**Order of Worship**

**January 7, 2024**

To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest; to all who are sad and long for comfort;

to all who struggle and desire victory; to all who sin and need a Savior; to all who are strangers and want friendship; to all who hunger and thirst for something real and lasting; and to all who come here, this church opens wide her doors and offers welcome to you in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

**Prelude** (*Please silence cell phones at this time*)

**Opening Song**\* (*please stand if you are able*)  **“Leaning on the Everlasting Arms”**

**Welcome and Greeting**\*

**Ordination and Installation of New Deacons and Elder**:

 CHUCK FRANK: ELDER CLASS OF 2026

 DONNA BROWN: DEACON CLASS OF 2026

 MARV ELLIS: DEACON CLASS OF 2026

**Call to Worship (***fromPsalm 67:1 ff*) *Deacon David Smukala, Liturgist*

Liturgist: May God be gracious to us and bless us and make His face to shine upon us, that Your way may be known on earth, Your saving power among all nations.

**People: Let the peoples praise You, O God; let all the peoples praise You!**

Liturgist: Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for You judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth.

**People: Let the peoples praise You, O God; let all the peoples praise You!**

**\*Prayer of Adoration** *Pastor Dustin*

 **ALL: Almighty Lord God,**

 **You gave Your Son, Jesus Christ, to be the light of the world:**

 **We praise and magnify Your holy name that in Him**

 **You have revealed the wonder of Your saving love to all people.**

 **With those of old who brought their tribute to His feet,**

 **confessing Him as King of heaven and earth,**

 **we now present the worship of our grateful hearts,**

 **asking You to give us grace to give ourselves to You,**

 **through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

**CHOIR: “Amen”**

**Prayer of Confession** *Pastor Dustin*

 A**LL: “Forgiving and Restoring God, how quickly I belittle others with my thoughts, insult with my words, hate with gestures, and kill with a look. Take a gospel axe to the root of all my hostility, and by the power of your Spirit grow me to be patient, peace-loving, gentle, merciful, and friendly, doing good to my neighbors and enemies alike. Amen."**

**Lord, hear our prayers. (*A time for private confession and thanksgiving*)**

**Words of Assurance and Pardon of the Gospel** *(1 John 1.5-7)*

 *Elder Roy Palk, Liturgist*

Liturgist: This is the message we have heard from Him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with Him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.

Congregational Singing **“In the Garden”**

 “**It is Well With My Soul”**

**Teaching Moment** “Marriage Encounter” with the Palks, Franks, Sandhoffs and Browns

**Pastoral Prayer and 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.***

**Call for Offering**

**Offertory Prayer**

**Invitation: Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper**

*(The Lord’s Supper will be available in cups as you enter the church. Please hold the bread and cup until we take them together as the body of Christ.)*

**Closing Song “How Great Thou Art”**

**Announcements**

**Benediction**

**Postlude**