

Please stand at items marked * if you are able.
 Passages in **Bold Print** are to be spoken in Unison
 Organ Prelude – Hymn and Quiet Reflection

WE GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

* Entry of the Bible

Introit

Call to Worship

* Hymn: "Songs of thankfulness and praise" #176

Opening Prayer:

God of light, who with a leading heavenly star revealed Christ to the peoples of the earth: lead our hearts now so that we, who know you by faith, may come to see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ. God of life and light, we confess that we have left you and wandered out of your light. We choose to live in the shadows by the dim lights of success and fame. We seek less to find you, less to trust you, and more to find false security in rules and religiosity. Call us back to you and make us faithful people seeking you, seeking understanding, and seeking love, compassion and justice in the world; in the name of Jesus of Bethlehem, we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Choir Anthem

WE CELEBRATE GOD'S CHILDREN

* Praise Song: "We Three Kings of Orient Are" blue song book #10

Exploring God Together

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Hymn of Preparation: #498 v. 1
"Sing them over again to me, wonderful words of life; let me more of their beauty see, wonderful words of life; words of life and beauty, teach me faith and duty. Beautiful words, wonderful words, wonderful words of life, beautiful words, wonderful words, wonderful words of life."

Upcoming Events at First

Jan 10 th	Choir Practice	7:00 pm
Jan 11 th	Crafts & Conversation	1:00 pm
Jan 12 th	Games Night	7:00 pm
Jan 13 th	Sunday Worship	11:00 am



The Fellowship Committee at First invites you to **GAMES NIGHT** on Saturday, January 12th. The fun begins at 7:00pm. Bring your family/friends, a favourite game and a snack to share. Start the New Year meeting someone new and learning how to play a new game!



Thank you, this week, to: Jan 6th

Greeters: Leila Pettigrew and Betty Irving

Lay Reader: Janet Racey

Fellowship Time: Ruth George & Cheong Lo Lee

Elevator Operator: Laird Morrison

Offering Counting: Kathleen & Richard Noy

Offering Collection:



Next week's volunteers: Jan 13th

Greeters: Leila Pettigrew and Betty Irving

Lay Reader: Patricia Creed

Fellowship Time: Bobbie & Terry Casella

Elevator Operator: Ian Kinsman

Offering Counting: Betty Ann Burn/Ruth George & Beth Workman

Offering Collection: Ruth George & Beth Workman

Envelope and PAR contributors:

If you are considering increasing your offering amounts for 2019, please contact me as soon as possible so that I can get it set up for you. Income Tax receipts will be issued in mid-Feb. Sandra Allan 577-9372

Rev. Susan will be leading a series of three church membership classes on Saturdays Jan.19, Jan. 26, and Feb. 2 at 10:00am at the church. If you are interested in becoming a church member, or would just like to join the classes for a refresher, please speak to Susan.

Bible Readings:

Matthew 2:1-12

Psalms 72:1-8

Ephesians 3:1-12

Pg. 2 NT

Pg .533 OT

Pg. 193 NT

Gloria Patri:

#594

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: "Mystery Brought to Light"

WE RESPOND TO GOD

Tithes and Offerings

*** Offertory Response:**

#379 v.1

"From heaven you came, helpless babe, entered our world, your glory veiled, not to be served but to serve, and give your life that we might live. This is our God, the Servant King, he calls us now to follow him, to bring our lives as a daily offering of worship to the Servant King."

***Prayer of Dedication:**

Gracious God, accept the offerings we bring; the gifts of our minds, the loving of our hearts, the work of our hands, and the riches we have been given in life. Bless these gifts and bless us and use all things for the building of your kingdom of light in your world. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Invitation

*** Hymn: "What child is this"**

#161

Affirmation of Faith:

“The Lord’s Supper is a joyful mystery whereby Jesus takes the bread and wine to represent his atoning sacrifice, deepening our union with himself and with each other, giving us of his life and strength. Here Christ is present in his world proclaiming salvation until he comes—a symbol of hope for a troubled age. Those who belong to Christ come gladly to his table to make a memorial of his life and death, to celebrate his presence, and together as his church offer him thanks.” (*Living Faith* 7.7.3; 7.7.5)

Remembering the meal with Jesus

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving:

The Lord be with you;

And also, with you.

Lift up your hearts;

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God;

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

In your Son Jesus Christ the Word became flesh, giving us a vision of your glory, that all people might be brought out of darkness into your marvelous light. How wonderful are your ways, almighty God. How marvelous is your name, O Holy One. You alone are God. Therefore, with apostles and prophets, and that great cloud of witnesses who live for you beyond all time and space, we lift our hearts in joyful praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power 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.

We praise you, most holy God, for sending your only Son Jesus to live among us, full of grace and truth. Sharing our joy and sorrow, he healed the sick and was a friend of sinners. Obeying you, he took up his cross and died that we might live. We praise you that he overcame death and is risen to rule the world. He is still the friend of sinners. We trust him to overcome every power that can hurt or divide us, and believe that when he comes in glory we will celebrate victory with him.

Therefore, in remembrance of your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we take this bread and this cup and give you praise and thanksgiving as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died;

Christ is risen;

Christ will come again

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, and upon this bread and wine, that we, and all who share this feast, may be one with Christ and he with us. Here we offer ourselves to be a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to you. In your mercy, accept our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Fill us with the joy of eternal life, that we may be your faithful people until we feast with you in glory.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour are yours, almighty God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

Sharing the Meal

Pastoral Prayer & Lord’s Prayer (see the back of bulletin)

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

* Hymn: “As with gladness men of old”

#172

Blessing

Response:

#726

"May the God of hope go with us every day, filling all our lives with love and joy and peace. May the God of justice speed us on our way, bringing light and hope to every land and race. Praying, let us work for peace, singing, share our joy with all, working for a world that's new, faithful when we hear Christ's call."

Postlude

(Please maintain a reverent silence and stillness during the Postlude)