

First Church In Pembroke

Communion Sunday

January 1, 2023

CALL TO WORSHIP:

P: Arise, My People, let us come together and worship our heavenly King on this New Year's Day.

C: We stand in unity on this New Year's morning with a deep yearning and looking up to the One who is the King of kings and Lord of lords.

P: The angels have spoken, the anthems have been sung, and the baby in the manger has become our Redeemer and friend!

C: We stand in unity on this New Year's morning with a deep yearning and looking up to the One who is the King of kings and Lord of lords.

All: We will humble ourselves and rise to the occasion of praising God in spirit and in truth. The Lord is in this place, and may the God of heaven and earth continue to live within us, and may he always watch over us today, throughout this year, and the rest of our lives.
Amen.

OPENING HYMN: #4 (Black Hymnal)
"Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee"

PRAYER OF INVOCATION:

Wonderful Savior, as we stand on the threshold of a New Year, we know not what awaits us at the end of our journey. Therefore, it is with your hope we pray this day that you will continue to hold us in your loving arms and carry us when the days may seem dark. We ask that you will be that light to guide us through. We pray for our health and the health of others; we pray for peace; we pray for joy and togetherness and for that bonding love among all people. As you unite us this day in the spirit of love, Jesus, Light of the World, the One who was born in Bethlehem, may we never let go of your loving arms. May we always focus on you, and may there always be peace in our hearts. We pray all of this in the name of Jesus. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 2:23-32

SERMON: 'The Christening of our Redeemer' (by Minister Miriam Theodore)

COMMUNION HYMN: #288 (Red Hymnal)
"Let Us Break Bread Together"

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

SHARING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING:

With grateful hearts, we praise you, O God, for your great goodness in the gift of Christ. Christ has come to us through sacred memory and fed us at this table. Strengthen us by your grace to fellowship with Christ each day. Stir us to share Christ's cross in daily sacrificial service. Amen.

OFFERTORY INVITATION: (John 1:1)

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."

PRAYER OF DEDICATION:

A TIME OF SILENT PRAYER:

PASTORAL PRAYER:

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

MUSICAL RESPONSE:

CLOSING HYMN: #130 (Red Hymnal) "Joy to the World"

BENEDICTION:

POSTLUDE:

Happy New Year!

