

Sunday, January 7th, 2024,
We Gather to Celebrate God's Presence

Welcome

Family Life and Work

Family Celebrations

Acknowledging the Land

Introit: Behold, Behold, I Make All Things New

MV 115

Behold, behold, I make all things new
beginning with you and starting from today
Behold, behold, I make all things new,
my promise is true for I am Christ the way.

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Call to Worship (based on Psalm 29)

One: Ascribe to God glory and strength! Worship the Lord in the splendour
of His glory!

All: God's voice is powerful! God's voice is filled with majesty!

One: the Lord sits enthroned, our eternal monarch!

**All: Let the Lord give strength to all people! May the Lord bless all
people with peace!**

Opening Hymn:

Sing Praise to God, Who Has Shaped

VU 221 vs 1,2,4

Sing praise to God, who has shaped and sustains
all creation!

Sing praise, my soul, in profound and
complete adoration!

Gladsome rejoice -
organ and trumpet and voice -
joining God's great congregation.

Praise God, our guardian, who lovingly offers correction,
who, as on eagle's wings, saves us from sinful dejection.

Have you observed,
how we are always preserved
by God's parental affection?

Sing praise, my soul, the great name of your high
God commending.

All that have life and breath join you,
their notes sweetly blending.

God is your light!
Soul, ever keep this in sight:
amen, amen never ending.

Prayer of Approach: (unison)

God of grace and glory, you call us with your voice of flame to be your people, faithful and courageous. As your beloved Son embraced his mission in the waters of baptism, inspire us with the fire of your Spirit to join in his transforming work. We ask this in the name of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever. And now, in His words, we say together,

The Lord's Prayer (unison)

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 trespasses

As we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation
But deliver us from evil
For thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

We Listen

First Lesson : Acts 19 : 1-7

Children's Time: "All things New"

Second Lesson: Mark 1: 4 - 11

Gradual Hymn: River

MV 3

"River, rush-a-down to the ocean blue,
River, from a mountain high.
River, as you do what rivers do,
River, draw the Spirit nigh.

Spirit, come-a-down to the riverside,
Spirit, spark of wondrous thought.
Spirit, I am free for you to guide,
Spirit, pray that I be taught!

Water, let me drink of your healing pow'r,
Water, strength and life you give.
Water, as I travel with each hour,
Water, help my body live.

River, flow-a-down where you ran before,
River, source of clearer view.
River, as I walk your rocky shore,
River, see my journey through.
See my journey through..."

Sermon: "Power for Good"

We Respond

Musical Offering: Down to the River to Pray
"USA Traditional, with origin unknown"

Offertory - Tis the Gift to Be Simple

VU 353

'Tis the gift to be simple, 'tis the gift to be free,
'tis the gift to come down where you ought to be,
and when we find ourselves in the place just right,
'twill be in the valley of love and delight.

When true simplicity is gained,
to bow and to bend we shan't be ashamed;
to turn, turn will be our delight
'til by turning, turning, we come round right.

Offertory Prayer

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Closing Hymn: O Love, How Deep

VU 348 vs 1,3,4,7

O love, how deep, how broad, how high!
It fills the heart with ecstasy,
that God, in Jesus Christ, should take
our mortal form for mortals' sake.

For us he was baptized, and bore
a holy fast, and hungered sore;
for us temptations sharply knew;
for us the tempter overthrew.

For us he prayed, for us he taught,
for us great daily works were wrought,

by words and signs, and actions, thus
still seeking not himself, but us.

To God whose boundless love has won
salvation for us through the Son,
to God all praise and glory be
both now and through eternity.

Blessings and Sending Forth

Choral Benediction: May the God of Hope Go with Us

VU 424

May the God of hope go with us every day,
filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.
May the God of justice speed us on our way,
bringing light and hope to every land and race.

Praying, let us work for peace,
singing, share our joy with all,
working for a world that's new,
faithful when we hear Christ's call.

May the God of healing free the earth from fear,
freeing us for peace, both treasured and pursued.
May the God of love keep our commitment clear
to a world restored, to human life renewed. R