



Worship Service for December 31, 2023 Sunday After Christmas

Prelude	Marshall Davies
Chiming of the Hour	Amie Friday
Welcome	Pastor Felix
Centering Moment	Pastor Felix
Praise and Worship Song	Congregation

“We Light A Candle”

We light a candle for hope
and our world that’s longing for hope

We light a candle for hope
and our world that’s longing for hope Holy One,
shine with the fire our lives oh

We light a candle for hope
and our world that’s longing for hope

We light a candle for love
and our world that’s longing for love

We light a candle for love
and our world that’s longing for love Holy One,

shine with the fire our lives oh
We light a candle for love
and our world that's longing for love

We light a candle for joy
and our world that's longing for joy
We light a candle for joy
and our world that's longing for joy Holy One,
shine with the fire our lives oh

We light a candle for joy
and our world that's longing for joy

We light a candle for peace
and our world that's longing for peace
We light a candle for peace
and our world that's longing for peace Holy One,
shine with the fire our lives oh

We light a candle for peace
and our world that's longing for peace

Call to Worship

Amie Friday

LEADER: In this season, we have welcomed the Child Jesus into our world and our hearts.

ALL: Once again, we say welcome as we receive Jesus' life anew.

LEADER: Once again, we say welcome as we proclaim his love and truth and way.

ALL: As followers of Jesus and seekers of the truth, we joyfully embark on the path of discipleship, witness, and mission.

LEADER: Holy One, we give welcome to you!

ALL: We celebrate the signs of God's presence bringing new beginnings.

***Hymn**

Marshall Davies

TNCH #43, "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

verses 1 & 2

Love divine, all loves excelling,

joy of heav'n, on earth be found,
Fix in us a humble dwelling,
all your faithful mercies crown;
Jesus, you are all compassion;
pure, unbounded love impart.
Visit us with your salvation,
enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe your loving Spirit
into every troubled breast;
Let us all in you inherit,
let us find your promised rest;
Take away our disobedience;
Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning,
set our hearts at liberty.

Gathering Prayer

Congregation

ALL: Creator of both the light and the darkness, send your Holy Spirit upon us today. We who have so much to do, seek quiet spaces to hear your voice

each day. We who are blessed in so many ways, long for the complete joy of your kingdom. We are one spiritual community abiding in your light. We open our hearts to be a home for Jesus.

Amen.

Biblical Witness

Amie Friday

Isaiah 43:19

I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.

John 14:25-27

I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom God will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to

you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.

Contemporary Witness

Pastor Felix

Infinite Possibilities: The Art of Living Your Dreams

by Mike Dooley

Life is waiting for you – waiting for you to give direction, give it meaning, and provide just a spark. When acting in line with your dreams, you invoke life's inviolate principles, you set into motion an unseen array of forces, and you unleash the magic behind the illusions of time and space. It's the same magic that helps you finish a sentence before you even know how it'll end, knows just how fast to beat your heart, and spins your dreams each day and every night. It's also the magic sweeps birds into formation, sends bears into hibernation and bees after honey, and pushes up trees and all things green...We're all sorcerers. We're all magicians. And we can each invoke this magic to live the life of our dreams. Indeed, it's our greatest birthright.

Reflection

Pastor Felix

“Beloved Beginnings”

Special Music

Plymouth Choir

“The Whole Word is Waiting”

The whole world is waiting

The whole world cries

The whole world is waiting

For the dawn to rise

Like you sweet Jesus

Our hope is born tonight

The whole world is waiting

The whole world cries

We hear the cries for justice

and the longing to be free.

You are the one who heals and

who shows us what can be

We believe our love can change things

We will not live silently

We hear the cries for justice

and the longing to be free

The power of love is with us.

When we are afraid

Though trouble may surround us

and we can't find our way

Your love shines like a candle

We will hold it close and say

The power of love is with us.

When we are afraid.

The whole world is waiting

The whole world cries

The whole world is waiting

For the dawn to rise

Like you sweet Jesus

Our hope is born tonight

The whole world is waiting

The whole world cries

Pastoral Prayer with Joys & Concerns

Pastor Felix

Invitation to Offering

Amie Friday

Tony's Place

Offertory Music

Marshall Davies

***Doxology**

Congregation

Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Praise God all creatures here below

Praise God for all that Love has done

Creator, Christ, and Spirit one Amen.

Offertory Prayer

Amie Friday

ALL: Holy One, we commit what we have offered to help sow seeds of hope, peace, joy, and love in the world. Bless now these offerings as we dedicate them in service of the life and mission of our Church. We thank our members and friends for their loyalty to a vision of growth.

Amen.

***Hymn**

Congregation

TNCH #417 “This Is a Day of New Beginnings”

verses 1, 3 & 4

This is a day of new beginnings,
time to remember and move on,
time to believe what is bringing,
laying to rest the pain that's gone.

Then let us, with the Spirit's daring,
step from the past and leave behind
our disappointment, guilt, and blaming,
seeking new paths, and sure to find.

Christ is alive, and goes before us
to show and share what love can do.

This is a day of new beginnings—
our God is making all things new.

Benediction

Pastor Felix

Song of Parting

Congregation

Sing! #213 “Wherever You Go”

Wherever you go, God is with you;

wherever you go, God is there.

Wherever you go, whatever you do,

you are in God’s care.

Wherever we go, God is with us;

Wherever we go, God is there.

Wherever we go, whatever we do,

we are in God’s care.

Postlude

Marshall Davies

Today’s Worship Participants

Worship Leader: Amie Friday

Sound: Mary Davis

Video: Sarah Bowman

Projector: Mary Lowell

Rev. Felix Carrión

Designated Pastor

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