

**FIRST COMMUNION SUNDAY OF THE NEW
YEAR 2024**

Sunday January 7th 2024

PRELUDE:

MEDITATION PRAYER:

“Oh, give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good; his mercy endures forever. Give thanks unto the Lord of lords; for his mercy endures forever. To him who alone does great wonders; for his mercy endures forever. To him who by wisdom made the heavens; for his mercy endures forever. To him who made Israel pass through the Red Sea. Let us give thanks, for his mercy endures forever.” (Psalm 136:1-5, 14).

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Meet & Greet:

CALL TO WORSHIP:

P: Believers of God, it is a brand-New Year so we should have no fear, because the Emmanuel Child is Lord and Savior of us all!

C: As we bask in the aftermath of last Christmas Season, we choose to pause for a while to rewind and to reflect on our dear Savior's birth.

P: Let us continue to worship The Mighty God, because the Emmanuel Child is the Father of creation, and the Father of Mankind.

C: What will 2024 mean to us? From this standpoint we have not a clue; but we are aware that God holds the future in his hands and has numbered our years, so we cling to the Savior to brighten our days.

P: Be of good courage my people! Let it be known that the God whom we serve is merciful, his grace and compassion is more than enough to shelter us all.

C: The Omnipotent One will guide us throughout the course of this year! Even when sorrows come, they won't linger near, because with his breast-plate of salvation he will continue to hold us so very near.

ALL: Blessed be the Lord who is the epitome of wisdom! He appoints every star and calls them by their individual names. Blessed be the Lord forever! Amen.

HYMN: R#204 “Rejoice, thee Lord is King”

PRAYER OF INVOCATION:

“Holy, Holy, is what the angels sing, for the heavens declare the glory of God!”

Father, on this first Sunday of the New Year 2024 we stand in faith, and we stand in unity as a church eager to continue leaning on your Word and to remain in reverence to your holy name! As there is a balm for every wound

and a cordial for every care, we turn over our lives to you and rest in your care. Casting all our cares on you and embracing you as the True Immortal and Invincible One we believe that the wheels of righteousness are forever turning and all of heaven is rejoicing!

We welcome your presence among us! We pray that through-out this New Year, that you will be the potter and may we be humbled enough to be the clay. Mold us, and fashion us to be completely yours, today, and forever, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING : Matthew 2:19-23

SERMON: 'Arise, and Saddle Up! Because today is Moving Day!'
(by Rev. Miriam Theodore)

HYMN: #288 “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. Through sacred memory, Christ has come to us 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: 1 Corinthians 7:17,23)

“But as God has distributed to every man, as the Lord has called everyone, so let him walk. And so ordain I in all the churches. You are bought with a price; be not ye the servants of men.”

PRAYER OF DEDICATION:

A TIME OF SILENT PRAYER:

PASTORAL PRAYER:

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

MUSICAL RESPONSE:

HYMN: R#116 “Angels We Have Heard on High”

BENEDICTION:

POSTLUDE: