



Mountain Shadows Presbyterian Church

Centered in Christ, Caring for Community

Sunday, December 30, 2018, 10:00 AM
The First Sunday in Christmastide

Gather in God's Name

*Thank you for silencing all mobile phones. * Stand as you are able. Please sign the fellowship pad, found on the chair on the center aisle. When all have signed, pass the pad back to the center.*

Prelude

Chris Tackett

Opening Prayer and Lighting of the Christ Candle

Welcome, Announcements, Introductions of Guests and Visitors

A Moment for Stewardship 2019: Live Courageously

Dave Smith

Introit

Chris Tackett

Call to Worship (responsive, based on Psalm 148:1-5)

Worship Co-Leader: Laura Carey

Praise the Lord!
Praise the Lord from the heavens;
praise God in the heights!
Praise God, all angels;
praise God, you heavenly host!
Praise the Lord, you sun and moon;
praise God, all you shining stars!
Praise the Holy One, you highest heavens,
and you waters above the heavens!
Let us all praise the name of the Lord,
who spoke, and created all things.

***Hymn #132**

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

Call to Confession (based on Isaiah 12:2)

In a spirit of love and challenge, God's word confronts us,
calling us to become kind, compassionate, patient, and just.
In response to God's Word and God's call, let us pray.

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Heavenly One, you have drawn near to us in Jesus.
Yet we wander away from you, to pursue our own aims.
You expect us to be patient with each other and forgive one another.
For the times we have fulfilled your expectations, we are thankful.
For the grudges we hold, despite your grace, we are sorry.
For the ways we neglect or disdain
people whom you have commanded us to love,
we need your mercy and forgiveness.

(Please pause to offer silent prayer.)

In Jesus Christ, you have forgiven us, O God.
May we likewise forgive those who have harmed us.
Let your Word, eternal yet newborn,
live in our hearts and permeate our minds.
May we learn from Jesus how to live faithfully and well.
By our gracious actions and words, may we humbly teach each other
the ways of patience and kindness.

Amen.

(Quiet prayer and reflection)

Sung Response for Christmastide

Tune: 145, Greensleeves

So bring hymn incense, gold, and myrrh; come, one and all, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high. His mother sings her lullaby.
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!

Words of Assurance (responsive)

God has already forgiven us for our failings and rectified our wrongdoing.
God has given us the ability to forgive, to do the right thing.
By our sincere confession, we become able, once more, to accept God's grace.
By this very grace, which Jesus was born to share with all,
we are freed to love one another and rejoice in our faith. Alleluia!

***Sung Response**

Tune: 2276

Glory to God in the highest!
Sing glory to God!
Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth!

***The Passing of Christ's Peace**

The peace of Jesus Christ be with you...**and also with you.**
You may turn to your neighbor and share a sign of Christ's peace.

Special Music

Chris Tackett

Proclaim God's Word

Epistle Reading

Colossians 3:12-17 (N.T. pg. 190; lg. print pg. 246)

Response

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

A Rule of Life (Beyond a New Year's Resolution)

Rev. Rachel Srubas

***Hymn of Affirmation #150**

As with Gladness Men of Old

Respond to God

A Moment to Thank You

Laura Carey

Invitation to Offering (based on Luke 2:41-52)

When Jesus was a boy, traveling with Mary and Joseph, they lost track of him.
After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers,
listening to them and asking them questions.
And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers.
In the manner and spirit of Jesus,
this congregation is a community of faithful listening, of learning and love.
Come, let us adore him, with our offerings of thanks and praise.

The Offertory

Chris Tackett

***Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Christ, all people here below.
Praise Holy Spirit ever more.
Praise God, triune, whom we adore! Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication (unison)**

As Jesus increased in wisdom and in years,
and in divine and human favor,
so may we, as a church, grow in fidelity to you, our God.
Use these offerings and all the gifts we give in the coming year
to foster the faith of your people and empower our ministries,
carried out in Jesus' name. Amen.

Give Thanks to God

The Sharing of Joys and Concerns

*You are invited to speak your prayer requests first on behalf of the wider world;
then for those close to you, and for yourself.*

The People's Prayer and 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.**

Go in God's Name

***Hymn #134**

Joy to the World!

***Charge and Benediction**

***Postlude**

Chris Tackett

The Worship has ended. The Service begins.