



New Year's Eve Morning

Sunday Worship, Dec 31, 2023

LAKE OF BAYS PASTORAL CHARGE

Pioneer, Hillside– 10:30 a.m.

Minister: Rev Meg Jordan (705-789-6600)

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Bookkeeper/Administrator: Linda Pinkerton

Leadership Chair: Jennifer Parker

Musician, Knox: Cynthia MacLean

GATHERING

Welcome and Announcements.

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Acknowledgement of the Land

Introit: Behold, behold, I make all things new MV #115

**Behold, behold, I make all things new,
beginning with you, and starting from today.**

**Behold, behold, I make all things new,
my promise is true for I am Christ the Way.(repeat)**

Call to Worship: (Responsive)

Do not look to the evil in the world

Look to the good

Look to the good in every heart

Encourage it.

Help it grow ever stronger.

So that we may love and serve all

So that we may love and serve the world.

Service is love.

And love is God at work.

Praise God at work in the world.

Opening Hymn: I Am the Light of the World VU#87

'I am the light of the world!

You people come and follow me!"

If you follow and love you'll learn the mystery
of what you were meant to do and be.

1 When the song of the angels is stilled,
when the star in the sky is gone,
when the kings and the shepherds have found
their way home,
the work of Christmas is begun: R

2 To find the lost and lonely one,
to heal the broken soul with love,
to feed the hungry children with warmth
and good food,
to feel the earth below, the sky above! R

3 To free the prisoner from all chains,
to make the powerful care,
to rebuild the nations with strength of good will,
to see God's children everywhere! R

- 4 To bring hope to every task you do,
to dance at a baby's new birth,
to make music in an old person's heart,
and sing to the colours of the earth! R

Prayer of Approach (unison)

**Holy God,
You make our joy into laughter
and our words into song.
This is the power of love.
This is the power of your presence.
You are the giver of all life!
We worship and adore you.
Amen**

LISTENING

Reading: Luke 2: 22-40

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church
Thanks be to God.

Hymn: He is born, little Child divine VU #50a

He is born, little Child divine;
play on the reeds while the lutes are strumming.
He is born, little Child divine;
join the song to announce the day.

- 1 Through long ages of the past,
prophets have foretold his coming;
through long ages of the past,
now the time has come at last! R
- 2 O how lovely, O how pure
is this perfect child of heaven;
O how lovely, O how pure,
gracious gift to humankind! R

- 3 Lowly lodged in a stable poor,
laid on straw for his infant cradle.
Lowly lodged in a stable poor,
God came down to our mortal aid. R
- 4 Jesus, Lord of all the world,
coming as a child among us,
Jesus, Lord of all the world,
grant to us your heavenly peace. R

Sermon: The voice of the Elders

"The only way for Israeli children to sleep in peace is for Palestinian children to sleep in peace."

RESPONDING

Call for Offering

Doxology: Grant us God the grace of giving" VU#540

Grant us, God, the grace of giving,
with a spirit large and free,
that ourselves and all our living
we may offer faithfully.

Offertory/Prayer of Dedication

Labyrinth Prayers

Closing Hymn: Let Us Build a House MV #1, vs1&2, 4&5

1. Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:

Refrain: All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

2. Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek
to dream God's reign anew.

Here the cross shall stand as witness
and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus: (Refrain)

4. Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known.

Here the outcast and the stranger
bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger: (Refrain)

5. Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.

Built of tears and cries and laughter,
prayers of faith and songs of grace,
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter: (Refrain)

Commissioning

Go gladly into the world.
for the love of God is yours to share,
the peace of Christ is yours to extend,
the power of the Holy Spirit is yours to offer.
Amen

Choral Benediction: May the God of Hope Go With Us VU#424

CHRISTMAS/EPIPHANY SEASON

Dec 31 **New Year's Eve joint service Pioneer 10:30am is a unique service
focused around entering the New Year by walking/praying the path of
a Labyrinth**

Jan 7 **Epiphany Sunday**

VARIOUS STEWARDSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

1. In person and on the plate.

2. Via PAR (preauthorized remittance). Then you don't have to think about it again. Money is withdrawn monthly **3.** By e-transfer. The email address for donations via e-transfer is lobunitedchurches@gmail.com In the subject line/comment please identify to which of the Churches you wish to donate.

4. By cheque: If you send a cheque, please make it out to Lake of Bays Pastoral Charge and mail it to: LOB United Churches,

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

