



SUNDAY, JANUARY 4, 2026

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

Order of Worship

**Congregation, please stand or rise in spirit*

INTROIT

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations.

People: Give praise, and say, "Save, O Lord, your people."

Leader: They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion.

People: They shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord, their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again.

ALL: With expectation and joy as we begin a new year, let us worship the living God!

***OPENING HYMN #41 (GG) "O Worship the King"**

CALL TO CONFESSION

"If we say we have no sin, the truth is not in us." And yet, we know that we need to begin again for we have fallen short of the glory of God. So, we come to the baptismal font seeking a fresh start. With confidence that God hears our prayers and has adopted us as beloved children, let us confess our sins.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

We cry out: "Save, O Lord, your people, the remnant of Israel," for we are a people in need of saving. You promise to gather your people, but we confess that we want to put limitations on who is saved. We want you to save those we define as strong and beautiful and wise; You call the blind and the lame, the children and those in labor. Forgive us, O Holy God, for our prejudice and narrow vision. Forgive us for our lack of faith. Forgive us for doubting your promise and declining your invitation. By your Spirit, renew us. Turn our mourning into joy and our sorrow into gladness that we might return to you and your way.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. According to the riches of Christ's grace, we are redeemed. Hear and believe this good news: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI

SPECIAL SELECTION.....FUPCC Choir..... "How Excellent"
By The Mississippi Mass Choir

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION..... Rev. Delton H. Farmer

SCRIPTURE READINGS..... Rev. Delton H. Farmer
Old Testament: Joshua 3:5, 13-17
New Testament: 2 Corinthians 5:14-17

SERMON..... Rev. Delton H. Farmer
“A New Year Requires a New Step”

INVITATIONAL HYMN #258 (AA)..... “There is Power in the Blood”

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE..... Rev. Delton H. Farmer

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you
People: And also with you
Leader: Lift up your hearts
People: We lift them up to the Lord
Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord
People: It is right to give him thanks and praise

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE
INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from Brief Statement of Faith) (unison)
Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

CALL FOR THE OFFERING
Out of gratitude for all that God has provided and with hope in Christ, we bring our tithes and offerings for God’s work among us in this time and place. Let us give joyously and generously.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY SELECTION..... “Agnus Dei”
By Donnie McClurkin

*DOXOLOGY

PRAYER OF DEDICATION
We give you thanks, O God, for the many blessings that you have bestowed upon us. As you have chosen us for a purpose and praise, may the gifts we bring be a symbol of our dedication to you. Bless our tithes, gifts and offerings. Bless us that we might be ever more faithful in your work of reconciliation, love and joy. In Christ’s name, we pray. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN #313 (GG) “Lord, Make Us More Holy”

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

RESPONSE..... “Threefold Amen”

POSTLUDE