

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

\*Call to Worship

Leader: "Where two or three are gathered," Jesus said, "I am there."

**People: We come together to worship God, and we come together because we need each other.**

Leader: "Love one another as I have loved you," Jesus said, "Friendship is a gift given to us by God, and it compels us to reach out with care."

**People: "Come before winter," Paul said. In every season of life, with one another and for one another, we bear witness to the living presence of Christ.**

\*Hymn of Praise                      *Shine, Jesus, Shine*                      No. 431

\*Prayer of Invocation

Gracious God,  
You are always looking out for us: finding us when we wander away, waiting for us when we are stubborn, loving us when we can't love ourselves, welcoming us when the world has turned us away, comforting us when we are hurting. We forget that we should live that way, too. We forget that what everyone needs most is a hand to hold, a place to belong, a word of hope. Help us, O God, to be a light in the darkness, a voice for the powerless, grace in the midst of chaos, a reminder of your love. Give us today a sense of urgency to do your will. In Jesus's name we pray. Amen.

First Lesson    Ecclesiastes 3:1-14

Second Lesson    2 Timothy Chapter 4

\*Gloria Patri

*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.*

Sermon    Come Before Winter    Brian Sampson

Hymn of Reflection    *I Am Resolved*    Celebration Hymnal No. 566

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer:

*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.*

\*Hymn of Going Forth    *Softly and Tenderly*    Celebration Hymnal No. 479

\*Benediction

\*Benediction Response

**"Make Us One"**  
Make us one Lord, make us one  
Holy Spirit, make us one  
Let our love flow, so the world will know  
We are one in you; we are one in you.

Postlude

\*We invite you to stand if you are able.

## First Lesson

### ***Ecclesiastes 3:1-14***

**3**For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:  
<sup>2</sup>a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;  
<sup>3</sup>a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up;  
<sup>4</sup>a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance;  
<sup>5</sup>a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;  
<sup>6</sup>a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to throw away;  
<sup>7</sup>a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;  
<sup>8</sup>a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace.  
<sup>9</sup>What gain have the workers from their toil?  
<sup>10</sup>I have seen the business that God has given to everyone to be busy with.  
<sup>11</sup>He has made everything suitable for its time; moreover he has put a sense of past and future into their minds, yet they cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end.  
<sup>12</sup>I know that there is nothing better for them than to be happy and enjoy themselves as long as they live;  
<sup>13</sup>moreover, it is God's gift that all should eat and drink and take pleasure in all their toil.  
<sup>14</sup>I know that whatever God does endures forever; nothing can be added to it, nor anything taken from it; God has done this, so that all should stand in awe before him.

## Second Lesson

### ***2 Timothy Chapter 4***

**4**In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: <sup>2</sup>proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. <sup>3</sup>For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, <sup>4</sup>and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. <sup>5</sup>As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully. <sup>6</sup>As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. <sup>7</sup>I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. <sup>8</sup>From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing.  
<sup>9</sup>Do your best to come to me soon, <sup>10</sup>for Demas, in love with this present world, has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica; Crescens has gone to Galatia, Titus to Dalmatia. <sup>11</sup>Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is useful in my ministry. <sup>12</sup>I have sent Tychicus to Ephesus. <sup>13</sup>When you come, bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas, also the books, and above all the parchments. <sup>14</sup>Alexander the coppersmith did me great harm; the Lord will pay him back for his deeds. <sup>15</sup>You also must beware of him, for he strongly opposed our message.  
<sup>16</sup>At my first defense no one came to my support, but all deserted me. May it not be counted against them! <sup>17</sup>But the Lord stood by

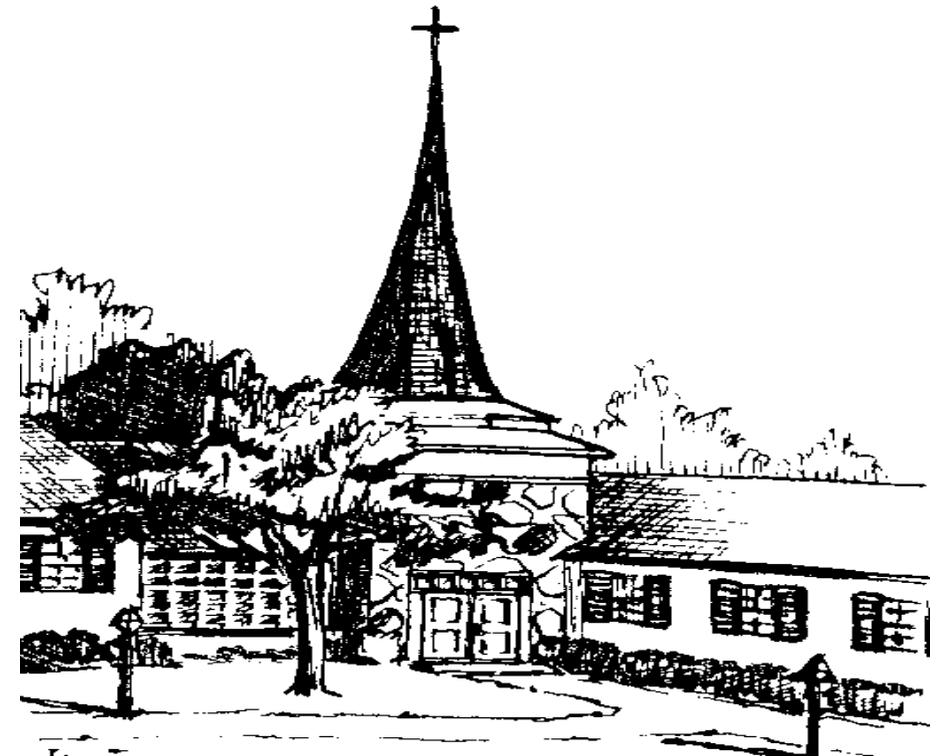
me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. <sup>18</sup>The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and save me for his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen. <sup>19</sup>Greet Prisca and Aquila, and the household of Onesiphorus. <sup>20</sup>Erastus remained in Corinth; Trophimus I left ill in Miletus. <sup>21</sup>Do your best to come before winter. Eubulus sends greetings to you, as do Pudens and Linus and Claudia and all the brothers and sisters. <sup>22</sup>The Lord be with your spirit. Grace be with you.

The Word of God for the people of God.  
All: Thanks be to God.

### Church Covenant

**We are banded together as a Christian Church to maintain the worship of God the Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer; to proclaim the gospel of Christ, to develop in ourselves and others a consciousness of our relationship and duties to God and each other; to create a spirit of love for truth, a passion for righteousness and enthusiasm for service; to respect and protect all of God's creation. To this end we pledge our loyalty to Christ and covenant with God and with each other to strive to express God's spirit in our individual and corporate life; to live together as Christians and to submit ourselves to the government of this church, working, giving, praying for its increase, purity and peace, seeking in every way to make it a power for the building up of the Kingdom of God.**

# ***WELCOME!***



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