



**Order of Worship
January 1, 2023
First Sunday after Christmas Day
10:00 AM**

*10:00 Online Worship
YouTube Channel "Harmony UMCVA"*

Welcome

Steve Evick

Prelude

In Dulci Jubilo

The prelude signals the beginning of our sacred time together. During the prelude, you are invited to prepare your heart for worship by focusing your attention upon God.

Call to Worship

Quinn Hetherington

Come and see!

**The light of God has come into our world
to proclaim God's justice and love;
It has overcome the darkness and brought new life.**

Come and follow!

**Christ our companion has redeemed our world
He draws us into a loving family
From every tribe and family and culture.**

Go and tell!

**The Spirit has equipped us for service
To love our neighbors as we do ourselves
To bring God's salvation to the ends of the earth.**

Come and see, come and follow, go and tell!

In God's Love, the nations of the earth will put their hope.

***Opening Prayer**

Quinn Hetherington

Light of Christ, awaken us this hour to the glory of your presence in our midst. Shine among us in such a way that the darkness without and within may be pushed back, such that we might truly see what is *really* real. Enable us to behold the world as you created it to be, as you created us to be. Empower us to move from darkness to light, from sin to new life. May your light within us shine through into worship this day, as all days. This we pray in the name of the Word made flesh, the light which is the light of all people. Jesus Christ. Amen.

Hymn

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

UMH 251

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Children's Message

New Year's Prayer

Sandy Bruner

We begin our new year with you,
Hoping that this year will be different and be better than last year.
Hoping we will be better persons ourselves.
Hoping our work will be improved.
Hoping our marriages will be better.
Hoping our families will be stronger.
Lord, we place our hope in you for you are the author of our lives.

We pray for our churches
that your spirit will be alive for all to experience you.
We pray for our country's leaders
that they will use wisdom in their decision making.
We pray for country that as we continue to come out of this recession
jobs will continue to become available,
foreclosures will continue to decline,
and that debt will be paid down.
We pray for our world
that relations among all your people will be better,
that strife will cease,
that those who hunger will be filled.

Holy Guide,

We have no idea what this year holds for us,
but we know who holds us.

And because it is you that holds us,
we place our faith and trust in you.

Lord help us to have our eyes open to your light, your ways,
and your presence as we go throughout this year.

We offer our prayer in the name of Jesus, who taught us to pray saying...

The Lord's Prayer

All Praying

Ministry of Music

Beautiful Star of Bethlehem

Choir

Prayer for Illumination

All Praying

Quinn Hetherington

Almighty God, you are the source of all light. You divinely separated light from darkness so that we may have the beauty of the light of day. Dear Lord, illuminate this day and enlighten us as we seek to know you through your word. We pray that we receive every word you speak to us today. Amen.

Gospel Reading

John 1:1-8 (NLT)

Quinn Hetherington

Prologue: Christ, the Eternal Word

1 In the beginning the Word already existed.

The Word was with God,
and the Word was God.

2 He existed in the beginning with God.

3 God created everything through him,
and nothing was created except through him.

4 The Word gave life to everything that was created,
and his life brought light to everyone.

5 The light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness can never extinguish it.

6 God sent a man, John the Baptist, 7 to tell about the light so that everyone might believe because of his testimony. 8 John himself was not the light; he was simply a witness to tell about the light.

Epistle Reading

Ephesians 5:6-14 (NLT)

Quinn Hetherington

6 Don't be fooled by those who try to excuse these sins, for the anger of God will fall on all who disobey him. 7 Don't participate in the things these people do. 8 For once you were full of darkness, but now you have light from the Lord. So live as people of light! 9 For this light within you produces only what is good and right and true.

10 Carefully determine what pleases the Lord. 11 Take no part in the worthless deeds of evil and darkness; instead, expose them. 12 It is shameful even to talk about the things that ungodly people do in secret. 13 But their evil intentions will be exposed when the light shines on them, 14 for the light makes everything visible. This is why it is said,

"Awake, O sleeper,
rise up from the dead,
and Christ will give you light."

Sermon

Plugged In?

Steve Evick

Affirmation of Faith

The Nicene Creed

UMH 880

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic* and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism
for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen. **universal*

Invitation to The Offering

Quinn Hetherington

“We have been called by the Light to be people of the Light. And we have been blessed to be a blessing. Let us generously offer all that we are and all that we have to further this beloved community of blessings and light. Would the ushers please come forward to receive the morning offering.”

Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

A Winter Scene

**Doxology*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below:

Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts!

Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Prayer of Dedication* (All Praying)

Quinn Hetherington

As we celebrate this New Year, we pause to listen to your call in our lives. You provide direction for our journey. You provide light for our path. Lead us now. Guide our actions not with one more resolution, but with true purpose and meaning. Out of this spirit, we dedicate unto you our tithes and offerings given for the ministry and mission of this congregation throughout the New Year. Amen.

Closing Hymn

This Is a Day of New Beginnings

UMH 383

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Benediction

Steve Evick

The Word is the light of all people. It shines in the darkness, and the darkness cannot overcome it. And, so that all might believe, we are called to testify to this light. So, go forth! Rejoice in the Love of God made manifest through the Child of God. Go forth, testify to that Love and share it with all of God's Creation, just as God shares it with each and every one of us. Go in peace.

Choral Benediction

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

Go, tell it on the mountain,

Over the hills and everywhere;

Go, tell it on the mountain,

That Jesus Christ is born.

Postlude

Masters in This Hall

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

Refrain:

*Go, tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain,
that Jesus Christ is born.*

*While shepherds kept their watching
o'er silent flocks by night,
behold throughout the heavens
there shown a holy light. (Refrain)*

*The shepherds feared and trembled,
when lo! above the earth,
rang out the angel chorus
that hailed the Savior's birth. (Refrain)*

*Down in a lowly manger
the humble Christ was born,
and God sent us salvation
that blessed Christmas morn. (Refrain)*

This Is a Day of New Beginnings

*This is a day of new beginnings,
time to remember and move on,
time to believe what love is bringing,
laying to rest the pain that's gone.*

*For by the life and death of Jesus,
God's mighty Spirit, now as then,
can make for us a world of difference,
as faith and hope are born again.*

*Then let us, with the Spirit's daring,
step from the past and leave behind
our disappointment, guilt, and grieving,
seeking new paths, and sure to find.*

*Christ is alive, and goes before us
to show and share what love can do.
This is a day of new beginnings;
our God is making all things new.*

*In faith we'll gather round the table
to taste and share what love can do.
This is a day of new beginnings;
our God is making all things new.*