



ANAHEIM FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

February 14, 2021

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

You are encouraged to join us in lighting a candle in your home as the service begins.

CHORAL INTROIT

Sing Alleluia

Gordon Young

CALL TO WORSHIP

We are invited—into the story, into this place, into this time of worship.

We are invited—into reflection, into community, into our own spiritual journeys.

We are invited—the broken and bruised, the hopeful, the new, the faithful, the doubting, the wondering, the waiting.

We are invited—Because God so loved;

So listen, trust the invitation, and bring your whole self.

All are invited here.

HYMN (vs. 1 & 2)

Gather Us In

Here in this place new light is streaming, now is the darkness vanished away

See in this space our fears and our dreaming, brought here to you in the light of this day

Gather us in, the lost and forsaken. Gather us in, the blind and the lame.

Call to us now and we shall awaken. We shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young, our lives are a mystery. We are the old who yearn for your face.

We have been sung throughout all of history, called to be light to the whole human race.

Gather us in, the rich and the haughty. Gather us in, the proud and the strong.

Give us a heart so meek and so lowly. Give us the courage to enter the song.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious and loving God, hear our prayer. We know we do not always live as we ought:

We turn away from you, from our neighbor, and from our true selves.

We know we dim your light within us, with our pride, our self-righteousness,

and our need for control. We know that You love us, that you do not abandon us,

and that again and again you call us back to You, back to love, back to grace, back to Your light.

Forgive us, we pray, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

ANTHEM

God's Own Lamb

Greene arr. Krogstad

SCRIPTURE

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

SERMON

“Again & Again, We Are Invited In”

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in an inviting God who invites the poor and the sick, the outcast and the lonely, the immigrant and the refugee, the awkward and the abrasive, the young and the innocent. We believe God invites the best and the worst—in all of us.

We believe God invites us to: a life of faith, a crowded table, a messy church, a deeper truth, a resilient joy, a place to belong, a family among strangers, a world that is just, and a love that knows no bounds.

We believe this invitation exists for all people. We believe this invitation exists for us. And when we miss the call or ignore the invite, we believe that God invites us again. Thanks be to God for that invitational Spirit. Amen.

PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on Earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

HYMN NO.384

O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go

O love that wilt not let me go, I rest my weary soul in thee;

I give thee back the life I owe, that in thine ocean depths its flow may richer, fuller be.

O light that followest all my way, I yield flickering torch to thee;

My heart restores its borrowed ray, that in thy sunshine's blaze its day may brighter, fuller be.

BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

My Jesus, I Love Thee

arr. Marilyn Ham

Today's Worship Leaders

Kim Skilling, Pastor

David Hughes, Director of Music

Carol Hughes, Accompanist

AFPC Intern Choir

Rick Connor, Video and Sound

Today's prayers are by Sarah Are of Sanctified Art and Beth Merrill Neel