



Servant Songs

AN ADVENT SERMON SERIES



January 5, 2025

Beverly Heights United

Welcome and Greeting

Rev. Dr. Nathanael Devlin, Senior Pastor

Announcements

Amy Lucas, Administrative Assistant

THE LORD GATHERS US FOR EPIPHANY WORSHIP

Prelude

Prepare the Way, O Zion
Jinna Park, Accompanist and Organist

Lau

*The first note of the prelude marks the beginning of worship. Please use this brief period of time for prayer and preparation while keeping conversation at a low volume and to a minimum. **Please refrain from clapping unless led to do so.***

Invitation to Worship

Leader: Come, let us worship the LORD!

People: **We renew the covenant and worship Him.**

Prayer of Invocation

Opening Hymn of Praise **No. 30**

vv. 1-4

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

Old Testament Lesson: Psalm 72:1-20

Dr. Kyle David Bennett

Congregational Response **No. 30**

vv. 5-7

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

THE LORD CLEANSSES OUR SIN

Unison Prayer of Confession, Followed by Silent Confession of Sin

Please bow your head. For those who are able, you are invited to kneel during the confession of sin.

God of the Bethlehem star, we thank You that the Light has come in Jesus Christ. The Magi sought Christ to worship Him. But Herod sought Him to appease his jealous anger. We confess that our motives in seeking Jesus are not pure. We do not come to worship: we come to Christ, asking His benefits of reassurance, health, wealth; asking Him to fulfill the requests that we heap before Him. Remind us that the Magi sought first the kingdom. Help us, God, to follow their example, putting our own needs in perspective, worshiping Christ in love, content to be in His presence, and laying our gifts before Him. Then may we journey, trusting that Your goodness and light will accompany us all the days of our life. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

THE LORD SANCTIFIES OUR LIVES

Covenant Renewal (see next page)

Pastor Devlin

COVENANT RENEWAL

Baptism is a sacrament of the New Testament, ordained by Jesus Christ. By the act of baptism, a person becomes a part of the visible Church, for it is a sign and a seal of God's Covenant of Grace for believers and their children. At the start of this New Year we have the opportunity to renew our baptismal vows and our commitment to live no more unto ourselves, but to Him who loved us and gave Himself for us, to Him who has called us to Himself and to serve His Kingdom so that the purpose of His coming might be fulfilled.

Leader: In the Old Covenant, God chose Israel to be a special people and to obey the law. Our Lord Jesus Christ, by His death and resurrection, has made a New Covenant with all who trust in Him. We stand within this covenant and we bear His name. On the one side, God promises in this covenant to give us new life in Christ. On the other side, we are pledged to live not to ourselves but for God. Today, therefore, we meet to renew the covenant which binds us to God.

Friends, let us claim and renew the covenant God has made with His people and accept the yoke of Christ. To accept the yoke of Christ means that we allow Christ to guide all that we do and are, and that Christ Himself is our only reward. Christ has many services to be done; some are easy, others are difficult; some make others applaud us, others bring only reproach; some we desire to do because of our own interests; others seem unnatural. Sometimes we please Christ and meet our own needs, at other times we cannot please Christ unless we deny ourselves. Yet Christ strengthens us and gives us the power to do all these things. Therefore, let us make this covenant of God our own. Let us give ourselves completely to God, trusting in His promise and relying on His grace.

People: We give ourselves completely to You, God. Assign us to our place in Your creation. Let us suffer for You. Give us the work You would have us do. Give us many tasks or have us step aside while You call others. Put us forward or humble us. Give us riches or let us live in poverty. We freely give all that we are and all that we have to You. And now, holy God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, You are ours and we are Yours. So be it. May this covenant, established in Christ Jesus, continue for all eternity. AMEN.

Hymn of Worship **No. 164**

vv. 1-4

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Special Music

We Three Kings

arr. Lanier

Cindy Egeland, *flute*; Jinna Park, *piano*

Congregational Response **No. 731**

Doxology

**Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

*Children ages kindergarten and younger are dismissed to the Nursery, Walkabouts Room or Runabouts Room.
All other children remain in worship with their families.*

Scripture Reading

Luke 4:16-21

Sermon

Servant Songs
Jesus' Song

Mr. Peter A. Chace

THE LORD RECEIVES OUR GIFTS AND HEARTS

Call for the Offering and Offertory

'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime

Lau

THE LORD MEETS US AT THE TABLE

Words of Institution and Examination of Conscience (*See below)

Invitation and Coming to the Table

*Please note: we will eat together in the pew.
Those who are unable to come to the table will be served in the pew.
The Elders are serving bread and wine.
To better serve those with restrictions,
please see Pastor Devlin for gluten-free bread and/or grape juice.*

Communion Hymn

Come, Bless the Lord

Prayer of Thanksgiving followed by the Threefold Amen **No. 740**

Trinity Hymnal

THE LORD SCATTERS US TO ADVANCE HIS KINGDOM

Closing Hymn **No. 642**

vv. 1, 5

Be Thou My Vision

Benediction

Postlude

We Believe in One True God

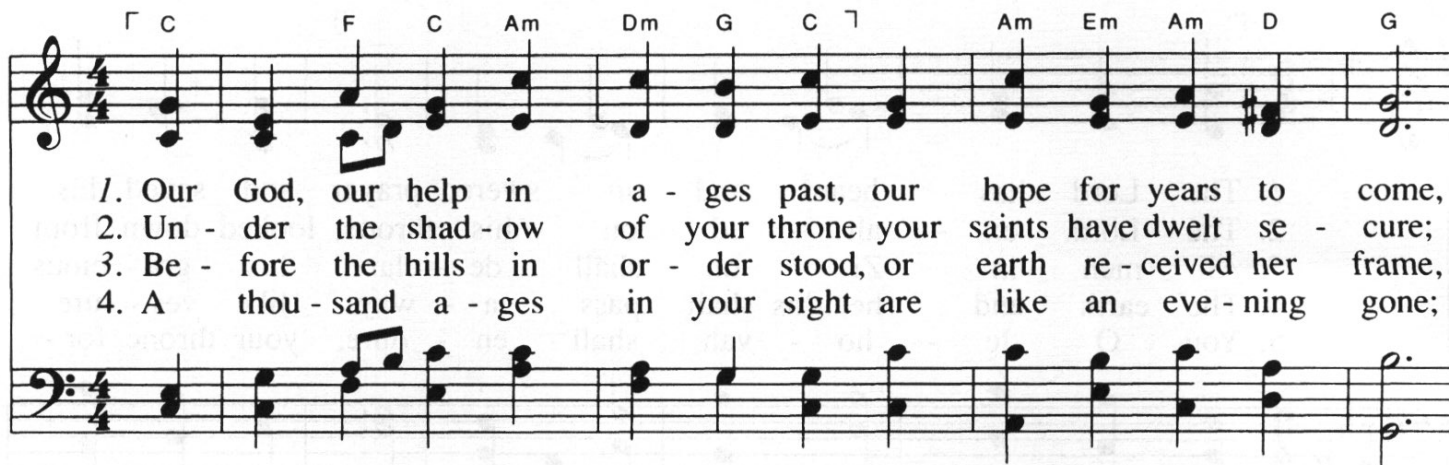
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****May I Come to the Lord's Table?***

All true believers who trust in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, including those from other congregations, are a part of the true Church and are invited to partake in the Lord's Supper. As we come to the table we rejoice as we remember our need to trust in Jesus Christ as Lord, to repent of sin, and to covenant once more to live as followers of Jesus. Those who are ignorant in their knowledge of Christ or who are living ungodly and unrepentant lives should refrain from the table. Baptized children may be admitted to the Lord's Supper provided their parents have appeared before the Pastor or Session to share their child's profession of faith, in a manner acceptable to the Session.

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations. Ps. 90:1



1. Our God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,
 2. Un - der the shad - ow of your throne your saints have dwelt se - cure;
 3. Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, or earth re - ceived her frame,
 4. A thou - sand a - ges in your sight are like an eve - ning gone;



our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
 suf - fi - cient is your arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
 from ev - er - last - ing you are God, to end - less years the same.
 short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

5. The busy tribes of flesh and blood,
 with all their lives and cares,
 are carried downward by your flood,
 and lost in foll'wing years.

6. Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
 bears all its sons away;
 they fly forgotten, as a dream
 dies at the op'ning day.

7. Our God, our help in ages past,
 our hope for years to come:
 O be our guard while troubles last,
 and our eternal home.

At the Name of Jesus

That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow ... and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Phil. 2:10, 11

1. At the name of Je - sus ev - 'ry knee shall bow,
 2. At his voice cre - a - tion sprang at once to sight,
 3. Hum - bled for a sea - son to re - ceive a name
 4. In your hearts en - throne him; there let him sub - due
 5. Broth - ers, this Lord Je - sus shall re - turn a - gain,

ev - 'ry tongue con - fess him King of glo - ry now.
 all the an - gel fac - es, all the hosts of light,
 • from the lips of sin - ners un - to whom he came,
 all that is not ho - ly, all that is not true:
 with his Fa - ther's glo - ry, with his an - gel train;

'Tis the Fa - ther's plea - sure we should call him Lord,
 thrones and dom - i - na - tions, stars up - on their way,
 • faith - ful - ly he bore it spot - less to the last,
 crown him as your Cap - tain in temp - ta - tion's hour:
 for all wreaths of em - pire meet up - on his brow,

who from the be - gin - ning was the might - y Word.
 all the heav'n - ly or - ders in their great ar - ray.
 • brought it back vic - to - rious, when from death he passed.
 let his will en - fold you in its light and pow'r.
 and our hearts con - fess him King of glo - ry now.

Be Thou My Vision

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Whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. Phil. 3:7

Unison

1. Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart; naught be all
 2. Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word; I ev - er
 3. Be thou my bat - tle shield, sword for my fight; be thou my
 4. Rich - es I heed not, nor man's emp - ty praise, thou mine in -
 5. High King of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won, may I reach

else to me, save that thou art— thou my best thought by
 with thee and thou with me, Lord; thou my great Fa - ther,
 • dig - ni - ty, thou my de - light, thou my soul's shel - ter,
 her - i - tance, now and al - ways: thou and thou on - ly,
 heav - en's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun! Heart of my own heart, what -

day or by night, wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 I thy true son; thou in me dwell - ing, and I with thee one.
 • thou my high tow'r: raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
 first in my heart, High King of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 ev - er be - fall, still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Ancient Irish poem, ca. 8th cent.
 Tr. by Mary E. Byrne, 1905
 Versified by Eleanor H. Hull, 1912

SLANE 10.10.10.10.
 Traditional Irish melody
 Arr. by David Evans, 1927

Tune arr. © 1927 from the *Revised Church Hymnary* by permission of Oxford University Press.