

Order of Worship

February 22, 2026 10:00 AM

Welcome to this time of worship, as we gather in the name of Jesus Christ.

Prelude

Guide Me Feet, Lord

Clarendon Ringers

Spiritual

TFWS 2208

Welcome

Rev. Nilse Furtado-Gilliam

Greeting

Leader: To see the life that teems around us,

People: To give thanks for the gift we have received;

Leader: To notice the promise of a distant, yet approaching spring,

People: To breathe deeply of the season;

Leader: To accept the gift of love, and to love in return:

People: This is to worship God.

Leader: Let us stand and join our voices together.

Hymn

Lord, I Need You

Prayer of Confession

Leader: Gracious God,
our sins are too heavy to carry,
too real to hide, and too deep to undo.
Forgive what our lips tremble to name
and what our hearts can no longer bear.
Set us free from a past that we cannot change;
open us to a future in which we can be changed;
and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image;
through Jesus Christ, the light of the world.

**All: Have mercy on us, O God of all ages past and all hope for years to come.
Forgive us for what we do and what we fail to do.
And with your gifts, promises, and grace, continue working in our lives
that we might receive full life in Jesus Christ, now and forevermore.**

Words of Forgiveness

Rev. Scott Duncan Hopkins

Leader: Even in our moments of doubt, our lack of faith,
and the blindness which means we fail to see God amongst us,

**Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

The pastor continues...

And so,
in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
as a holy and living sacrifice,
in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

The pastor continues...

All honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**
And now with the confidence of children of God,
let us pray as our Lord taught us:

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 trespasses

as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation

but deliver us from evil,

For thine is the kingdom, and the power,

and the glory forever. Amen.

Sending Forth

Hymn

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

Benediction

Rev. Hopkins

Postlude

Postludium on a Theme

Mark Williams

Steve McBride, organ

<https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=57082> [retrieved February 19, 2026].

Original source: Lauren Wright Pittman, <http://www.lewpstudio.com/>.

Artist's Note: **A Choice** "Jesus offers the crowd (us) a layered and complicated choice, one that is as complex as his own dualistic nature. The first option is self-denial, a heavy burden, and a lost—but saved—life. The second is gaining the whole world, but forfeiting life. It's easy for a seasoned Christian to take this choice for granted. This choice that Jesus calls us into may even seem like a no brainer, but in this moment, Jesus teaches of the terrors that will befall him and invites the crowd to knowingly face that path alongside him. If we're honest, it is extremely difficult to reject the tempting power and wealth this world has to offer and allow our life to take the shape of good news for all.

The choice isn't an obvious one. One side looks like an opulent pile of riches, a crown, and endless power, while the other looks like tattered and worn hands with new life blooming out of wounds, work, burdens and relationships. This choice may seem like a distant decision made long ago, but it's a decision to be made every single day, one moment at a time. In working for and with the downtrodden, poor, orphaned, widowed, ostracized, and oppressed, we will find ourselves."