



*“growing a family  
to reach a community”*

Loving God, loving one another, and embracing  
our community and world with Jesus

# *Lord's Day Worship*

*December 27, 2020*

## *Call to Worship*

Luke 2:11-15

*Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,*

*"Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."*

*When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."*

***Joy to the World***

Hymn #195

Psalm 8:1-2

*O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory in the heavens. Through the praise of children and infants you have established a stronghold against your enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger.*

***Majestic***

Song

Opening Prayer

## *Confessing Our Sins Together*

Matthew 25:1-13

**Our Father, though the good news of Christ's birth has been proclaimed to us, we confess that we do not always rejoice in his coming as we should. We often fail to trust him in our daily lives, and fail to live with a ready and joyful expectation of his certain return. We so often allow the concerns of this world to distract us from the affairs of the world to come.**

**Forgive us these and all our sins, and help us to look to our glorious Savior, in whom all life, truth, and peace are found. For we pray in Jesus' Name. Amen.**

## *Rejoicing in Our Forgiveness*

1 John 1:8-9

*If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.*

***Jesus Paid It All***

Hymn #308

***Completely Done***

Song

Thanksgiving Prayer for 2020

Giving of Tithes & Offerings

***My Faith Has Found a Resting Place***

Hymn #468

## *Hearing God's Word Together*

The Gospel According to Acts

Acts 14. 1-7

*Poison, Persecution, and Preaching*

***Christ the Sure and Steady Anchor***

Song

Benediction

Luke 2:29-32

*Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, now dismiss your servants in peace. For our eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all nations: a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel.*

## *Scripture Reading*

### **Acts 13. 39 – 14. 7** (English Standard Version)

<sup>49</sup> And the word of the Lord was spreading throughout the whole region.

<sup>50</sup> But the Jews incited the devout women of high standing and the leading men of the city, stirred up persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and drove them out of their district. <sup>51</sup> But they shook off the dust from their feet against them and went to Iconium. <sup>52</sup> And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.

<sup>14.1</sup> Now at Iconium they entered together into the Jewish synagogue and spoke in such a way that a great number of both Jews and Greeks believed. <sup>2</sup> But the unbelieving Jews stirred up the Gentiles and poisoned their minds against the brothers. <sup>3</sup> So they remained for a long time, speaking boldly for the Lord, who bore witness to the word of his grace, granting signs and wonders to be done by their hands. <sup>4</sup> But the people of the city were divided; some sided with the Jews and some with the apostles. <sup>5</sup> When an attempt was made by both Gentiles and Jews, with their rulers, to mistreat them and to stone them, <sup>6</sup> they learned of it and fled to Lystra and Derbe, cities of Lycaonia, and to the surrounding country, <sup>7</sup> and there they continued to preach the gospel.

**The Gospel According to Acts**  
**Acts 14. 1-7**  
*Poison, Persecution, and Preaching*

**I. A Familiar Strategy**

**II. A Familiar Response**

1. Great faith (v. 1)
2. Great unbelief (v. 2)
3. Great opposition (vs. 2, 5)

**III. A Strengthened Resolve**

**IV. Some Applications**

1. The power of the gospel is in the \_\_\_\_\_,  
not the messenger.
2. As you witness, start where there is an \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Do not be surprised by \_\_\_\_\_ to the gospel!
4. Gospel faithfulness requires that we keep on  
\_\_\_\_\_ for Jesus.

## *Sermon Quotes and References:*

*And he saw Paul approaching, a man small of stature, with a bald head and crooked legs, in a good state of body, with eyebrows meeting and nose somewhat hooked, full of friendliness; for now he appeared like a man, and now he had the face of an angel.*

“Acts of Paul”, Onesiphorus

The most troublesome part of the tragedy now follows, for the city is divided into two parts ... If it be demanded what was the origin of the discord, most assuredly it flowed from the gospel ... Wherefore, so soon as any schism arise, before we condemn those who seem to be the authors, it behooves us wisely to consider who ought to bear the blame. We hear here that one city was divided, whereby some were brought unto Christ. The Spirit of God pronounced this to the praise, and not the shame, of Paul and Barnabas. The same rule must we observe at this day, lest the gospel be burdened with false envy, if it does not bring men together unto God, but the wicked rage against it.

It is assuredly a miserable matter to see division. But as the unity is accursed which separates us all from God, so it were better that a few should depart a hundred times from all the whole world, and, in season, come in favor again with God, than that disagreeing with him continually, they should have peace with the world.

John Calvin

# *Providence Activities & Events*

*December 27, 2020*

## **Task Schedule**

### **This Week**

### **Next Week**

Greeting Upper-Level .....	Henderson .....	Opdycke
Sound Booth .....	Ethan/Isaac/Sam .....	Ethan/Maggie/Darrin
Simulcast Downstairs.....	Eric .....	Eric
Congregational prayer led by ....	Bob Lacock	

## **This Week:**

Tuesday.....Ladies 2 *Kings*, Bible Study, 9:30 a.m. at church

Wednesday .....Nowicki's HFG, 6:30 p.m., on Zoom

Thursday .....Men's *Genesis* Bible Study, 7:00 p.m. at church

## **Announcements:**

**Snacks:** As it is getting colder outside, we have stopped providing snacks and will re-evaluate in the Spring when it's warmer. Water bottles will be available in between the upper-level doors.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

# Prayer Gathering

**What:** Joining together with our sisters in Christ to seek the Lord and enjoy Him in prayer.

**When:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month, 8:00 – 9:00 a.m.

**Where:** We will rotate between homes, each month will be a different location.

**Our first meeting:**

January 9<sup>th</sup> at MaryLou Hobold's home,  
Green Lane

Please Contact Liz Brewer with questions