



Services at MtE are now live-streamed (live broadcast) via our YouTube channel. Cameras are principally directed at the lectern and table/sanctuary but shots will sometimes be taken from the back of the building (generally during hymns and communion).

COVID-19 health measures

- Please wear a mask in the church, unless you have an exemption, have a leadership role, or need to remove it to receive communion. We will join in congregational singing in the service but masks should still be worn during the singing.
- Please observe the usual hand sanitation routines on entering and leaving the building
- Please observe the usual 1.5 meter distance between yourself and others who are not members of your family – whether seated or standing (family groups may move their seats closer together)
- Please see the relevant part of the service order regarding the distribution of the communion elements

Preparing for Worship Today

- Today's service is also being live-streamed for participation of those who can't join us physically today.
- Congregational responses are printed in *bold italics*.
- Pray for those who will be leading us in our worship today!



A SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

Prelude

The Gathering of the People of God

Introit and Entry of the Word

(We stand to sing the introit during the entry of the scriptures)

O come let us adore him,

O come let us adore him,

O come let us adore him,

Christ the Lord.

[Hymn 304]

Call to Worship

The Lord be with you!

And also with you!

Praise the LORD from the heavens;

praise him in the heights!

Praise him, all his angels;

praise him, all his host!

Kings of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the earth!

Let them praise the name of the LORD,
for his name alone is exalted;
his glory is above earth and heaven. (*Psalm 148*)

Prayer of invocation

Hymn 290 Of the Father's love begotten

1. Of the Father's love begotten
ere the worlds began to be,
he is Alpha and Omega,
he the source, the ending he,
of the things that are, that have been,
and that future years shall see
evermore and evermore.

2. O that birth for ever blessèd,
when the virgin full of grace,
by the Spirit's power conceiving,
bore the saviour of our race,
and the babe, the world's redeemer,
first revealed his sacred face
evermore and evermore.

3. This is he whom seers and sages
sang of old with one accord,
whom the voices of the prophets
promised in their faithful word;
now he shines, the long-expected:
let creation praise its Lord
evermore and evermore.

4. In the heights of heaven adore him,
angel hosts his praises sing,
all dominions bow before him
and extol our God and king;
let no tongue on earth be silent,
every voice together sing
evermore and evermore.

Words (Latin): Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, 348-c. 413
Translators: Henry Williams Baker, 1827-77 and John Mason Neale, 1818-66
Music: Petri Nylandensis, 1582
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Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ
be with you all;
and also with you.

cf 1 Timothy 1.2

With the Children

The Word Spoken: Scripture and Preaching

The Testimony of Scripture

Galatians 4.-7 *But when the fullness of time had come*

Psalms 147.12-15, 19-20 *Praise the Lord!*

Hal H. Hopson



The Word be-came flesh and lived a - mong us. —

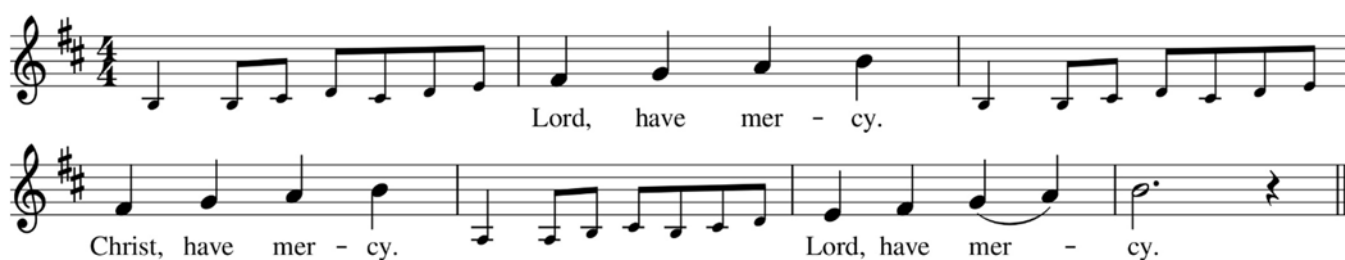
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Luke 2.22-40 *My eyes have seen your salvation*

The Preaching of the Word

*The text of the sermon will normally be
available after worship and online*

Prayer of Confession



Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Declaration of Forgiveness

...hear, then, Christ's word of grace to us:
Your sins are forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

Doxology

*Good Christians all, rejoice,
with heart and soul and voice;
now you need not fear the grave:
Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all,
to gain His everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save!
Christ was born to save!*

(Hymn 313 v.1)

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Affirmation of Faith Hymn 305 Let earth and heaven combine

1. Let earth and heaven combine,
their voices all agree,
to praise in songs divine
the incarnate deity,
our God contracted to a span,
incomprehensibly made Man.

2. Unsearchable the love
that has the Saviour brought;

3. He deigns in flesh to appear,
widest extremes to join;
to bring our vileness near
and make us all divine:
and we the life of God shall know,
for God is manifest below.

4. Made perfect first in love,
and sanctified by grace,

the grace is far above
our own or angels' thought:
enough for us that God, we know,
our God, is manifest below.

we shall from earth remove,
and see his glorious face:
then shall his love be fully showed,
and we shall then be lost in God.

*Charles Wesley alt.
Public domain*

The Visible Word: Eucharist

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

(The prayer continues...)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might, hea - ven and earth are
full of your glo - ry, ho - sa - na in the high - est. Bles - sed is he who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est! Ho - san na - in the high - est!

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory,

hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest!

Hosanna in the highest!

(The prayer continues...)



Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

(The prayer continues...)



Blessing and honour, glory and pow'r

are yours forever and ever,

are yours forever and ever.

(The prayer continues...)

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done,

on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins,

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours

now and for ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on
us, have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world: have mer - cy on us, have mer - cy on us Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world: grant us peace, grant us peace.

*Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us, have mercy on us.*

*Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us, have mercy on us.*

*Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
grant us peace, grant us peace.*

The Communion

The United Church recognises this Table as the Lord's and, so, open to all who would normally commune in their home congregations.

The Eucharist in the context of COVID-19. Given the present health crisis, the distribution of communion will be limited to one of the church's historic practices – 'under one kind', or receiving the bread only. The bread will be broken at the table after the hands of the celebrant have been sanitised, and the bread will be covered until that point.

The bread will be served to members who present themselves in a single file down the centre of the church; please maintain the usual C-19 distancing while waiting to receive. AND, please feel free to refrain

from receiving under the current circumstances, if this feels appropriate to you.

Prayers of the People

[OFFERING]

For the time-being, financial offerings will not be collected from the pews but should be made in the designated offering box as you enter the church. If you miss the opportunity, you can put it in the box after the service!)

Notices

The Sending Forth of the People of God

Hymn 268 Joy to the world

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| 1. Joy to the world! The Lord is come;
let earth receive its king;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven
and nature sing. | 2. Joy to the earth! The Saviour reigns;
let us our songs employ;
while fields and streams, rocks,
hills and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy. |
| 3. He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love. | |

*Words: Isaac Watts; music 'Antioch': Lowell Mason
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Word of Mission and Blessing

Postlude



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