

We Come Together

Prelude... (*this is an opportunity for us to appreciate the gift of music and prepare our hearts for worship*)

Greeting

Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that the land upon which we live, work, worship and play is the unceded territory of the Wabanaki people; in this area they are they Mi'kmaq, Maliseet, and Passamaquoddy. As we celebrate the birth of Jesus, here in this Christmas season, may His Love guide us in our relationship with all Indigenous peoples.

Announcements

Call to Worship:

One: The Word became flesh and lived among us.

All: And we have seen His glory.

One: The true light that enlightens everyone,
has come into the world.

**All: Glory to God who has blessed us in Christ.
Glory to God forever!**

Opening Prayer: (*unison*)

Gracious and Loving God, Your Word has made a home with us so that we might be at home in You. This morning, at the beginning of a brand new year, we pray that You would gather us in and remind us that, in Christ, we find our source, our beginning, and our light for a new tomorrow. Hold us and lead us in this worship to that home where each of us may find hope, healing, and wholeness. Through Jesus Christ and in the Spirit, we pray. Amen.

***Hymn:** "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" **VU#48**

Personal Prayer: (MV#14 "Where Two or Three...") X 2
(Concluded as we pray together the Lord's Prayer)

Children's Learning Time

Children’s Prayer:

Dear God, thank you for all the exciting things that this new year will hold. For family and friends, for learning and growth, for chances to be bold. We don’t know where this year will lead, but this we know is true: That Your love is with us wherever we go, in all that we say and do. Amen.

***Hymn:** “Joy is Now in Every Place”

VU#45

We Listen to the Word

Prayer for Illumination:

Reader: Cathy

Loving God, in the reading of your Word today allow us to hear with new hearts. We want to be unraveled and transformed by the truth tucked in-between these sentences. We want to be opened by the hope in these holy pages. We want to be amazed. So, as we read today, open us to Your Word as never before. We are listening, and we are grateful. Amen.

Scripture Lessons: Jeremiah 31: 7-14, John 1: 1-18

Response:

One: This is the Word of God,

All: **light for our living, guiding us home. Amen.**

Sermon “Home for All”

Anthem “I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day” *Cathy & France*

Prayers of the People

We Respond to the Word

Invitation to the Offering:

There are many things we choose in our lives. We choose what kind of car we want, where we want to live, the career path we prefer. We choose decaf or caffeinated, am or pm, today or tomorrow. We choose to read the book or see the movie, we choose dogs or cats, and we choose where we want to give our time, our energy, and our money. So today we are invited to choose this place, this community, this family of faith as we serve our God through the sharing of our gifts.

Offertory Prayer: (*unison*)

Jesus, Your goodness to us is beyond the reaches of our imagination, a fullness of love that embraces all life. From You we have received grace upon grace. Accept our offering for the sake of our community and the world. All that we have is Yours, and all that we return to You is but a reflection of the love You have for us. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

***Hymn:** "Go, Tell It on the Mountain" **VU#43**

***Benediction:**

May the love of Christ that shines in you shine brightly in the world wherever you go. And may the blessing of God our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer be with you and remain with you this day and forevermore. Amen.

***Choral Benediction** May God's Sheltering Wings **MV#214**

Postlude

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Screen operators for the coming weeks:

Jan 1 Tracy **Jan 8** Elizabeth **Jan 15** Erik

Ushers for the coming weeks:

Jan. 1 Sue R. & John B. **Jan. 8** Howard & John B.

Jan. 15 Bill S. & John B

This Week's Events

Tuesday	10:00am	Craft Group	Church Hall
Wednesday	1:00pm	Writers Circle	Boardroom

Holiday Office Hours – Office closed on Jan. 2nd.

Food donations - We are collecting non-perishable food items for the Alimentaire Peter McKee food bank.

Grocery Gift Cards - are available! Please contact the office to purchase. Thank you for supporting this important fundraiser.