

Nassau Presbyterian Church

December 31, 2023 10:00 AM

Prayer of Confession

**Gracious God,
we do not recognize your presence in the face of our neighbor.
Open our eyes and our hearts to the work of Christ,
even in the most unexpected places.
Heal the brokenness between people, nations, and creation.
Let us dwell in you, the wellspring of life,
and be strengthened to do justice,
love kindness, and walk humbly.**

Assurance of Forgiveness


Friends in Christ, hear and believe the good news of the Gospel.
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Response of Praise

Raise a Song of Gladness

Red Hymnal 155

D G A D G A (chords continue)



Raise a song of glad-ness, peo-ples of the earth.
Ju - bi - la - te De - o om - nis ter - ra.



Christ has come, bring-ing peace, joy to ev - ery heart.
Ser - vi - te Do - mi - no in lae - ti - ti - a.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, joy to ev - ery heart!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, in lae - ti - ti - a!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, joy to ev - ery heart!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, in lae - ti - ti - a!



Proclaiming the Word

Words of Welcome

We invite you to fill out the fellowship pads you will find in the pews. If you are watching the livestream we invite you to fill out the virtual fellowship pad: nassauchurch.org/check-in.

Prayer for Illumination

**Holy God, our hope and strength,
by the power of your Spirit
prepare the way in our hearts
for the coming of your Word,
so that we may see the glorious signs
of your promise fulfilled;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

First Scripture Lesson	Isaiah 61:10-62:3	pg 692
Silence		
Second Scripture Lesson	Luke 2:22-40	pg 59
Sermon	Guided by the Spirit	Len Scales



Thanksgiving

Songs

Nunc dimittis

Nunc di - mi - tis ser - vum tu - um Do - mi - ne, se -
Do - mi - ne,
in - pa - ce.
cun - dum ver - bum tu - um in pa - ce Do - mi - ne. Nunc di -

Translation: Now dismiss your servant, Lord, according to your word in peace.

In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful

Red Hymnal 654

**In the Lord I'll be ever thankful; in the Lord I will rejoice!
 Look to God; do not be afraid. Lift up your voices;
 the Lord is near. Lift up your voices; the Lord is near.**

**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.

**Christ, to thee with God the Father,
and, O Holy Ghost, to thee,
hymn and chant and high thanksgiving
and unwearied praises be.
Honor, glory, and dominion, and eternal victory,
evermore and evermore! Amen.**

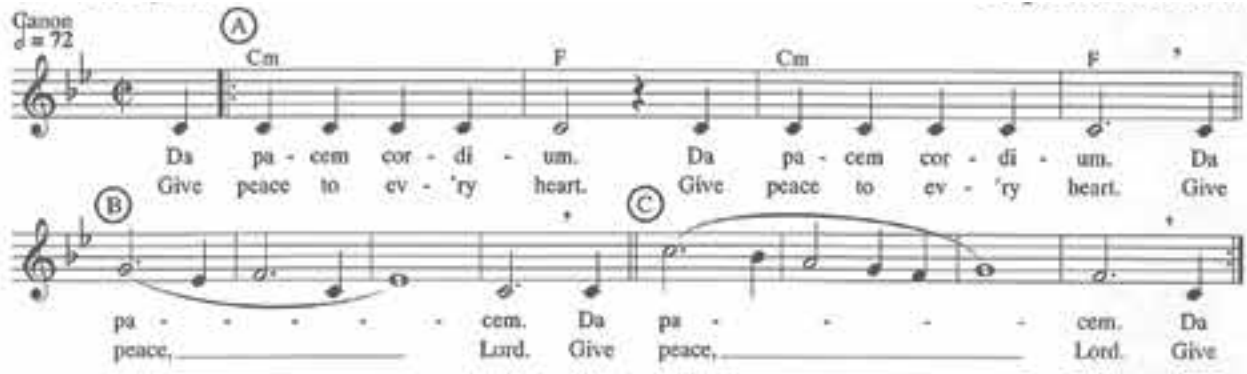
Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Sending

Closing Song

Da pacem cordium

Ganon
♩ = 72



Da pa - cem cor - di - um. Da pa - cem cor - di - um. Da Give peace to ev - 'ry heart. Give peace to ev - 'ry heart. Give

pa - - - - - cem. Da pa - - - - - cem. Da Give peace, Lord. Give peace, Lord. Give

◆Benediction

Postlude

Ding Dong! Merrily on High

arr. Jonathan DeLoach

Preacher

Len Scales

Liturgist

Andrew Scales

Musicians

Michael Cooney, cello

Don Dolan, piano

Chris Jones, violin

Ingrid Ladendorf, soloist

John Lane, flute

Hanka Spelda, recorder

Sound Engineer

Nick Mastalesz

Livestream

Doug Ladendorf

Peter Spelda

Cover Art

"Alpha and Omega" a linocut
by Elizabeth Steele Halstead

ISAIAH 61:10-62:3 NRSV

¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. ¹¹For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

⁶²For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. ²The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give. ³You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

LUKE 2:22-40 NRSV

²²When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord”), ²⁴and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.”

²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. ²⁷Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, ²⁹“Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; ³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation, ³¹which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.” ³³And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, “This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.” ³⁶There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. ³⁹When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

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The Week Ahead

Monday, January 1

OFFICE CLOSED - NEW YEAR'S DAY

Tuesday, January 2

9:30 AM *Staff Meeting/Devotions*
Niles Chapel

Wednesday, January 3

NO SCHEDULED EVENTS

Thursday, January 4

10:00 AM *Al-Anon*
Conference Room

Friday, January 5

8:00 AM *Men's Breakfast*
Zoom

Saturday, January 6

NO SCHEDULED EVENTS

Sunday, January 7

9:15/9:30 *Education for All Ages*
Assembly Room & Classrooms

9:15 AM *Worship — Communion*
Sanctuary & Livestream

10:05 AM *Joyful Noise*
Niles Chapel

10:15 AM *Fellowship*
Assembly Room

10:30 AM *Carol Choir*
Assembly Room

11:00 AM *Worship — Communion*
Sanctuary

11:15 AM *Worship Explorers*
Room 302

TODAY AT NASSAU

10:00 AM Worship
Sanctuary & Livestream

Bible Story and Craft Time
10:15 AM Room 07

Welcome to Nassau Church

Beginning again on Jan. 7, Children are always welcome in our services of worship.

Childcare is available for infants and toddlers in the Nursery (Lower Level), 9:00 AM to 12:30 PM.

Church School takes place during the 9:15 AM service. Classes for grades 6 to 12 begin at 9:15 AM. Preschoolers to grade 5 participate in the first part of the service and are then dismissed to their classes. All classes conclude at 10:30 AM.

Worship Explorers is a child-focused alternative worship setting during 11:00 AM worship for children age 3 to grade 3. Children attend the first part of the service and are then dismissed to Room 302 (Third Floor).

Order CDs of the service. Stop by the sound room.

Livestream Worship. Livestream worship can be found at NassauChurch.org/livestream-worship. If you are worshipping with us in person, please be aware that you may be visible on camera at any time.

Connect to our online community life. Visit nassauchurch.org for information and join our Facebook group for community life. Follow our Facebook page and Instagram feeds (@nassauchurch) for news, recaps of events, and snapshots of life at Nassau.

Connect to pastors or staff. Contact the office.

Online giving. See “Give Now” on the website or give via the Church Life app.

Accessibility. The church lot has reserved parking, and there are six reserved street spaces on Sundays. Ramp access to the building is from the parking lot. Ask an usher for an assistive hearing device, a large-print bulletin or hymnal, an accessible pew, or a wheelchair. Ushers can also direct you to the elevator to access other floors.

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Please recycle.

