Order of Worship-February 3, 2024

Call to Worship *Adapted from Philippians 4:4–7*

One: Rejoice in the Lord always! Again, I will say, Rejoice.

All: The Lord is near! Do not worry about anything.

One: Do not worry about anything but let everything be known

to God.

All: The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Leader: Let us worship God!

Opening Hymn Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!

Call to Confession

God of new beginnings and new life, we confess that we aren't always open to offer fresh starts to others or to ourselves. We wallow in our own hurt and pain, forgetting that through Christ, we have been forgiven. We forget to forgive others as well, remembering that forgiveness is no easy task.

As a new year begins, may we walk closer with you, O Lord. May we be open to the bright hope and light that only you can bring forth into the helplessness and darkness that often surrounds us. Forgive our closed and broken hearts and open us to new possibilities and reconciliation through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Grace

The old is gone and the new is bursting forth! Watch out! God is doing a new thing! Friends, hear and believe the good news! In Jesus Christ, we're a forgiven people.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

Sharing the Peace of Christ

One: The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you!

All: And also with you!

One: Let us share the peace of Christ with one another.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading Acts 11: 1-18

Morning Message "Us and Them" Dr. Yvan Kelly

Commissioning the Mission Team to Cuba

Offering

This morning's offering supports scholarships for campers at Camp Montgomery this summer.

Prayer of Dedication

The Necrology Report

The Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Table The Great Thanksgiving The Words of Institution Communion

Prayer after Communion

Closing Hymn Take My Life

Charge and Benediction

Worship Participants

Liturgists- Joe Medearis, TE, Validated Ministry, Vickie Bossuot, TE, Validated Ministry
Sermon- Dr. Yvan Kelly, CRE, Kirkwood
Commissioning to Cuba- Julie Higbee, TE, First Fernandina
Necrology- Charlie Evans, TE, Stated Clerk
Celebrants for Communion- Dr. Bea Newhart, CRE,
Fairfield, James Kendrick, TE, Calvin

Accompanist- Donna O'Brien, pianist at St. Giles Presbyterian

The liturgy was adapted from the *UWorship Resource*.

Mutual Mission Cuba Team Statement of Purpose: We Believe...

- that our presbyteries, its churches and members and will be strengthened with an agreement of collaboration between our presbyteries;
- that we are called to be a living expression of the unity of the church which crosses all natural boundaries;
- that in growing relationships with one another, we will know one another better in the context of our lives, churches and presbyteries; we will better understand and execute the complete work of God for the world and be enriched to carry out that work mutually and cooperatively in our geographic regions;
- that in relationship with one another, God will show us new ways we can grow spiritually and further serve our communities and people;
- that in carrying out mission activities together we will give testimony to those who don't know Christ and the great love of God that crosses all national, political, and economic boundaries;

Therefore...We the members of the Presbytery of St Augustine and the members of the Matanzas Presbytery of Cuba

Agree to...

- Pray, communicate, listen, learn and work with one another collectively as the body of Christ on a personal level to include executives, staff, pastors, lay leaders and members;
- Travel to each other's Presbyteries and local churches to serve together and support the mission and programs of our churches:
- Provide personal and spiritual support to each other in mission outreach and ministry programs;
- Share our gifts and resources with one another to strengthen the witness of our presbyteries and churches and so reflect the love and commands of Jesus Christ;
- Bring the love of Christ to the churched, un-churched and the needy;
- Assist each other in the making of disciples in carrying out the Great Commission;
- Establish priorities and engage strategic planning to create a schedule for partnership activities.