

*Community Church of Barrington
The First Sunday of the New Year
Communion Sunday
January 3, 2021*



As We Gather

ORDER OF WORSHIP
Sunday, January 3, 2021

PRELUDE Morning Song (Joseph Martin) / Grace Greater Than Our Sin (Fred Bock)
He Giveth More Grace (Mark Hayes)

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Heloise Pechan

One Voice: As we gather in the beauty of Your presence, we thank you for fellowship, family and friends.

Many Voices: We ask you to strengthen us, inspire us, renew us, with your love and power.

One Voice: Fill us with Your peace that we may enter this new year, with hope .

Many Voices: Pour out Your grace on us so that we might share it with all we meet.

One Voice: Meet us in this moment of worship and teach us Your way and Your Will.

ALL VOICES: Meet us wherever we are and grant that we might be the object of Your amazing grace as we enter this new year. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN**

AMAZING GRACE

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost but now, am found.
Was blind, but now I see.

Through many dangers toils and snares
We have already come
'Twas grace hath brought us safe thus far
And grace will lead us home

INVOCATION

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Heloise Pechan

Hebrews 10:1-22 (The Message)

The old plan was only a hint of the good things in the new plan. Since that old “law plan” wasn’t complete in itself, it couldn’t complete those who followed it. No matter how many sacrifices were offered year after year, they never added up to a complete solution. If they had, the worshipers would have gone merrily on their way, no longer dragged down by their sins. But instead of removing awareness of sin, when those animal sacrifices were repeated over and over they actually heightened awareness and guilt. The plain fact is that bull and goat blood can’t get rid of sin. That is what is meant by this prophecy, put in the mouth of Christ: You don’t want sacrifices and offerings year after year; you’ve prepared a body for me for a sacrifice. It’s not fragrance and smoke from the altar that whet your appetite. So I said, “I’m here to do it your way, O God, the way it’s described in your Book.”

When he said, “You don’t want sacrifices and offerings,” he was referring to practices according to the old plan. When he added, “I’m here to do it your way,” he set aside the first in order to enact the new plan—*God’s way*—by which we are made fit for God by the once-for-all sacrifice of Jesus.

Every priest goes to work at the altar each day, offers the same old sacrifices year in, year out, and never makes a dent in the sin problem. As a priest, Christ made a single sacrifice for sins, and that was it! Then he sat down right beside God and waited for his enemies to cave in. It was a perfect sacrifice by a perfect person to perfect some very imperfect people. By that single offering, he did everything that needed to be done for everyone who takes part in the purifying process. The Holy Spirit confirms this: This new plan I’m making with Israel isn’t going to be written on paper, isn’t going to be chiseled in stone; This time “I’m writing out the plan *in* them, carving it on the lining of their hearts.” He concludes, I’ll

forever wipe the slate clean of their sins. Once sins are taken care of for good, there's no longer any need to offer sacrifices for them.

So, friends, we can now—without hesitation—walk right up to God, into “the Holy Place.” Jesus has cleared the way by the blood of his sacrifice, acting as our priest before God. The “curtain” into God's presence is his body. So let's *do it*—full of belief, confident that we're presentable inside and out. Let's keep a firm grip on the promises that keep us going. He always keeps his word. Let's see how inventive we can be in encouraging love and helping out, **not avoiding worshiping together as some do but spurring each other on, especially as we see the big Day approaching.**

Reader: The word of God, for the people of God.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

***GLORIA PATRI:**

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Glory to the Father, glory to the Son, glory to the Holy Spirit, Three in One; as it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be, world without end. Amen

THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison):

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

GATHERING the JOYS and CONCERNS of the CHURCH

CALL to PRAYER

O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL

O come all Ye faithful, joyful and triumphant.

O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem.

Come and adore Him, born the King of angels.

O come let us adore Him. O come let us adore Him. O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

SILENT PETITIONS and PRAYER

ANTHEM

Draw Us In The Spirit's Tether

This Communion anthem was arranged by Sheldon Curry.

Draw us in the Spirit's tether, for when humbly in Thy name,
Two or three are met together Thou art in the midst of them;
Alleluya! Alleluya! Touch we now the garment's hem.

As disciples used to gather in the name of Christ to sup,
Then with thanks to God the Father break the bread and bless the cup.
Alleluya! Alleluya! So knit Thou our friendship up.

All our meals and all our living make us sacraments of Thee,
That by caring, helping, giving, we may true disciples be,
Alleluya! Alleluya! We will serve Thee faithfully.

