

3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
 thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
 strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
 blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! Refrain

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Together)

Holy God, as we look back on our life this year, we confess that we have failed to live as people of faith in many ways. We often allowed ourselves to be swallowed up by worries and fear instead of seeking your help and guidance. We placed comfort of self before service to others. We were more concerned about what we want and our will rather than seeking your will in our lives. Forgive us for falling short of your glory. As we are ready to usher in the New Year, we want to recommit ourselves to your will and to living a life of faith. In your grace and mercy, cleanse us from all unrighteousness and fill us again with your Spirit of love, faith and hope. Renew our hearts and help us to start the New Year with you in the center of our lives. In Jesus' Name, we pray. AMEN.

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

GATHERING SONG

“Thou Art Worthy”
 Thou art worthy,
 Thou art worthy,
 Thou art worthy, O Lord,
 To receive glory,
 Glory and honor,
 Glory and honor and power
 For Thou hast created,
 hast all things created,
 Thou hast created all things;
 And for Thy pleasure
 they are created -
 Thou art worthy, O Lord.

TFWS # 2041

SCRIPTURE

Genesis 45:16 - 47:7

Christine Waddington, Reader

16 When the news reached Pharaoh's palace that Joseph's brothers had come, Pharaoh and all his officials were pleased. **17** Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Tell your brothers, 'Do this: Load your animals and return to the land of Canaan, **18** and bring your father and your families back to me. I will give you the best of the land of Egypt and you can enjoy the fat of the land.' **19** "You are also directed to tell them, 'Do this: Take some carts from Egypt for your children and your wives, and get your father and come. **20** Never mind about

PRAYER

Pastor Park

THE 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 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.

*** CLOSING HYMN****“Another Year is Dawning”**

(Sing to the Tune of “Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus” UMH # 514)

- 1. Another year is dawning, dear Father, let it be
In working or in waiting, another year with Thee.
Another year of progress, another year of praise,
Another year of proving Thy presence all the days.**
- 2. Another year of mercies, of faithfulness and grace,
Another year of gladness in the shining of Thy face;
Another year of leaning upon Thy loving breast;
Another year of trusting, of quiet, happy rest.**
- 3. Another year of service, of witness for Thy love,
Another year of training for holier work above.
Another year is dawning, dear Father, let it be
On earth, or else in Heaven, another year for Thee.**

*** BENEDICTION**

Pastor Park

POSTLUDE**“I will Sing Unto the Lord”**

Jackie Han

***Stand as able**

The poinsettias on the altar this morning are given to the glory of God.

We consider them a Christmas flower, and many people give them around Christmas time to symbolize good will and community spirit. In religious communities, the shape of the poinsettia flower is thought to symbolize the Star of Bethlehem, with the red leaves of the poinsettia symbolizing the blood of Christ.

How the poinsettia and Christmas became linked centers around a bit of Mexican folklore involving a poor girl named Pepita. In the legend, Pepita had no present to offer baby Jesus at the Christmas Eve service. As she walked to church, she noticed weeds growing alongside the road. She gathered a bouquet of weeds (some accounts say she did this at the urging of an angel). When Pepita laid her bouquet at the feet of the Christ Child, the weeds burst into bright red flowers. From that night on, the poinsettia was known as "Flores de Noche Buena," or "Flowers of the Holy Night." - *from United Methodist Communications*

Thank you to our Coffee Hour host today, Carol O'Donnell for providing refreshments.