

Flowers are given by **Dennis and Evelyn Crooks** in honor of our 58<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

PRELUDE

*Greensleeves*

Richard Purvis

INVITATION

\*OPENING HYMN

*Now Greet the Swiftly Changing Year*

#431

**Now greet the swiftly changing year with joy and penitence sincere;  
Rejoice, rejoice, with thanks embrace another year of grace.**

**Christ's love abundant far exceeds the volume of a whole year's needs;  
Rejoice, rejoice, with thanks embrace another year of grace.**

**With such a God to lead our way in hazard and in prosperity,  
what need we fear in earth or space in this new year of grace?**

**"All glory be to God on high and peace on earth," the angels cry;  
Rejoice, rejoice, with thanks embrace another year of grace.**

OPENING PRAYER

**We gather, O God, seeking, searching, and striving to figure out the way to be in this world we inhabit. Even with a new calendar on the wall, some things have stayed the same. The virus still invisibly hovers and hangs around us. People still find ways to push our buttons with such creativity we *almost* have to admire them. There is still that which is unresolved residing within us from 2021. For some, those lingering concerns they carry into this New Year are physical; for others, it is a mental health concern; for still others, what we wrestle with is emotional or spiritual; and for many of us there are relational issues that are like a complex mathematical equation. And yet, O God, we know You are not finished with us. Each day is a new day. Each Sunday is a new opportunity to realign our hearts to You. Each moment is being created and crafted by You. Help us adopt prayer postures that will unfurl our hearts to You. We pause for silence, stillness, and to be steeped in the sacredness of this New Year.**

*Silence*

GATHERING **YOUR** PRAYERS for 2022

HYMN

*Jesus, Jesus, Oh, Wonderful Child*

#136

**Jesus, Jesus, oh, Wonderful Child.**

**Jesus, Jesus, so holy, meek, and mild;**

**New life, new hope the Child will bring;**

**Listen to the angels sing, "Glory, glory, glory," let the heavens ring!**

ENGAGING SCRIPTURE

John 1:35-51

<sup>35</sup> The next day John again was standing with two of His disciples, <sup>36</sup> and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" <sup>37</sup> The two disciples heard him say

this, and they followed Jesus. <sup>38</sup> When Jesus turned and saw them following, He said to them, “What are you looking for?” They said to him, “Rabbi” (which translated means Teacher), “where are You staying?” <sup>39</sup> He said to them, “Come and see.” They came and saw where He was staying, and they remained with Him that day. It was about four o’clock in the afternoon. <sup>40</sup> One of the two who heard John speak and followed Him was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. <sup>41</sup> He first found his brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated Anointed). <sup>42</sup> He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, “You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas” (which is translated Peter). <sup>43</sup> The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, “Follow Me.” <sup>44</sup> Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. <sup>45</sup> Philip found Nathanael and said to him, “We have found Him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth.” <sup>46</sup> Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.” <sup>47</sup> When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward Him, he said of him, “Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!” <sup>48</sup> Nathanael asked him, “Where did You get to know me?” Jesus answered, “I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.” <sup>49</sup> Nathanael replied, “Rabbi, You are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!” <sup>50</sup> Jesus answered, “Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.” <sup>51</sup> And He said to him, “Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.”

SERMON

*New Car Smell of a New Year*

ANTHEM

*Brightest and Best*

Paul Sjolund

#### CELEBRATION of HOLY COMMUNION

One: Each time we are invited, called by name to Christ’s table, it is like the first time.

**Many: Each time we break bread together and sip the sweetness of the juice, we trust God meets us in the midst of our ordinary, everyday lives.**

One: So people of God, let us bless each. We say words that have been spoken throughout centuries and we say them with an enthusiasm.  
*May God be with you.*

**Many: And also you.**

One: Fling open your heart to God who meets you this day.

**Many: In the Spirit of the babe born in Bethlehem we come with our vulnerabilities.**

One: May we trust God enfolds and holds us; affirms and accepts us.

**Many: May our hearts hear God singing, “You are my beloved.”**

#### PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD’S PRAYER

**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.

SHARING THE GIFTS of GOD with the PEOPLE of GOD

\*CLOSING HYMN

*Sing a Different Song*

#150

**Sing a different song now Christmas is here,  
Sing a song of people knowing God's near:  
The Messiah is born in the face of our scorn,  
Sing a different song to welcome and warn.**

**Shout a different shout now Christmas is here,  
Shout a shout of joy and genuine cheer:  
Fill the earth and the sky with the news from on high,  
Shout a different shout that all may come by.**

**Love a different love now Christmas is here,  
Love without condition, love without fear:  
With the humble and poor, with the shy and unsure,  
Love a different love. Let Christ be the cure!**

**Dance a different dance now Christmas is here,  
Dance a dance of war on suffering and fear:  
Peace and justice are one, in the light of the sun.  
Dance a different dance. God's reign has begun!**

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*The Hornpipe*

G.F. Handel

Greeters: Gib and Jeannie Mitchell

Liturgist: Jane Hunder

Fellowship: Birthday Sunday