

NPC Celebration of Worship
Sunday— January 29, 2023

Welcome and Announcements

Passing of the Peace

Prelude

Call to Worship - (*responsively*)

One: We have all been, at times in our lives, lost.

All: We have all felt, at times in our lives, forsaken and alone.

One: So we ask that you gather us, Sacred One.

All: Gather us into community, so that we cannot feel alone.

One: Gather us into community, so that if we are lost, we can be found.

All: Gather us in, and hear our worship.

Let us worship God.

† **Hymn #401** (*Glory To God Hymnal*)

Here in This Place (Gather Us In)

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 mystery
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

Here we will take the wine and the water
Here we will take the bread of new birth
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters
Call us anew to be salt for the earth

Give us to drink the wine of compassion
Give us to eat the bread that is you
Nourish us well and teach us to fashion
Lives that are holy and hearts that are true

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, 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 bones

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*)

Fill us with your Holy Spirit, O God, so that we might be moved in this time to heights we cannot achieve on our own. Grant unto us now the ability to go beyond our limits, so that we might experience you more fully. In the name of the Son, Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

† Hymn #453 (*Glory To God Hymnal*)

Open Your Ears, O Faithful People

Open your ears, O faithful people,
open your ears and hear God's word.
Open your hearts, O royal priesthood,
God has come to you.

God has spoken to the people, Hallelujah!
God has spoken words of wisdom, Hallelujah!
God has spoken to the people, Hallelujah!
God has spoken words of wisdom, Hallelujah!

First Reading

Matthew 5.1-12

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1.18-31

Third Reading

Micah 6.6-8

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

Requirements

Rev. Dr. Matthew M. Fry

† Hymn #727 (*Glory To God Hymnal*)

Will You Let Me Be Your Servant

1 Will you let me be your servant,
let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant, too.

2 We are pilgrims on a journey,
we're together on the road;
we are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.

3 I will hold the Christ-light for you
in the nighttime of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.

4 I will weep when you are weeping;
when you laugh I'll laugh with you.
I will share your joy and sorrow
till we've seen this journey through.

5 When we sing to God in heaven,
We shall find such harmony,
Born of all we've known together
Of Christ's love and agony.

6 Will you let me be your servant,
let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant, too.

† 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.

All powerful, All loving, Holy Presence that is with and for us all, lead us to greater faithfulness, so that we would abide in Your life and Love, today and everyday. Amen.

SENDING

† Hymn #742 (*Glory To God Hymnal*)

We Will Walk with God

We will walk with God, my brothers;

We will walk with God.

We will walk with God, my sisters;

We will walk with God.

We will go rejoicing

Till the kingdom has come.

We will go rejoicing

Till the kingdom has come.

† Charge and **Blessing**