one another
To walk humbly with God

† Affirmation of Faith—(*in unison*)

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our LORD; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right

hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Pastoral Prayers

Silent Prayer—Corporate Prayer—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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Offering

Offertory

† Doxology

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all creatures here below!
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Praise Holy Spirit evermore!
Praise Triune God whom we adore!
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

† Prayer of Thanksgiving (*responsively*)

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We humbly ask for your life to grow in our lives, in our church, in our community, and in the world. We ask that the ways of life would be nurtured in every place. We give these gifts for that purpose. Help us to use it appropriately. Amen.

SENDING

† Hymn #765 (*Glory To God Hymnal*)

May the God of Hope Go with Us

May the God of hope go with us every day,
filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.
May the God of justice speed us on our way,
bringing light and hope to every land and race.
Praying, let us work for peace;
singing, share our joy with all;
working for a world that's new,
faithful when we hear Christ's call.

† Charge and Blessing