

Order Of Worship

First Church in Pembroke

Sunday, December 31st, 2023

PRELUDE:

MEDITATION PRAYER:

“Blessed be God who has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David; as he spoke from the mouths of his holy prophets, who have been since the ages began.” (Luke 1:69-70).

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Meet & Greet:

CALL TO WORSHIP:

P: Lo, the Christ-child made his entrance into this world; and lo, the angels have proclaimed his birth!

C: The heralds have sung their chorus, the gold, frankincense, and myrrh have been delivered, and we are now in great jubilation of our Eternal King!

P: What a great story! What a joy to behold this Bethlehem's birth that lives on through the ages!

C: The heralds have sung their chorus, the gold, frankincense, and myrrh have been delivered, and we are now in great jubilation of our Eternal King!

P: Who else could have been that ransom child sent to earth to give all of humanity a chance for salvation? Who else? But only Jesus, whose love is pure and Divine.

C: Yes, only Jesus, the One with all eternal power and the only One who can silence the strong winds and the boisterous ocean waves!

ALL: So let us look up to Jesus, let us talk to Jesus, let us thank Jesus, let us finally acknowledge Jesus and focus on his humility towards the children of men. Amen.

OPENING HYMN: #4 (Black Hymnal) “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You”

PRAYER OF INVOCATION:

He is born! Jesus the Savior is born! A holy offspring came forth and was as human as he wanted to be but was also as fully Divine as he wanted to be! Lord Jesus, shine down on us because even today, you are still extending your wide open arms to all who wish

to accept you as their Lord and Savior. We are Christians, and we have accepted that opportunity to gather in peace as we stand on the threshold of a New Year! For 2024, together we say: “We believe in our hearts and confess with our mouths that Jesus Christ is Lord and Savior of the whole world! No matter what encumbrances may come our way, we will continue to stand firm as watchmen on the wall. We stand in defiance and in all worthiness to the Word of God! We are protected, we are strong, we are hopeful, we wear the garment of his salvation this day, this New Year, and for the rest of our lives! Therefore, in the sweet name of Jesus, we are not afraid! Hallelujah, and Amen!” The mouth of the Lord has encouraged us to speak these words. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING: Isaiah 60:1-5

SERMON: 'A Poem of the Three Wise Men'
written by Rev. Miriam Theodore

HYMN: #132: (Black Hymnal) “Joy to the World”

HYMN: #122 (Black Hymnal) “Come O Long-Expected Jesus”

OFFERTORY INVITATION: (Psalm 48:1-3)

“Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised in the city of our God, and in the mountain of his holiness. Beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth, is Mount Zion, on the sides of the north, the city of the great King. God is known in her palaces for a refuge.”

PRAYER OF DEDICATION:

A TIME OF SILENT PRAYER:

PASTORAL PRAYER:

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

MUSICAL RESPONSE:

CLOSING HYMN: #144 (Black Hymnal) “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

BENEDICTION:

POSTLUDE: