



Holly Presbyterian Church
Second Sunday After Christmas
January 19, 2025

Worship Leader Dessalee Cook, Pastor Chris Thomas copies

Welcome and Announcements

Pennies from Heaven A voluntary small change offering for building projects.

Prelude

Reflection: What is one question you have had about all the denominations we have today?

***Call to Worship**

Based on Psalm 98

All the earth makes a joyful noise lifted up to the Lord.

We will break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

We sing praises to the Lord with piano and guitar,

We make beautiful melodies to the Lord Most High.

We declare the goodness of the Lord in all we do.

make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord.

Amen!

Opening Praise "Shout to the Lord"

Call to Confession

Based on Hebrews 7:25

Jesus is able for all time to save those who approach God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them. Knowing our sure salvation, let us come and confess our sins before God.

Prayer of Confession

Lord, we confess we have not always been one as Father, Son and Spirit are one. We let petty differences, self centered arrogance, and much more divide your people. Forgive us when we do not love one another as you have loved us. Give us a new way to forgive when we are hurt by others, bear with one another in differences, and sacrifice our preferences for the sake of each other. Strengthen us in your Spirit to reveal your transformative work to the world in our unity. (please take time for silent personal confession)

Assurance of Pardon

Based on John 3:17

Believe the good news! God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world,

but in order that the world might be saved through him. In Jesus Christ we are made whole. Amen

Amen.

Prayer for Illumination

Lord we seek to know you more. In your Word, you make yourself known to us. As we dive into your Word and into our history, help us to see you clearly. Plant your truth in our hearts so that it may grow into the full fruit of your Kingdom. Amen.

Scriptures

New Testament Letter 1 Corinthians 1:10-25 Pew Bible (NT) Pg. 155-156

10 Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you but that you be knit together in the same mind and the same purpose. 11 For it has been made clear to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. 12 What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." 13 Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? 14 I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, 15 so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. 16 I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else. 17 For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel—and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

18 For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. 19 For it is written,

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,

and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

20 Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? 21 For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe. 22 For Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire

wisdom, 23 but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to gentiles, 24 but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. 25 For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.
(Liturgist finish here)

Sermon "A Brief History of the Church in the World (Part 2)" **Rev. Chris Thomas**

***Hymn #774 "There Is Now a New Creation"**

Affirmation of Faith

Apostle's Creed

The Apostle's Creed is usually assumed to be older than the Nicene Creed, however it is quite newer. It may have been written in the sixth century but did not find more common use until closer to the turn of the first millennium AD. But it is popular in Western Christianity because it is shorter than the Nicene Creed and a bit simpler, therefore more versatile in later Christian use once christianity splintered in the reformation. Let us share it together now...

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by
the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he
rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the
right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to
judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the
communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the
body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Offertory

***Doxology Hymn #609 "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow"**

***Prayer of Dedication**

Lord we give ourselves and all that we have to you this morning. We know that you desire our hearts more than anything else. Take these gifts in the plates as a sign of our willingness to give our hearts to you. If we hold anything back, give

us the strength to release it to you. Use all that we have given to you for your goodness in the world. Amen.

***Closing Hymn #54 "Make a Joyful Noise to God"**

Charge and Benediction

Postlude