

GARDEN CITY COMMUNITY CHURCH
THE ORDER OF WORSHIP
FEBRUARY 2, 2020 – 10:30 A.M.
FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
PRESENTATION OF THE LORD
CANDLEMAS

Our Purpose: *Building a community where all are enriched through Christian Love, Service, and Spiritual Renewal.*

Our Vision: *Faithfully Reaching Out, Inclusively Drawing In.*

WE OPEN OURSELVES TO GOD'S PRESENCE THROUGH MUSIC AND SONG

QUOTATION OF THE DAY: "Faith believes the word of God for what it cannot see, and is rewarded by seeing what it believes."- Uncle Ben's Quote Book

PRELUDE

Festal Flourish

Gordon Jacob

WE APPROACH GOD WITH PRAISE AND PRAYER

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ACT OF FRIENDSHIP (please fill out the Friendship Register and pass it down)

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP (*based on Psalm 84*)

Leader: How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!

**People: My soul longs, indeed it faints for the courts of the Lord;
my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God.**

*HYMN NO. 237

How Firm a Foundation

POEM FROM THE BOOK EMBRACE BY J. JANDRA

Leader: In our deepest selves if we can enter there

People: We may discover a peace and a goodness

Leader: A forgiveness, a gentleness, and a hope

All: Christ

People: In our deepest selves we may discover a desire

Leader: A most inner desire that what we want is to do God's will

People: And that this desire is all we can really know or be sure of about our selves

Leader: Yet it is enough it is a grace

TIME FOR CONFESSION AND RECONCILIATION

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Mysterious God, we shut out the infinite dimensions and variety of who you are to cut you down to a size we think we can manage. In this limited view, creativity and spontaneity are snuffed out. Even Jesus becomes a predictable relic of the past. O God, forgive us for so distorting reality that we miss your surprises. Welcome us back to your big world of possibilities. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

A TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION AND PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

* PRAISE RESPONSE NO. 8 *From All That Dwell Below the Skies (stanza 2)*
**Eternal are thy mercies, Lord, eternal truth attends thy word! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore till suns shall rise and set no more!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

WE RESPOND WITH THANKSGIVING

OFFERING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: *And All in the Morning,* *Gerald Near*

It was on Christmas Day, And all in the morning,
Our Savior was born, And our heavenly King:
And was not this a joyful thing?
And sweet Jesus they called him by name.

It was on the Twelfth Day, And all in the morning,
The wise men were led to our heavenly King:
And was not this a joyful thing?
And sweet Jesus they called him by name.

It was on Candlemas Day, And all in the morning,
They visited the temple with our heavenly King:
And was not this a joyful thing?
And sweet Jesus they called him by name.

It was on Good Friday, And all in the morning,
They crucified our Savior and our Heavenly King:
And was not this a woeful thing?
And sweet Jesus they called him by name.

It was on Easter Day, And all in the morning,
Our Savior arose, Our own Heavenly King;
The sun and the moon They did both rise with him.
And sweet Jesus, we'll call him by name.

*DOXOLOGY (For Words See Hymn No. 44)

*PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST AND DISMISSAL TO ADVENTURE BIBLE SCHOOL (ABS)

WE LISTEN TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING *Malachi 3: 1-4*
 Luke 2: 22-42

Liturgist: *Listen to what the Spirit is saying to God's people.*

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE MESSAGE *"Do You See What I See"* Rev. Lynn Sullivan

WE GIVE THANKS AS WE SHARE IN COMMUNION WITH GOD AND EACH OTHER

*HYMN *God, Whose Almighty Word (see insert)*

INVITATION, COMMUNION PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Leader: God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them up to God.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to God Most High.

People: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Leader: It is indeed right....

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

DISTRIBUTION OF ELEMENTS

(Please come forward by way of the center aisle as ushers direct you, to receive the sacrament and return to your seat by way of the side aisles. For those who find it difficult to come forward, Deacons will come and serve you where you sit.)

COMMUNION ANTHEM

Nunc Dimittis in C

Charles Villiers Stanford

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace:
According to thy word.
For mine eyes have seen, have seen thy salvation,
Which Thou hast prepared: before the face of all people;
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, a light to lighten the Gentiles:
And to be the glory of thy people Israel.

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.

UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Prince of Peace, here we have sung your praises, here we have seen your face in the face of Jesus Christ, here we have shared in a special meal in your name. Help us go forth singing, not being afraid to praise you and to proclaim the good news of your reign. Amen.

WE SEEK HELP AND BLESSING AS WE REDEDICATE OUR LIVES TO GOD'S SERVICE

* HYMN NO. 102

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Chorale Prelude *"In Peace and Joy I Now Depart"*

J.S. Bach

WE DEPART IN PEACE AND IN THE JOY OF THE LORD

** The Congregation is asked to stand. Those who find this difficult are welcome to remain seated.
We invite anyone who would like a blessing or special prayer to speak with a minister after the worship service.*

God, Whose Almighty Word



1. God, whose al - mighty - y word Cha - os and
2. Sav - ior, you came to give Those who in
3. Spir - it of truth and love, Life - giv - ing,
4. Gra - cious and ho - ly Three, Glo - ri - ous



dark - ness heard, And took their flight:
dark - ness live Heal - ing and sight,
ho - ly dove, Speed on your flight!
Trin - i - ty, Wis - dom, love, might:



Hear us, we hum - bly pray, And where the gos - pel - day
Health to the sick in mind, Sight to the in - ward blind:
Move on the wa - ter's face Bear - ing the lamp of grace
Bound-less as o - cean's tide Roll - ing in full - est pride



Sheds not its glo - rious ray, Let there be light!
Now to all hu - man-kind Let there be light!
And, in earth's dark - est place, Let there be light!
Through the world far and wide, Let there be light!

Text: John Marriott, 1780-1825, alt.
Tune: ITALIAN HYMN, 66 4 666 4; Felice de Giardini, 1716-1796