



Faith

Community Church

January 3, 2021

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*GOD'S GREETING

*CALL TO WORSHIP

May the light of God's love push back the darkness.

We come to the light from the four corners of the earth, from the north, from the south, from the east, and from the west.

We come from many nations and many cultures.

But we are all one in Jesus Christ.

We come seeking the light that guides us to life.

But we are all one in Jesus Christ.

Let us lift up our many voices and praise the God of all people.

*OPENING SONGS - "Love Has Come"

Love has come, a light in the darkness!
Love explodes in the Bethlehem skies.
See, all heaven has come to proclaim it.
Hear how their song of joy arises:
Love! Love! Born unto you, a Savior!
Love! Love! Glory to God on high!

Love has come, He never will leave us!
Love is life everlasting and free.
Love is Jesus within and among us.
Love is the peace our hearts are seeking.
Love! Love! Love is the gift of Christmas.
Love! Love! Praise to You, God on high!

"Here I Am To Worship"

Light of the world
You stepped down into darkness
Opened my eyes, let me see
Beauty that made this heart adore You
Hope of a life spent with You
Here I am to worship
Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You're my God
You're altogether lovely
Altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me

King of all days
Oh so highly exalted
Glorious in heaven above
Humbly You came to the earth You created
All for love's sake became poor
Here I am to worship
Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You're my God
You're altogether lovely
Altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O Christ, you are the light of the world. Shine into the dark places and expose the sins of greed, oppression, hate and violence. Fill us with love, joy, peace, patience, and a willingness to forgive.

O Christ, you are the light of the world. We pray for the homeless, the refugees, the expelled and forgotten people everywhere. Strengthen us in our belief that you are a God of justice. Empower us with the determination to work for basic human rights.

O Christ, you are the light of the world. We pray for people everywhere that you would show us how we are to live together as neighbors, understanding and respecting one another. We remember before you the many places in the world where there is conflict between nations. We pray that love may determine a just solution.

O Christ, you are the light of the world. As the Risen Christ you broke the chains of death; free us from every kind of oppression. Breathe your Holy Spirit upon us. Make us a people of hope who live in lands where there is peace and justice for everyone.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

OFFERING

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

DECLARATION OF FAITH- Heidelberg Catechism Lord's Day 1

Q. What is your only comfort in life and in death?

A. That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death— to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

Q. What must you know to live and die in the joy of this comfort?

A. Three things: first, how great my sin and misery are; second, how I am set free from all my sins and misery; third, how I am to thank God for such deliverance.

*SONG OF PREPARATION- "Knowing You"

All I once held dear, built my life upon
All this world reveres, and wars to own
All I once thought gain I have counted loss
Spent and worthless now, compared to this
Knowing You, Jesus, knowing You
There is no greater thing
You're my all, You're my rest
You're my joy, my righteousness
And I love You, Lord

Now my heart's desire is to know You more
To be found in You and known as Yours
To possess by faith what I could not earn
All-surpassing gift of righteousness
Knowing You, Jesus, knowing You
There is no greater thing
You're my all, You're my rest
You're my joy, my righteousness
And I love You, Lord

Oh, to know the power of Your risen life
And to know You in Your sufferings
To become like You in Your death, my Lord
So with You to live and never die
Knowing You, Jesus, knowing You
There is no greater thing
You're my all, You're my rest
You're my joy, my righteousness
And I love You, Lord

SCRIPTURE- Romans 8: 38-39

³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹ neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

SERMON – “Together”

SONG OF RESPONSE- “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.
Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided—
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above,
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!
Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided—
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

THE LORD’S SUPPER

The Lord is risen!

He is risen indeed!

This is the Lord’s table. Come, for he is waiting.

We come in the faith that Christ is risen.

May the Lord abide in us.

And we in him.

Let us raise our hearts to the Lord our God.

That they may be filled with his presence.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again. Dying he destroyed our death, rising he restored our life. Lord Jesus, come in glory.

Let us pray.

Holy Father, give your Holy Spirit in the breaking of the bread, so that we may be drawn together, and, joined to Christ the Lord, receive new life, and remain his glad and faithful people until we feast with him in glory. And as this grain has been gathered from many fields into one loaf, and these grapes from many hills into one cup, so gather your people together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom. Amen.

COMMUNION HYMN- "What The Lord Has Done In Me"

Let the weak say, "I am strong"
Let the poor say, "I am rich"
Let the blind say, "I can see"
It's what the Lord has done in me

Into the river I will wade
There my sins are washed away
From the heaven's mercy stream
Of the Savior's love for me.
Hosanna, hosanna
To the Lamb that was slain
Hosanna, hosanna
Jesus died and rose again

I will rise from waters deep
Into the saving arms of God
I will sing salvation songs
Jesus Christ has set me free
Jesus Christ has set me free!
Hosanna, hosanna
To the Lamb that was slain
Hosanna, hosanna
Jesus died and rose again

***BENEDICTION**

***DOXOLOGY- "By The Sea Of Crystal"**

By the sea of crystal saints in glory stand
Myriads in number, drawn from every land
Robed in white apparel, washed in Jesus' blood
They now reign in heaven, with the Lamb of God.