

ORDER OF SERVICE
2 January 2022
Christmas 2

GATHER			
Call to Worship			Rev Allan Smith
Hymn/Song	Joy to the world! the Lord is come	TIS 268	
Prayer of Invocation			Rev Allan Smith
Praise Time (10min)	Come, you people, come adore him	TIS 101 (Tune: TIS 509)	
Welcome & Visitors candles, Celebrations, Green Cards			Rev Allan Smith
Prayer: Adoration, Confession, Declaration of Forgiveness			Rev Allan Smith
Passing the Peace			Rev Allan Smith
Children's Talk	NA		
Song	O love how deep, how broad, how high (vv 1,2,4,7)	TIS 194 (Tune: TIS 376)	
HEAR THE WORD			
Bible Readings	Jeremiah 31:7-14; Ephesians 1:3-14; John 1:1-18		Kelepi Dakuna
Message	<i>Praise the Lord!</i>		Rev Allan Smith
Song (Optional)	Let earth and heaven combine	TIS 305	
RESPOND			
Affirmation of Faith	Nicene Creed		
Offering Dedication			Rev Allan Smith
Notices & Concerns of the Church			Rev Allan Smith
Prayers of the People			Rev Allan Smith
Communion Song	This is my body	SIS 284	
Communion	Rev Allan Smith & Elders		
Song (after Communion)	God of grace and God of glory (vv 1-3)	TIS 611	
BLESS			
Mission/Benediction			Rev Allan Smith
Benediction/Going Out Song	God of grace and God of glory (v 4)	TIS 611	

Preaching	Rev Allan Smith
Worship Introduction	Rev Allan Smith
Notices of the Church & Prayers of the People	Rev Allan Smith
Bible Reader	Kelepi Dakuna
Song Selector	Allan Smith
Piano	Joy Duffield
Backup Singers	
Additional Music	
Sound System	David Potter
Data Operator	David Potter
Power Point Producer	David Potter
Offering Collectors	-
Communion Bread	-

Blessed is the kingdom of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

CALL TO WORSHIP (*Ps. 147:12-20*)

Glorify the LORD, O Jerusalem;

Praise your God, O Zion;

who strengthened the bars of your gates,

and blessed your sons within you.

The LORD sets peace within your borders;

and fills you with the finest wheat

sends a word to the earth,

and it runs swiftly.

The LORD gives snow like wool,

scatters frost like ashes;

throws hail like bread-crumbs;

before such cold - who can stand?

The LORD sends a word and it melts,

blows a breath and the water flows.

declares a word to Jacob,

the laws and judgements of the LORD to Israel,

not having done this with any other nation,

nor made those judgements known to them.

Praise the LORD.

Let us worship God.

SONG [joy to the world! the Lord is come](#)

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

God of our hopes, Christ of our faith, Spirit in our hearts, we come to worship you with joy and gladness. Your goodness knows no limits of generation or gender, of condition or citizenship. You are kind to all, and we worship you in all sincerity; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SONG Come, you people, come adore him (*sorry no YouTube link available*)

PRAYER OF ADORATION

God of winter and spring, God of summer and fall:

You come to offer us every spiritual blessing imaginable (and those we never expect):

our loneliness joined with others into a community of wonder;

our despair transformed into hope; our death resurrected into new life.

Powerful Word of God,

by Your weakness You teach us humility;

Changeless Word, Your steadfast love fills our emptiness;

Creative Word, You take us by the hand to lead us out of our self-imposed exiles to new life in Your kingdom.

Holy Spirit,

the warmth of Your grace loosens our fear-wedged souls;

the durability of Your peace enables us to risk all on God;

the vulnerability of your compassion opens our eyes to the One who keeps us safe and brings us home.

In grief and joy, in every season of life,
we can lift our prayers to you,
God in Community, Holy in One. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, we confess that we have already stopped singing and are tired of tinsel. Christmas seems over and done with and we are already going back to the way things were.

Forgive us for not embracing the newness of life, the mystery of the Incarnation, that you have been revealed to us in a new way. Help us to live our lives anew in this New Year, remembering that you have entered our world and our hearts in a new way. Help us to live into your ways of love, justice, and peace.
In Jesus' name. Amen.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

It is a New Year, it is a new week, it is a new day. God is doing something new in you. Embrace it. Live into the newness of life in Christ, knowing that you are forgiven and every moment is a new moment.

Forgive. Love. Seek justice and peace, and share the Good News of God's love with the world, this day and every day.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

SONG [O love how deep, how broad, how high](#)

BIBLE READINGS

[Jeremiah 31:7-14](#)

[Psalm 147](#)

[Ephesians 1:3-14](#)

[John 1:1-18](#)

SERMON [Praise the Lord!](#)

SONG [Let earth and heaven combine](#)

OFFERING

Bless these gifts, offered in hope for the fulfilling of all your promises, gracious God. May they draw all your children together in peace and joy, in order that the world may be filled with Christ's love. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Generous Provider, you alone have given us everything needful for life in this world – shelter, food, clothing, sustenance, friends and family, comfort and hope. In gratitude, we beg you to use us to pass these same necessities of life along to each one we meet. Make us messengers of good news to all people.

God of Jacob, we praise your generosity. You deal wisely with the just and the unjust, providing mercy to both those who deserve it and those who need to learn what mercy can be. We pray for all people living with threats and violence in their lives; calm their fears. We pray for those who think there's no alternative to forcing their will on others; give them peace and show them a better way.

Glorious Lord God, you chose us to be your children and sealed us with your blessing at our baptism. Give us a portion of your wisdom and insight so that we may see in each of your children a sister or brother and put to an end all prejudice, hatred and fear.

Eternal Word, you know the joys and pain of humanity through your own incarnate life. We ask you to be with these children of God who need to know your presence in their lives.

This morning, we pray especially for...

From your fullness, provide grace upon grace to all who seek your name, and especially to those who do not know where to turn.

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

COMMUNION SONG [This is my body](#)

SONG [God of grace and God of glory](#)

WORD OF MISSION AND BENEDICTION

Go now, and bear witness to the light so others might believe.
Since you are chosen in Christ,
live before him in love, holy and blameless.
Live with hope in Christ, for the praise of his glory.

And may the grace...

HOLY COMMUNION: Christmas 2 Year C

It is indeed right to give you our thanks and praise, O God,
for you have freely bestowed your glorious grace on us.

In the beginning you brought all things into being
through the Word who was with you,
and destined us for adoption as your children,
making known the mysteries of your will,
through the law and prophets.

In Jesus, your Word became flesh among us,
that the fullness of your grace and truth
might enlighten the world.
Though he came to what was his own,
his own people did not accept him,
but crucified him.

You redeemed him from the strong hands of death,
and turned our grieving into joy.
So now, as those you have marked with your Holy Spirit,
we live for the praise of your glory,
our lives like a well-nourished garden
and our hearts radiant over your good gifts of bread and wine.

And so we praise you...

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

WORD OF MISSION AND BENEDICTION