

# ORDER OF SERVICE

Sunday, November 27, 2022 • 10:00 AM



## PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Give us, O God, a sense of your presence as we gather now for worship. Grant us gratitude as we remember your goodness, penitence as we remember our sins, and joy as we remember your love. Enable us to lift up our hearts in humble prayer and fervent praise, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

## PRELUDE

Linda Clugston, organ

## INTROIT "Here I am to Worship"

Chancel Bell Choir

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Neil Trainer

## CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 34:3-5, 8)

Catherine Baker

*One:* Glorify the LORD with me; let us exalt his name together.

*All:* **I sought the LORD, and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears.**

*One:* Those who look to him are radiant; their faces are never covered with shame.

*All:* **Taste and see that the LORD is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him.**

## HYMN #559 "We Gather Together"

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Les & Cheryl Minnig

## HYMN #2 "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Emily Mitchell

**O promised Christ: We are a world at war. Our peace depends on your coming.**

**We are a sinful people. Our pardon depends on your coming.**

**We are full of good intentions but weak at keeping promises;**

**our only hope of doing God's will is that you should come and help us do it.**

**Lord Christ, Word made flesh, our world waits for your peace, for your pardon,**

**and for your grace. Even so: come, Lord Jesus, our Emmanuel. (silence for reflection)**

## 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us;**

**and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

## ASSURANCE OF GRACE

## PASSING THE PEACE

*One:* The peace of Christ be with you.

*All:* **And also with you.**

## DOXOLOGY

## BLESSING OF CHILDREN & DISMISSAL TO SUNDAY SCHOOL

Emily Mitchell

## MISSIONAL MOMENT Vision House: Giving Tree

Donna Miller-Parker

## OFFERTORY MUSIC "Be Thou My Vision"

Chancel Bell Choir

## SCRIPTURE READING John 1:1-5, 14 (NIV)

Catherine Baker

*One:* This is the Word of the Lord.

*All:* **Thanks be to God!**

## SERMON "He Became Flesh"

Neil Trainer

## PASTORAL PRAYER

Linda Erickson

## SONG OF SENDING "I Surrender All (All to Jesus)"

## BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

Linda Clugston, organ

**Longest Night Service**

// Sunday, December 11, 7 pm

On Sunday evening, December 11, at 7 pm in the Sanctuary, we are holding a "Longest Night" service, which will be music, contemplation, and prayer. This service is open to everyone and is an acknowledgement of the darkness of this season and a recognition that not everything is merry and bright. Through prayer, readings, special music, and silence, we will bring our whole selves to God and be reminded of, and renewed in, the love and faithfulness of the God who comes near to us in Jesus and who is with us still today.

If you are interested in attending the service but would prefer not to drive at night, please reach out to [Barbara Rood](#) or [Pastor Emily](#).



*Below is a repeat from the Stories of Faith column from the Friday, September 16th email.*

**Jesus and the Crowds**

// by Emily Mitchell

As I think about Messy Church beginning at Calvin, I have been thinking about the story of Jesus feeding the five thousand people. Yes, it's an account of a miracle, and also it's a story of how Jesus relates to his core (of disciples) and to the crowds (who may or may not be disciples yet).

Jesus was tired and feeling pressured from the religious and political leaders of his day,

and even though he had hoped for a retreat with his closest followers, when the crowds of people found him, he did not send them away. Instead, he "welcomed them and spoke to them about the kingdom of God, and healed those who needed healing" (Luke 9:11). He had great compassion for them. He made demands of his disciples ("You give them something to eat!" – Luke 9:13), but we don't hear Jesus making demands of the crowds. He shares his wisdom, presence, and kindness, and then generously gives them an impromptu picnic.

As I imagine the crowds on that hillside, I sense that there are parallels with people who are living in our Shoreline neighborhood. They are people of all ages. They might be showing up with mixed motives, like wanting to experience something diverting or wanting a free meal. And Jesus loves these people. Jesus embraces them. Jesus does not withhold the feast, as if it were only reserved for people who were ready to sign on the dotted line that yes-we-are-definitely-disciples.

Since my sophomore year of high school, one of my guiding Scripture verses has been Jesus' words in Matthew 16:24, "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me." I have tried to live a disciplined and sacrificial life because I want to be counted among the core; I want to be known as a friend and follower of Jesus. Nevertheless, I think I can get so focused on the core than I neglect the crowd. Jesus

never lost sight of his mission to communicate the good news of God's love and grace to the crowd, to those who were like sheep without a shepherd, those who were spiritually wandering and unsure.

I sense that Messy Church is going to help Calvin face outwards and remember to enact Jesus' love for the crowds. I sense that Messy Church is going to help me rediscover the fun of following Jesus, the one who hosted banquets, picnics, and intimate family suppers. My prayer is that Calvin's Messy Church will be marked by joy, playfulness, creativity, fun, delight, and celebration as people of all ages in the crowds have the opportunity to gather around and meet Jesus, hear his words, receive his kindness and hospitality, and be fed by him, physically and spiritually. May it be so.



**Happy Birthday!**

- Gretchen Scheumann ....Nov. 28
- Becky Cass .....Nov. 29
- Eric Hartsfield.....Dec. 01
- Barbara Janacek .....Dec. 01
- Arden Snyder .....Dec. 03
- Greta Juengel .....Dec. 04
- Lela Jamieson .....Dec. 09



**Upcoming Events**

- Messy Church, 5:30 pm in the Activity Center..... Dec. 07
- 12-Bells at Swanson's Nursery, 4 pm .....Dec. 11
- Longest Night Service at 7 pm.....Dec. 11
- Christmas Pageant .....Dec. 18
- Christmas Eve Service...Dec. 24
- Christmas Day Service...Dec. 25