



know • be known • make known

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9:00 service + January 7, 2018

 KNOW  BE KNOWN  MAKE KNOWN

# Order of Worship

Liturgist is Eric Schmidt

Themes and keywords: joy, fellowship, union

## Prelude

Prelude in F Major

J. S. Bach

STANDING (IF ABLE)

## God calls us to worship

from Psalm 95:1-2, 7

Liturgist: Oh come, let us sing to the Lord,

**All: *Let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!***

Liturgist: Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving.

**All: *Let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!***

Liturgist: For he is our God,

**All: *and we are the people of his pasture,  
and the sheep of his hand.***

## We praise God

**Praise to the Lord, the Almighty**  
Hymnal #8

Text: Joachim Neander 1680

Tune: Anonymous 1665

## We pray for God to help us worship

Pastor: Christ is risen!

**All: *He is risen indeed!***

***He died for us that we might live for him.***

## We greet one another with the peace of Christ

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## God calls us to confess our sin

from John 14:6; 1 John 1:6, 9

Liturgist: Jesus said, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life.

No one comes to the Father except through me."

If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness,  
we lie and do not practice the truth.

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just

to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

# We confess our sin

**All (sing):** Trisagion (below); sing 3 times

Liturgist: Our Father, you sent your Son to dwell among us in the flesh and to give us the fullness of life and love forever in union with you and your people.

**All:** *But we treat your presence as trivial and common.*

*We are content to follow you at a distance  
or to run away where we think you cannot see.*

*We often seek life from mere created things,  
things that cannot save*

*or give us the deep joy we crave.*

*And we seek life alone,*

*content to withdraw from your people*

*and from our place and purpose in your family.*

*Lord, have mercy on us.*

(silent prayers of confession)

Liturgist: Father of all joy, help us see that promises of abundant life without you are empty. Forgive us for abusing your gifts and for seeking life and love in all the wrong ways and places. Draw us near to you and to one another by your Spirit, so that we will run to you and find refuge in your family and, together in your presence, find fullness of glory and joy forevermore.

**All (sing):** Trisagion (below); sing 1 time

## Trisagion

Text: Traditional Greek prayer

Tune: Fernando Ortega 2011

Ho - - ly God, Ho - ly Migh - ty One,  
Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy, have mer - cy on us.

STANDING (IF ABLE)

## God declares our forgiveness

from John 3:16; 1:14, 16

Liturgist: God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth, and from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.

For all who have turned from sin in sorrow and look to God for mercy, this is God's gift. In Jesus Christ, God loves you, God forgives you, God accepts you, and God rejoices over you as beloved daughters and sons.

**All:** *Hallelujah, Amen!*

## We praise God

**Immortal, Invisible**  
Hymnal #25

Text: Walter C. Smith 1867  
Tune: Traditional, c. 1800

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### The Glory of the Father

Music: Evil Hovland

Chancel Choir  
Nancy Mayo, keyboardist

The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.  
We beheld the glory of the Father, full of grace and truth.

In the beginning was the Word. The Word was with God.  
In him was life; and the life was the light for all.  
He came to his own, and his own received him not.

The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.  
We beheld the glory of the Father, full of grace and truth.

## God instructs us in scripture reading

1 John 1:1-4  
(pew Bible p. 1021)

## God instructs us in preaching

“Real Jesus for Real Connection”  
Rev. Dr. Clay Smith

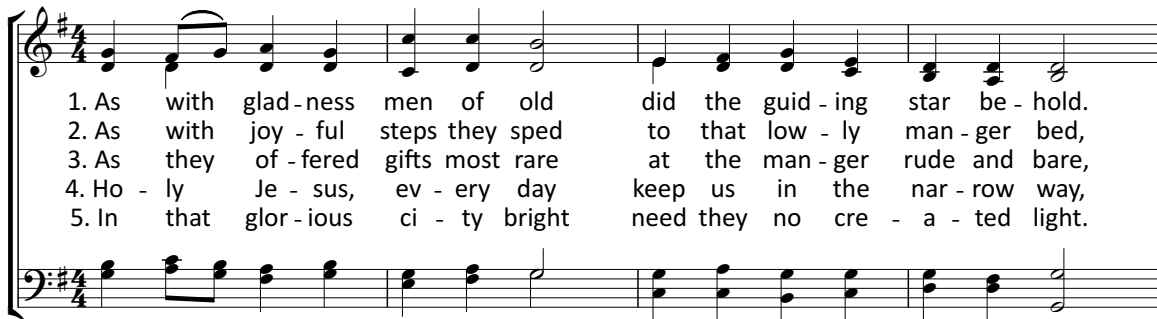
# We offer ourselves in gifts and song

*Prior to singing, we will take a moment of silence to reflect and pray.*

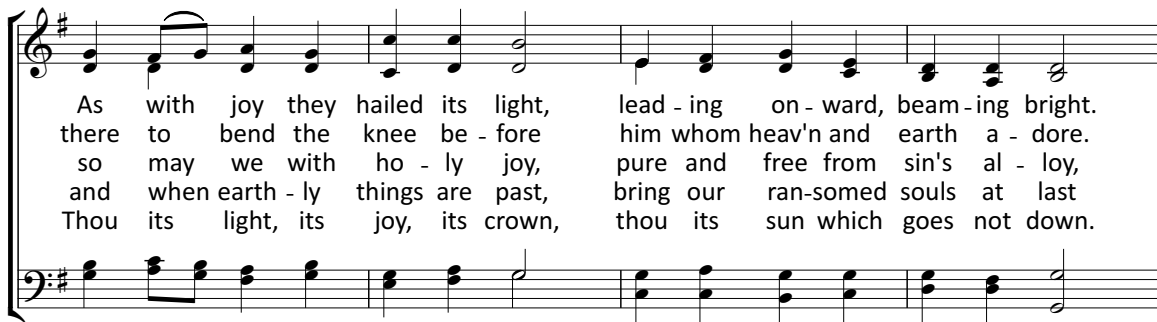
## As with Gladness Men of Old

Text: William C. Dix 1858

Tune: Conrad Kocher 1838



1. As with glad-ness men of old did the guid-ing star be-hold.  
2. As with joy-ful steps they sped to that low-ly man-ger bed,  
3. As they of-fered gifts most rare at the man-ger rude and bare,  
4. Ho-ly Je-sus, ev-ery day keep us in the nar-row way,  
5. In that glor-ious ci-tty bright need they no cre-a-a-ted light.



As with joy they hailed its light, lead-ing on-ward, beam-ing bright.  
there to bend the knee be-fore him whom heav'n and earth a-dore.  
so may we with ho-ly joy, pure and free from sin's al-loy,  
and when earth-ly things are past, bring our ran-somed souls at last  
Thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down.



So, most gra-cious Lord, may we ev-er-more be led to thee.  
So, may we with will-ing feet ev-er seek the mer-cy seat.  
all our cost-liest trea-sures bring, Christ, to thee our heav'n-ly King.  
where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glo-ry hide.  
There for-ev-er may we sing al-le-lu-ias to our King!

STANDING (IF ABLE)

## We pray for the church and the world

Liturgist: (prayers for the church and the world)

**All:** *Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.  
Amen.*

SEATED

## God feeds us at his table

Central Presbyterian welcomes all Christians who actively trust in Jesus Christ for salvation, who are willing to forsake their sin, and who are members of congregations that proclaim the gospel to receive Holy Communion with us. If you are not ready to receive communion, you may simply pass the elements by. We also urge you to meditate on one of the prayers below.

**Bread:** The bread is gluten-free.

**Eating and drinking:** Please eat and drink as you receive the bread and the cup when you are ready. We will not hold the elements and wait to eat until all have been served.

**Prayer for those searching:** Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Help me to be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open me to the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent and convincing and that leads to the life you promise. Amen.

**Prayer of new belief:** Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever dared believe, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt on the cross, taking what I deserved in order to offer me complete forgiveness. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and Lord. Amen.

**Music for Communion:** In Christ Alone (page 6)

# We praise God

## In Christ Alone

Text and tune: Keith Getty and Stuart Townend 2001  
© 2001 Kingsway Thankyou Music



1. In Christ a - lone my hope is found, He is my light, my strength, my song.
2. In Christ a - lone, who took on flesh, full - ness of God in help - less babe.
3. There in the ground His bod - y lay, light of the world by dark - ness slain.
4. No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the pow'r of Christ in me.



This cor - ner - stone, this sol - id ground, firm through the fier - est drought and storm.  
This gift of love and right - eous - ness scorned by the ones He came to save.  
Then burst - ing forth in glor - ious day, up from the grave He rose a - gain.  
From life's first cry to fi - nal breath, Je - sus com - mands my des - tin - y.



What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when stri - vings cease.  
'Til on that cross as Je - sus died, the wrath of God was sat - is - fied,  
And as He stands in vic - tor - y, sin's curse has lost its grip on me.  
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man, can ev - er pluck me from His hand.



My Com - for - ter, my all in all, here in the love of Christ I stand.  
for ev - ery sin on Him was laid, here in the death of Christ I live.  
For I am His and He is mine, bought with the pre - cious blood of Christ.  
'Til He re - turns or calls me home here in the pow'r of Christ I stand.

# God blesses us and sends us out

Pastor: And all God's people said...

All: *Hallelujah! Amen.*

## Doxology

Text: Thomas Ken 1709

Tune: Louis Bourgeois, *Genevan Psalter*, 1551

Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise Him, all crea - tures here be - low;  
Praise Him a - bove, ye heavn' - ly hosts; Praise Fa - ther, Son, and  
Ho - ly Ghost. A - men, A - men, A - - - men.

## Postlude

## Fugue in C Major

J. S. Bach

Sermon discussion questions are available in paper copies at the Hanley Road entrance, on the table outside the Choir Room, and online at [www.centralpres.com](http://www.centralpres.com) at the "Sunday @ Central" page.

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