

THE COMMUNITY OF FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1400 Highland Pike, Covington, Kentucky, 41011

(859) 331-3238

THE ORDER OF SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

December 20, 2009

11:00am

THE PRELUDE

Preparation for worship

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Before we begin, we review the "news of the day".

MINUTE FOR OUTREACH

Because mission is always on our mind.

+CALL TO WORSHIP

Everybody! It's time to begin,

after Luke 1:46-49

L- With the mother of Jesus, let our souls too, magnify the Lord! And let our spirits together rejoice in God our Savior,

P- Who has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servants. Who has blessed the generations; who has done great things for me—for us; whose name is holy!

LIGHTING FOUR ADVENT CANDLES

+HYMN STF 2095 Star-Child

Praise to the One we have gathered to worship.

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

In preparation for the hearing of God's Word and exposition of it, we confess our sins as the people of God, the body of Christ.

God of grace and truth in Jesus Christ you come to us as light shining in darkness, as silence in the midst of clamor, as promise in the mists of uncertainty. We confess to the times we prefer darkness, clamor, and mist. We confess to the times we ignore your presence and believe ourselves concealed from your glory and your judgment. We confess to embracing nonsense while ignoring the Word. We confess to seeking temporal certainty by denying divine mystery. To forgive us for all of that, and for the ways it is manifested, is no small request. Still, you are our God in Christ Jesus, who calls our repentant hearts.

SILENT PERSONAL CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

L- To be in Christ is to see the world wide eyed and with courage in the belief that no matter what happens to us, to be in Christ is to be safe—to be in Christ is to stand while the world shouts run. To be in Christ is to weep for the uninvited, amid all of the laughter at the feast. To be in Christ is to be always and newly created forever.

P- The past is finished and gone.

L- Everything is new.

P- Thanks be to you, O God!

+PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The forgiven people of God may move about the sanctuary offering and receiving the peace of Jesus Christ.

ANTHEM There is Room in My Heart for My Lord Zanerelli

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Help us to hear and to understand the meaning of this and each day. Help us to emerge from this place, this sanctuary, full of joy and-- in our hearts-- walking, and leaping, and praising God.

THE LESSON FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT I Samuel 2:1-10

THE LESSON FROM THE GOSPEL Luke 1:39-55

THE SERMON Two Women Donald H. Smith
Contemporary exposition of the Word of God

THE SERVICE OF GIVING

This is the time when we bring our sacrifice before the Lord.

Signing the Friendship Register Prayer of Dedication Offertory

+DOXOLOGY

JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

What is on our minds and hearts this morning?

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

This prayer is informed by our Joys and Concerns, but not exclusively.

+HYMN STF 2091 The King of Glory Comes

+THE CHARGE

A challenge placed before the people of God. A reminder that we are not to leave what we have heard and done here this morning, but to take it with us into the world.

+THE BENEDICTION

The blessing of God, for you...

+ THE POSTLUDE

A time of thoughtfulness, meditation and quiet

+ All who are able may stand