



COUNTRYSIDE TRINITY CHURCH

February 1, 2026
WELCOME FEBRUARY

Pre-Service Music

Noah Davis

Welcome and Announcements

Liturgist

Mission Point

Prelude

Noah Davis

Choir Introit

CTC Choir

Call to Worship

Liturgist

Leader: In a world that rewards selfishness,

**All: it is wise to hoard resources,
foolish to share.**

Leader: In a world built on violence,

**All: it is wise to be suspicious,
foolish to risk compassion.**

Leader: But God's wisdom is not the wisdom of the world:

**All: Greed will not serve us in heaven.
Self-preservation will not save us in the end,
so we will choose to be foolish;
we will choose the way of love.
Let us worship God.**

Opening Prayer

Liturgist

Mysterious God, you whose wisdom baffles kings,
make us foolhardy enough to dare to live as if
peace is truly possible, here and now. Grant us
the audacity to seek justice. Give us courage to
risk kindness and love recklessly so that, in Jesus'
footsteps, and through your Spirit's surprising blessings,
we can journey humbly with you all our days. **Amen.**

* Opening Hymn "O for a World" #372 GTG

Congregation



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Call to Confession

Liturgist

God has told us what is good, what is required:
Do justice. Love kindness. Walk humbly with God.
These commands are so simple, yet we know we have
not always followed them. With that knowledge, we confess.

*** Prayer of Confession**

Congregation

**Merciful God, we fail to do what is right.
Instead, we pursue evil and do not speak
the truth. Even when we try our best to be faithful,
still we turn away from you. Forgive us, accept
us, and redeem us, that we may seek to do
what you call good.**

*** Time of Silence for Personal Prayers of Confession**

***Assurance of Pardon**

Liturgist

Christ Jesus, who became for us
wisdom and righteousness,
sanctification and redemption,
is the one who judges us.

Christ is the one who was born for us
and forgives us with abundant love.

**All: We will boast of all the good God has done for us!
Thanks be to God!**

***Responding to Grace**

"Gloria Patri" #581 GTG

Congregation

Time With Young Disciples

Rev. Nathaniel Asperger

Prayer for Illumination

Liturgist

Saving God, source of our calling,
your Word is full of power and glory.
Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us
so that we may receive your grace
and live as your beloved children;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



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1st Scripture Reading

Micah 6:1-8

Israel, listen to the Lord's message. He says to me,

"Stand up in court.

Let the mountains serve as witnesses.

Let the hills hear what you have to say."

Hear the Lord's case, you mountains.

Listen, you age-old foundations of the earth.

The Lord has a case against his people Israel.

He is bringing charges against them.

The Lord says,

"My people, what have I done to you?

Have I made things too hard for you? Answer me.

I brought your people up out of Egypt.

I set them free from the land

where they were slaves.

I sent Moses to lead them.

Aaron and Miriam helped him.

Remember how Balak, the king of Moab,

planned to put a curse on your people.

But Balaam, the son of Beor,

gave them a blessing instead.

Remember their journey from Shittim to Gilgal.

I want you to know

that I always do what is right."

The people of Israel say,

"What should we bring with us

when we go to worship the Lord?

What should we offer the God of heaven

when we bow down to him?

Should we take burnt offerings to him?

Should we sacrifice calves

that are a year old?



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Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams?

Will he take delight in 10,000 rivers of olive oil?

Should we offer our oldest sons

for the wrong things we've done?

Should we sacrifice our own children

to pay for our sins?"

The Lord has shown you what is good.

He has told you what he requires of you.

You must act with justice.

You must love to show mercy.

And you must be humble as you live in the sight of your God.

2nd Scripture Reading

Psalm 15

Lord, who can live in your sacred tent?

Who can stay on your holy mountain?

Anyone who lives without blame

and does what is right.

They speak the truth from their heart.

They don't tell lies about other people.

They don't do wrong to their neighbors.

They don't say anything bad about them.

They hate evil people.

But they honor those who have respect for the Lord.

They keep their promises even when it hurts.

They do not change their mind.

They lend their money to poor people without charging interest.

They don't accept money to harm those who aren't guilty.

Anyone who lives like that

will always be secure.

This is The Word of the Lord. **Thanks Be To God.**

Choir Anthem

CTC Choir



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Epistle Reading:

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

The message of the cross seems foolish to those who are lost and dying. But it is God's power to us who are being saved. It is written,

"I will destroy the wisdom of those who are wise.

I will do away with the cleverness of those who think they are so smart." ([Isaiah 29:14](#))

Where is the wise person? Where is the teacher of the law? Where are the great thinkers of our time? Hasn't God made the wisdom of the world foolish? God wisely planned that the world would not know him through its own wisdom. It pleased God to use the foolish things we preach to save those who believe. Jews require signs. Greeks look for wisdom. But we preach about Christ and his death on the cross. That is very hard for Jews to accept. And everyone else thinks it's foolish. But there are those God has chosen, both Jews and Greeks. To them Christ is God's power and God's wisdom. The foolish things of God are wiser than human wisdom. The weakness of God is stronger than human strength.

Brothers and sisters, think of what you were when God chose you. Not many of you were considered wise by human standards. Not many of you were powerful. Not many of you belonged to important families. But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise. God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. God chose the things of this world that are common and looked down on. God chose things considered unimportant to do away with things considered important. So no one can boast to God. Because of what God has done, you belong to Christ Jesus. He has become God's wisdom for us. He makes us right with God. He makes us holy and sets us free. It is written, "The one who boasts should boast about what the Lord has done." ([Jeremiah 9:24](#))

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 5:1-12

Jesus saw the crowds. So, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him. Then he began to teach them.

He said,

"Blessed are those who are spiritually needy.

The kingdom of heaven belongs to them.

Blessed are those who are sad.

They will be comforted.

Blessed are those who are humble.

They will be given the earth.

Blessed are those who are hungry and thirsty for what is right.

They will be filled.



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Blessed are those who show mercy.

They will be shown mercy.

Blessed are those whose hearts are pure.

They will see God.

Blessed are those who make peace.

They will be called children of God.

Blessed are those who suffer for doing what is right.

The kingdom of heaven belongs to them.

"Blessed are you when people make fun of you and hurt you because of me. You are also blessed when they tell all kinds of evil lies about you because of me. Be joyful and glad. Your reward in heaven is great. In the same way, people hurt the prophets who lived long ago. This is The Word of the Lord.

Thanks Be To God.

Sermon

"And what does the Lord require?"

Rev. Nathaniel Asperger

Music Meditation

Noah Davis

* Sermon Hymn

"Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling" 418 GTG

Affirmation of Faith

**God's sovereign love is a mystery
beyond the reach of the human mind.
Human thought ascribes to God
superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness.**

**But God reveals divine love in Jesus Christ
by showing power in the form of a servant,
wisdom in the folly of the cross,
and goodness in receiving
sinful men and women.**

**The power of God's love in Christ
to transform the world
discloses that the Redeemer
is the Lord and Creator
who made all things
to serve the purpose of God's love.**

Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.15



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Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Rev. Nathaniel Asperger

Invitation to the Table Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

The Words of Blessing for the Bread and the Cup

The Lord's Prayer

Call to Offering

Rev. Nathaniel Asperger

*** Doxology**

Congregation

*** Closing Hymn**

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" 223 GTG

Congregation

*** Charge, Benediction**

Rev. Nathaniel Asperger

Postlude

"Our God is an Awesome God" #616 GTG

Noah Davis



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O for a World

372

1 O for a world where ev - ery - one re-spects each oth - er's ways,
2 O for a world where goods are shared and mis - er - y re-lieved,
3 We wel-come one world fam - i - ly and strug - gle with each choice
4 The poor are rich; the weak are strong; the fool - ish ones are wise.
5 O for a world pre - par - ing for God's glo - rious reign of peace,

where love is lived and all is done with jus - tice and with praise.
where truth is spo - ken, chil-dren spared, e - qual - i - ty a - chieved.
that o - pens us to u - ni - ty and gives our vi - sion voice.
Tell all who mourn: out-casts be - long, who per - ish - es will rise.
where time and tears will be no more, and all but love will cease.

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Everything longed for in this text is a reminder of how far our present world is from what God wants. Yet this is not just wishful thinking; it is a call to action, a summons to participate in the fulfillment of God's desire for all earth's people to live in radical *shalom*.

TEXT: Miriam Therese Winter, 1987
MUSIC: Carl Gottlieb Gläser, 1828; arr. Lowell Mason, 1839
Text © 1990 Medical Mission Sisters

AZMON
CM



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SERVICE MUSIC

Glory to God *Gloria, gloria*

583

Capo 3: (Bm)

(Em) (A)

(D)

Dm

Gm

C

F

(chords continue)



Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est!

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!



Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

**May be sung as a canon.*

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text

MUSIC: Jacques Berthier, 1979

Music © 1979, 1981 Les Presses de Taizé (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

GLORIA (Taizé)

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CONFESSION

418 Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling

1 Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing for
2 Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing, plead - ing for
3 O for the won - der - ful love he has prom - ised, prom - ised for

you and for me. See, on the por - tals he's wait - ing and watch - ing,
you and for me? Why should we lin - ger and heed not his mer - cies,
you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has mer - cy and par - don,

Refrain
watch - ing for you and for me.
mer - cies for you and for me? "Come home, come home!
par - don for you and for me. "Come home, come home!

You who are wea - ry, come home." Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly,
Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing, "O sin - ner, come home!"

This 19th-century gospel hymn has often been used as a hymn of invitation at evangelistic services. Its imagery is primarily based on Jesus' parable in Luke 15:11–32, commonly called "The Prodigal Son." Each singer thus becomes a wandering child who is urged to return home.

TEXT and MUSIC: Will L. Thompson, 1880

SOFTLY AND TENDERLY
11.7.11.7 with refrain

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JESUS CHRIST: PASSION AND DEATH

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross 223

1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the
2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the
3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and
4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a

Prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I
death of Christ my God; all the vain things that
love flow min - gled down; did e'er such love and
pres - ent far too small; love so a - maz - ing,

count but loss, and pour con - tempt on all my pride.
charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.
sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

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This familiar text from the beginning of the 18th century grew out of Isaac Watts's desire to give Christians the ability to sing about gospel events. It is set here to a very restrained tune from the early 19th century inspired by the patterns of Gregorian chant.

TEXT: Isaac Watts, 1707
MUSIC: Lowell Mason, 1824

HAMBURG
LM
(alternate tune: ROCKINGHAM, 224)



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ADORATION

Our God Is an Awesome God 616

Awesome God

C G D Em

Our God is an awe-some God who reigns from heav-en a-bove

C G Am Em B7 Em

with wis - dom, power, and love; our God is an awe-some God!

This is a contemporary worship song that first gained recognition on Christian radio and later became a popular congregational song. "Awesome" here is not a trivial expression but carries the meaning of "awe-inspiring" and is based on Scripture (e.g. Daniel 9:4).

TEXT: Rich Mullins, 1988, alt.

MUSIC: Rich Mullins, 1988

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AWESOME GOD

Irregular

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