

WE GATHER IN THE LORD'S NAME

PRELUDE

Rachel Monroe

“God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen”

CANDLE LIGHTING

Multiple Families

Taiwan Presbyterian Church of Greater Boston

CALL TO WORSHIP

English and Nuer

Lay Pastor Matthew Long

One: God is with us!

Let our souls magnify the Lord,

All: and our spirits rejoice in God our Savior.

One: God has looked with favor upon us.

All: The Mighty One has done great things for us.

One: Holy is God's name!

All: Let us worship God.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O Lord, on this day

we sing of your steadfast love

and faithfulness to every generation.

May your Holy Spirit enlighten our hearts and minds

in remembering your covenant

revealed in the words of Scripture.

Empower us in our hearing

that we may profess you as the rock of our salvation.

In the name of Christ, we pray. **Amen.**

HYMN

Mass Choir

“Joy to the World!”

Text: Isaac Watts, 1719; Music: Attr. George Frederick Handel

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

English and Korean

Rev. SuYoung Kim

The goodness and graciousness of God
is from everlasting to everlasting.
Trusting in God's grace,
let us confess our sin.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Gracious and loving God,
your steadfast love and presence is always with us.
You are ever faithful
but we confess that we are not.
We continue to follow our own ways
instead of following you.
We treat others as strangers
instead of as people made in your image.
We hoard your resources
instead of sharing with others in need.
Forgive us, merciful God.
Restore us to a right relationship with you
through the Holy Spirit
that we may serve with joy and gladness.
We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Moment for Silent Confession

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Beloved, hear the good news!
Jesus, God-with-us, has come into the world to save us from our sins and
give us new hope. Be assured that God's grace is sufficient and we can
live a new life.
In Christ, we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God.

SHARING A SIGN OF PEACE

*Worshipers are invited to wave, put their hands to their hearts, or
towards the screen in a sign of peace given and received.*

WE SHARE THE GOOD NEWS OF THE LORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rev. Cindy Kohlmann

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 2:22-40

One: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

SERMON

“Recognizing the Holy”

HYMN

Mass Choir

“What Child Is This?”

Text: William Chatterton Dix, 1871; Music: English ballad, 16th Century

WE FOLLOW AFTER THE LORD

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Elder Patricia Carpino

As we are gathered together in the house of the Lord, let us freely offer up our supplications to God who loves and hears us.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Let us pray for the world. . . .
May we who are called to justice and peace
be instruments of your love to a world which is broken.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for those in need. . . .
Let us be moved by your Holy Spirit
to take care of the needy,
feed the hungry,
clothe the naked,
strengthen the weak
and be present with those who are suffering.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for our leaders. . . .
May those who govern
do so not by their own will
nor be swayed by the interests of others but may they be led by your
Holy Spirit.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for the Church. . . .
May we as the gathered community
be led to not only be hearers of the Word but to become an embodiment
of Jesus to your entire creation.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

O, Lord, hear the prayers of your people. May we rejoice in the coming
of your Son, Jesus, into the world.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Rev. T.J. DeMarco

I appeal to you, brothers and sisters,
to present yourselves as a living sacrifice,
holy and acceptable to God.
Let us offer our lives to the Lord.

Romans 12:1

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Merciful and gracious God,
you abound in steadfast love and faithfulness.
With gratitude, we bring our gifts to you.
Bless these gifts and bless our lives
that together we may share your mercy and grace
for the world you dearly love. **Amen.**

CHRISTMAS JOY VIDEO

THE BLESSING AND CHARGE

POSTLUDE

“Go, Tell It On the Mountain”

Heather Cooper

Participants

Rachel Monroe, Pianist

Lay Pastor Matthew Long, Sudanese Fellowship, Portland, ME

Rev. SuYoung Kim, Pastor for Children and Youth, Korean Church of Boston, Brookline, MA

Rev. Cindy Kohlmann, Resource Presbyter, Presbyteries of Boston and Northern New England

Ruling Elder Patricia Carpino, Clerk of Session, Primera Iglesia Presbiteriana Hispana de Boston, Needham, MA

Rev. T.J. DeMarco, Pastor, Woodbury Union Presbyterian Church, RI; Stated Clerk, Presbyteries of Boston and Northern New England

Organist Heather Cooper, Christ Presbyterian Church, Canton, OH

Jennifer Bastien, Music Director for the Clinton Presbyterian Church, organized and produced the Mass Choir hymns

Liturgy

Many thanks to the Rev. Dr. Byron Wade, General Presbyter, Presbytery of Western North Carolina, who prepared this liturgy to be used in conjunction with receiving the Christmas Joy offering.

***Many thanks to Benjamin Chicka, Communications Coordinator
for the Presbyteries of Boston and Northern New England,
for editing together this video!***