

**Order of Service**  
**November 26, 2023**

**Welcome & announcements**

Land Acknowledgment  
Celebrations & Concerns  
Birthdays & Anniversaries  
Lighting the Christ Candle

**A Song of New Creation (*Isaiah 43.15, 16, 18, 19, 20c, 21*)**

*Minister* 'I am the Lord, your Holy One,  
the Creator of Israel, your Sovereign.'

*People* **Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea,  
a path in the mighty waters.**

*Minister* "Remember not the former things,  
nor consider the things of old.

*People* **Behold, I am doing a new thing;  
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?**

*Minister* I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert,  
to give drink to my chosen people,

*People* **the people whom I formed for myself,  
that they might declare my praise.'**

*Minister* Family of God, from whom does our help come?

*People* **Our help comes from the Lord,  
the maker of heaven and earth.** *Psalm 124:8*

**Opening prayer**

**God, whose fondness for humanity knows no limit,  
Write your word upon our hearts, so that we need  
no scroll, no book, no script to know that you love us.  
Show us the power of your covenant, that you will be  
faithful to us, even when we fail to remain faithful to you.  
For the beauty of your word inscribed upon us, we pray,  
in the name of the one whose body & blood became your  
new covenant with us, Jesus Christ, our redeemer. Amen.**

## Opening hymn: In Christ alone

1.

In Christ alone my hope is found,  
He is my light, my strength, my song;  
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground,  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
*What heights of love, what depths of peace,  
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!  
My Comforter, my All in All,  
Here in the love of Christ I stand.*

2.

In Christ alone! - who took on flesh,  
Fullness of God in helpless babe.  
This gift of love and righteousness,  
Scorned by the ones He came to save:  
*Till on that cross as Jesus died,  
The Love of God was magnified -  
For every sin on Him was laid;  
Here in the death of Christ I live.*

3.

There in the ground His body lay,  
Light of the world by darkness slain:  
Then bursting forth in glorious day  
Up from the grave He rose again!  
*And as He stands in victory  
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,  
For I am His and He is mine -  
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.*

4.

No guilt in life, no fear in death,  
This is the power of Christ in me;  
From life's first cry to final breath,  
Jesus commands my destiny.  
*No power of hell, no scheme of man,  
Can ever pluck me from His hand:  
Till He returns or calls me home,  
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.*

## Greeting Christ in All of Us - Passing the Peace

### The ministry of music

#### Children's hymn: All glory be to Christ our King

1.

Should nothing of our efforts stand  
no legacy survive  
Unless the Lord does raise the house  
In vain its builders strive  
To you who boast tomorrow's gain  
Tell me what is your life  
A mist that vanishes at dawn  
All glory be to Christ!  
*All glory be to Christ our king!*  
*All glory be to Christ!*  
*His rule & reign we'll ever sing,*  
*All glory be to Christ!*

2.

His will be done His kingdom come  
On earth as is above  
Who is Himself our daily bread  
Praise Him the Lord of love  
Let living water satisfy  
The thirsty without price  
We'll take a cup of kindness yet  
All glory be to Christ!  
*All glory be to Christ our king!*  
*All glory be to Christ!*  
*His rule & reign we'll ever sing,*  
*All glory be to Christ!*

3.

When on the day the great I Am  
the faithful & the true  
The Lamb who was for sinners slain

is making all things new  
Behold our God shall live with us  
And be our steadfast light  
And we shall ere his people be  
All glory be to Christ!  
*All glory be to Christ our king!*  
*All glory be to Christ!*  
*His rule & reign we'll ever sing,*  
*All glory be to Christ!*

### **A time for all God's children**

**The offering :**

**“In gratitude & humble trust” (tune: VU 75)**

**In gratitude and humble trust we bring our best today  
to serve your cause and share your love  
with all along life's way.  
O God, who gave yourself to us in Jesus Christ, your Son,  
teach us to give ourselves each day  
until life's work is done.**

**Dedication of the offering**

**Today's bible reading: Paul's letter to the Romans 13: 11-14**

Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armour of light. Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarrelling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

May God bless to our understanding this reading of Holy Scripture  
**Amen**

**Sermon : G.O.A.T.**

**Invitation to the Feast**

**Sung Prayer of Great Thanksgiving** (*VU 62 "Once in Royal"*)

1.

May the Lord our God be with you.

**May God also be with you.**

Let us lift our hearts and voices.

**Yes! We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give our thanks and praise

**to God almighty, Lord of Love.**

2.

We give thanks to you Creator,  
maker of the heavens and earth.

You have formed us in your image,  
breathed into us holy breath.

With your people in earth and heav'n

We lift up your holy name

3.

**Holy, Holy God of power,  
heaven and earth are full of thee  
Blessed is the one you sent; Hosanna.  
in the highest praise!**

**Holy are you, and most blessed  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit!**

*Spoken Prayer of Consecration*

4.

**In remembrance of these acts, We give  
ourselves in thanks and praise.**

**Holy living sacrifices,  
we proclaim faith's mysteries:**

**"Christ has died and Christ is living,  
his advent is our thanksgiving"**

**Holy communion**

**The Lord's Prayer**

## **Benediction**

### **Closing hymn: O sing a song of Bethlehem**

*(Tune: VU 626)*

1.

O sing a song of Bethlehem, of shepherds watching there,  
And of the news that came to them from angels in the air.  
The light that shone on Bethlehem fills all the world today;  
Of Jesus' birth and peace on earth  
the angels sing alway.

2.

O sing a song of Nazareth, of sunny days of joy;  
O sing of fragrant flowers' breath, and of the sinless Boy.  
For now the flowers of Nazareth in every heart may grow;  
Now spreads the fame of his dear name  
on all the winds that blow.

3.

O sing a song of Galilee, of lake and woods and hill,  
Of Him who walked upon the sea and bade the waves be still.  
For though like waves on Galilee, dark seas of trouble roll,  
When faith has heard the Master's Word,  
falls peace upon the soul.

4.

O sing a song of Calvary, its glory and dismay,  
Of Him who hung upon the tree, and took our sins away.  
For He who died on Calvary is risen from the grave,  
And Christ, our Lord, by Heaven adored,  
is mighty now to save.