



### **\*Call to Confession**

Leader: God has made a covenant with us and with our ancestors: to be a light to the nations, to bring freedom to captives, and to declare new and glorious things! In faith, let us be bold and confess our sins, for God is gracious and always ready to forgive.

### **\*Prayer of Confession** (in unison)

**God, you show no partiality, yet we are not always as tolerant and accepting. Forgive us our intolerance; Help us to see as you see; Meet us at the water again, that we might know we belong to you and be found acceptable in your sight through Jesus our Christ.**

*A Time of Silent Prayer*

### **\*Assurance of Forgiveness**

Leader: The message has been passed down by prophets and priests: everyone who believes in Christ receives forgiveness in his name. We believe; Lord help our unbelief. Wherever any are on their journey, they are redeemed, forgiven, and loved. This is good news!

**All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God.**

### **\*Response of Praise**-all to sing "Gloria Patri" No. 579

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
World without end. Amen. Amen.*

### **Ordination and Installation of Deacons and Elders**

**Anthem** *Christmas Sanctus* Lee Dengler  
Lyrics, Susan Naus Dengler

*See the weary pair, nestled in a stable bare,  
gazing at their baby boy, filled with love and praise.  
Earth and heaven sing, worshipping the new-born King,  
who has come to change the world. Join in songs of praise.*

*Holy, holy, holy is the blessed one.  
Heav'n and earth are filled with your glory.  
Holy, holy, holy is the promised Son.  
Glory be to God in the highest!*

*See the shepherds run, searching for God's precious Son;  
kneeling at his manger bed, filled with love and praise.  
Ev'ry knee will bow, ev'ry tongue confessing now,  
Jesus Christ is Lord of all. Join in songs of praise.*

*Holy, holy, holy is the blessed one.  
Heav'n and earth are filled with your glory.  
Holy, holy, holy is the promised Son.  
Glory be to God in the highest!  
Holy, holy, holy is the lord.*

## **LISTENING FOR THE WORD**

### **Prayer for Illumination**

**Old Testament Reading** [Isaiah 42:1-9](#) (NRSV)

**Hymn** (seated) "Jesus Loves Me" No. 304

*Jesus loves me! This I know. For the Bible tells me so;  
Little ones to Him belong; They are weak, but He is strong.  
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.*

### **Children's Message**

*(Children may be dismissed to Sunday School)*

**Music For Meditation** "Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling"

## **PROCLAIMING THE WORD**

### **Prayer for Illumination**

**New Testament Reading** [Matthew 3:13-17](#) (NRSV)

**Sermon** "*Out of the Water*"  
The Rev. M. Rex Espiritu

## **RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

**Prayers of the People...The Lord's Prayer** ('debts' and debtors')

## **BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD**

**\*Sending Hymn** "[God Is Here!](#)" (Verses 1 and 4) No. 461

**\*Charge and Benediction**

**\*Postlude**

*From Heaven Above*

Johann Pachelbel  
(1653-1706)

**\*Indicates that those who are able may stand.**

**Lectionary readings for January 15, 2023**

Isaiah 49:1-7; Psalm 40:1-11  
I Corinthians 1:1-9; John 1:29-42