

9:00 a.m.

Early Service

January 6, 2019

Entering God's Presence

***We Are Standing on Holy Ground**

Geron Davis

*We are standing on Holy Ground,
And I know that there are angels all around;
Let us praise Jesus now.
We are standing in his presence on Holy Ground.*

***Expressing Our Joy**

*Leader: Sing to the Lord a new song.
People: Praise God from the ends of the earth!
Leader: For God reassures us: "I am the Lord your God, your Savior. You are
precious in my eyes."
People: Let us sing to the Lord a new song and declare God's praise!*

(Is. 42, 43 adapted)

*Hymn 63 (Blue Hymnal)

As with Gladness Men of Old

DIX

Invitation to Self-Examination and Confession of our Need for God's Forgiveness (unison)

Merciful God, we give you thanks, for you created us to live together in love and freedom with you, with one another, and with the world. You made us in your image and endowed us with gifts of reason, imagination, and will. We have been created in order that your goodness might be reflected in our lives, but we have fallen short of your glory. Though we live with neighbors, we have ceased to live for them. Though we live with you, we have ceased to live for you. Our hearts have been, too often, set on ourselves and not on you or others. Lord, have mercy on us and forgive our selfish ways.

Time of Silence and Personal Confession

Assurance of God's Forgiveness

Life in the Community

*Hymn 521 (Blue Hymnal)

You Satisfy the Hungry Heart

FINEST WHEAT

Zechariah 7:8-14 (NRSV) [You will find the text on page 831 in the pew Bible.]

I John 1:1-4 (NRSV) [You will find the text on page 224 in the pew Bible.]

Meditation

Respectful Kindness

The Rev. Vance E. Polley

Response to God's Grace: Dedicating Our Lives, Gifts, and Tithes

Offertory

(You are invited to bring your offering to God forward and place it on the Communion Table at the front of the sanctuary. You may come down the center aisle and return to your seat by the side aisles.)

*Song No. 219 (Green Songbook) ***We Give You Thanks*** (Sing twice)

LOCKWARD

*We give you thanks. We give you praise.
For you are kind, you are love, you are God!
We give you thanks.*

***Prayer of Dedication**

The Lord's Supper

(All who are baptized are invited to share in *The Lord's Supper*. Please come forward and have a seat on the front pew. Communion is served by intinction, taking a piece of bread and then dipping it in the cup. The wafers in the small basket are gluten-free.)

Invitation to the Lord's Table

*Leader: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up to the Lord.
Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.*

Prayer after Communion

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.

*Hymn 440 (Blue Hymnal)

In Christ There Is No East or West

MC KEE

*Blessing

*Going Out into the World

*All those who are able, please stand.