

January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Worship you tube link: <https://youtu.be/60bgyLOvcOA>

**PRELUDE:** *When to the temple Mary came*

(Eccard)

**OPENING WORDS & CALL TO WORSHIP:**

We gather apart – as we are once again, sheltering in our homes – not worshipping together in person for the time being as we manage this latest wave. But we continue to worship – an ‘essential service’ in these times! As the hymnwriter puts it, let us, come and join those two saints at the altar bending! Let us come together - with the angels from the realms of glory: Let us Come and Worship, come and worship, worship Christ the newborn king.

**CHILDREN’S HYMN, STORY & SCRIPTURE:** (Luke 2:22-38)

#146 *Angels from the realms of glory*

(James Montgomery)

♫ *Saints, before the altar bending, watching long in hope and fear,  
suddenly the Lord, descending, in his temple shall appear.*

***Come & worship, come and worship, worship Christ the new-born king  
Though an infant now we view him, He shall fill his Father's throne,  
Gather all the nations to him; every knee shall then bow down.***

***This is the word of the Lord - ...thanks be to God.***

**PRAYER:** *“Mary did you know?”*

Mark Lowry/Buddy Greene (of Bill Gaither band)

Maybe if you close your eyes as we pray, and as Paul sings, – you can imagine that you are there in the temple that day long ago as Mary and Joseph... Let us pray:

♫ ***Mary, did you know that your baby boy will one day walk on water?  
Mary, did you know that your baby boy will save our sons and daughters?  
Did you know that your baby boy has come to make you new?  
This child that you've delivered will soon deliver you***

We come today, amid this latest pandemic wave, amid the new beginnings of 2022

***Mary, did you know that your baby boy will give sight to a blind man?  
Mary, did you know that your baby boy will calm a storm with His hand?  
Did you know that your baby boy has walked where angels trod?  
And when you kiss your little baby you've kissed the face of God  
Mary, did you know?***

It is such a mystery to us, and yet so comforting to know that you chose to enter...

*The blind will see the deaf will hear and the dead will live again  
The lame will leap, the dumb will speak the praises of the Lamb  
Mary, did you know that your baby boy is Lord of all creation?  
Mary, did you know that your baby boy will one day rule the nations?  
Did you know that your baby boy is heaven's perfect Lamb?  
This sleeping child you're holding is the Great I Am  
....Oh Mary did you know?*

**SERMON:** *Simeons and Annas respond to Christ*

**OFFERING:**

Michael Lemiski & Carolyn introduce new Livestreaming Fundraising Campaign

♪ *Glory to God*

**CLOSING HYMN:** *#808 Come in New Year!*

(Shirley Murray)

♪ *Come in, come in, New Year with sparkling winter day  
Your promise calls us here to celebrate and pray,  
Through January's open door to stride with hopeful step once more.*

*For though December dies, still Christmas keeps the light,  
The hope in children's eyes, the star that shatters night;  
Now Simeon and Anna see the Child who rules all time to be.*

*The calendar of Christ will mark the seasons' turn,  
His story claim our trust, his love be ours to learn.  
For all the world, for young & old we pray a year of peace unfold!*

**POSTLUDE:** *We three kings*

(John H. Hopkins)

**BENEDICTION & BLESSING:** *Go now in peace*

(Don Besig)