Participants:

Message: Tom

Prayer: Mark

Song Leaders/Liturgists: Mark, Bernadette, Nel

Piano: Pearl

Guitar: Mark

Drums: Luke

**THE WAY WE DO THINGS AROUND HERE (CHRISTMAS VERSION)**

**OUR WORSHIP BEGINS**

**Welcome (**Nel**)**

**Song: Angels from the Realm of Glory, LU 81: 1, 4**

**Angels, from the realms of glory,**

**wing your flight o’er all the earth;**

**you, who sang creation’s story,**

**now proclaim Messiah’s birth:**

**Refrain**

**come and worship, come and worship,**

**worship Christ, the newborn King!**

**Though an infant now we view him,**

**he will share his Father’s throne,**

**gather all the nations to him;**

**every knee shall then bow down:**

**Refrain**

**come and worship, come and worship,**

**worship Christ, the newborn King!**

**Call to Worship:** (led by Bernadette)

One: Bend your knees!

**All: Bow your heads!**

One: The Lord, great and merciful, is coming!

**All: The Lord, great and merciful, is here!**

One: Open your hearts to God.

**All: Open your arms to God's embrace.**

One: For the Messiah calls you by name

and claims you as his own**.**

**All: Lord of all, who came as a servant.**

**Infant lowly, who was glorified by God.**

**Blessed Redeemer, who reigns as Lord.**

**We worship and praise you.**

**Song Medley:**

**Infant Holy, PsH 353: 1;**

**Infant holy, infant holy,**

**For his bed a cattle stall;**

**oxen lowing, little knowing**

**Christ the child is Lord of all.**

**Swiftly winging angels singing,**

**bells are ringing, tidings bringing:**

**Christ the child is Lord of all!**

**Christ the child is Lord of all!**

**Jesus, Name Above All Names, SNC 114: 1, 2**

**Jesus, name above all names,**

**beautiful Savior, glorious Lord.**

**Emmanuel, God is with us,**

**blessed Redeemer, Living Word.**

**Praise him, Lord above all lords,**

**King above all kings, God’s only Son,**

**The Prince of Peace, who by his spirit**

**comes to live in us, Master and Friend.**

**Infant Holy, PsH 353: 2;**

**Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping**

**vigil till the morning new**

**saw the glory, heard the story,**

**Tidings of a gospel true.**

**Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow,**

**praises voicing, greet the morrow:**

**Christ the child was born for you!**

**Christ the child was born for you!**

**Emmanuel, SNC 117 (2x)**

**Emmanuel, Emmanuel,**

**his name is called Emmanuel.**

**God with us, revealed in us,**

**his name is called Emmanuel.**

**He Is Lord, LU 227: 1**

**He is Lord, he is Lord,**

**he is risen from the dead, and he is Lord!**

**Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess**

**that Jesus Christ is Lord.**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving** (Led by Tom)

One: May the God of Christmas Joy be with you**.**

**All: And also with you.**

One: Children of God, lift up your hearts**.**

**All: We lift them to the One who came to us in Bethlehem.**

One: Children of Hope, give thanks to God.

**All: We sing our songs of joy to the One who became one of us.**

**God Greets Us**

**All: Amen**

**Song: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing, LU 80: 1, 3**

**Hark! the herald angels sing,**

**“Glory to the newborn King;**

**peace on earth and mercy mild,**

**God and sinners reconciled!”**

**Joyful, all ye nations, rise;**

**join the triumph of the skies;**

**with the angelic hosts proclaim,**

**“Christ is born in Bethlehem!”**

**Refrain**

**Hark! the herald angels sing,**

**“Glory to the newborn King!”**

**Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!**

**Hail the Sun of Righteousness!**

**Light and life to all he brings,**

**risen with healing in his wings.**

**Mild, he lays his glory by,**

**born that we no more may die,**

**born to raise us from the earth,**

**born to give us second birth.**

**Refrain**

**Hark! the herald angels sing,**

**“Glory to the newborn King!”**

**WE CONFESS OUR LACK OF HUMILITY**

**Call to Reconciliation (**Led by Nel)

Before we put away the ornaments and put the tree out by the curb, before we toss the cards and wrapping paper into the recycling bin, let us confess how quickly we forget the true meaning of this holy season**:**

**Prayer for Forgiveness** (Nel )

One: How patient you are with us, Loving Creator. In humility, you became one of us. You model a life of meekness in service to others, and we are convinced life is all about power and success. Yet, rather than becoming frustrated with us,

you continue to forgive us**.**

**All: Joy of Christmas,**

**Clothe us with your love,**

**touch us with your grace,**

**fill us with that peace which longs to reside in our hearts,**

**even as we seek to continue our journey with the Child of Bethlehem,**

**Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.**

**Assurance of Pardon** (Bernadette)

One: In these moments, let God’s peace dwell in your hearts. For God gives us hope, gives us peace, and gives us new life in the forgiveness of God’s grace**.**

**WE RESPOND WITH PRAISE AND PRAYER**

**The God Who Serves** (Mark)

Though you are God,

with all the influence and status that the name implies,

you refused to pull rank,

and parade your power among us.

Instead, you chose to step down into our experience,

living among us, as one of us,

with all the struggle and suffering

that goes with being human.

More than that, you adopted the role of slave,

washing feet, serving people of no reputation or social standing,

and giving of yourself completely.

As incredible as it sounds,

you are the God who serves,

and we can respond in no other way

than to give ourselves to you in praise**.**

*-Adapted from John van de Laar*

**Song: Meekness and Majesty, LU 157: 1, 3**

**Meekness and majesty, manhood and Deity**

**in perfect harmony, the Man who is God.**

**Lord of eternity dwells in humanity,**

**kneels in humility, and washes our feet.**

**Refrain**

**Oh, what a mystery—meekness and majesty;**

**bow down and worship, for this is your God.**

**Wisdom unsearchable, God the invisible,**

**Love indestructible in frailty appears.**

**Lord of infinity, stooping so tenderly,**

**lifts our humanity to the heights of his throne.**

**Refrain**

**Oh, what a mystery—meekness and majesty;**

**bow down and worship, for this is your God.**

**Prayers of the People** (Mark-please conclude with a prayer of illumination as we read scripture and listen to Tom’s message)

**WE LISTEN TO GOD’S WORD**

**Scripture: Philippians 2:1-11 (**read by Nel)

**Imitating Christ’s Humility**

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

who, though he was in the form of God,

did not regard equality with God

as something to be exploited,

but emptied himself,

taking the form of a slave,

being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,

he humbled himself

and became obedient to the point of death—

even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him

and gave him the name

that is above every name,

so that at the name of Jesus

every knee should bend,

in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

and every tongue should confess

that Jesus Christ is Lord,

to the glory of God the Father

**Message: The Way We Do Things Around Here (Christmas Version)**

**Prayer**

**Song of response: At The Name Of Jesus, LU 220: 1, 3, 6**

**At the name of Jesus every knee shall bow,**

**every tongue confess him King of glory now;**

**’tis the Father’s pleasure we should call him Lord,**

**who from the beginning was the mighty Word.**

**Humbled for a season, to receive a name**

**from the lips of sinners, unto whom he came;**

**faithfully he bore it spotless to the last,**

**brought it back victorious when from death he passed;**

**Christians, this Lord Jesus shall return again,**

**with his Father’s glory, o’er the earth to reign;**

**for all wreaths of empire meet upon his brow,**

**and our hearts confess him King of glory now.**

**OUR SERVICE ENDS WITH BLESSING AND PRAISE**

**God Blesses Us** (Tom)

**All: Amen**

**Song: He is King of Kings, LU 222 (**Mark sing the Leader parts) Please put music on the powerpoint

Refrain

He is King of kings, he is Lord of lords,

Jesus Christ, the first and last;

no one works like him.

Oh, he is King of kings, he is Lord of lords,

Jesus Christ, the first and last;

no one works like him.

Leader: I know that my Redeemer lives.

All: No one works like him.

Leader: And by his love sweet blessing gives.

All: No one works like him.

Refrain

Oh, he is King of kings, he is Lord of lords,

Jesus Christ, the first and last;

no one works like him.

Oh, he is King of kings, he is Lord of lords,

Jesus Christ, the first and last;

no one works like him.