**Sunday, December 31, 2023**

\*Hymn: “O Little Town of Bethlehem” #143 vs. 1,2 & 4

Welcome & Announcements – Lynn Saucier

Prelude: “Away in a Manger” – Kyle Neilson

Invitation to Worship:

Come, people of God. Let us give thanks for these holy days of Christmas.  
**Here we have come to worship the God of new beginnings and new opportunities.**Come, people of God. Let us celebrate and rejoice for the wondrous gifts given to us.  
**Here in our worship, we look to the future as we are filled with the gifts of Christmas: love, hope, peace, joy!  
*All: Now we again sing the joyous carols of Christmas and***

***witness to our Savior’s birth.***

Invocation & Lord’s Prayer (debts)

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 61:10-62:3 – Shirley Mason

Reading of the Church Covenant

Children’s Message – Laureen Galayda

Praise Music: “New Kid in Town” – Kyle Neilson

Scripture: Luke 2:22-40

Sermon: “The Child Grew and Became Strong” – Pastor Sharon

\*Hymn: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” #133

Prayer Time

\*Hymn: “Hark! the Herald Angels Sing” #

\*Benediction

Postlude: “Trumpet Voluntry in D Major” – Les Marsh

\* Those who are able, please stand.

**Isaiah 61:10-62:3**

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.