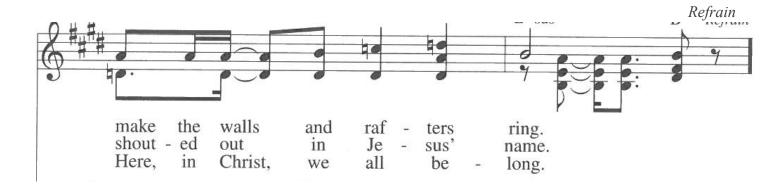


**G**ATHERING

Prelude

WELCOME





### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

After Pastor Aleese calls the congregation to confession, the congregation prays together:

Let us pray:

God of today and God of tomorrow,

you say, "Bring your full self. There's room for you here."

But we say, "Our lives are too messy."

You say, "Bring your hopes and your dreams. There's room for you here."

But we say, "It's too risky to hope."

You say, "Bring your grief and your prayers. There's room for you here."

But we say, "Some things are easier to forget."

God of today and God of tomorrow,

we know in our hearts that there's room for us here.

Forgive us for withholding our full selves from you.

Forgive us for giving only our Sunday best.

Help us remember, today and tomorrow,

there's room for every story. Amen.

Dear friends in Christ,

we who feel scattered are held together;

we who have lost our way are forgiven and found;

and we who are lonely are brought into the fold and are told,

"There's room for you here."

From generation to generation, this is the good news of the gospel.

In Jesus Christ we are held, forgiven, found, and welcomed.

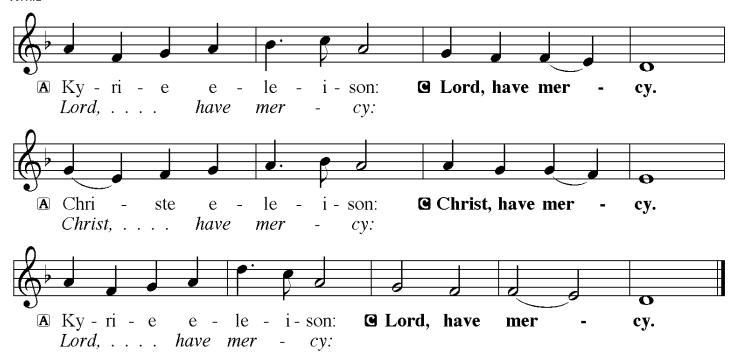
Thanks be to God! Amen.

# GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

And also with you.

### **K**YRIE



### **OPENING PRAYER**

### Let us pray -

Eternal God, we wait with hope for the coming of your Son into our hearts and into our world. Prepare our hearts for the brightness of your glory and for the fullness of your truth, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.



### CHILDREN'S SERMON AND ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING

# PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

In preparation to receive God's Word, we light the Christ candle and pray for God's Word to be illuminated in our midst. Take a moment for silent reflection.

Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5

<sup>1</sup>The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

<sup>2</sup>In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains,

and shall be raised above the hills;

all the nations shall stream to it.

3 Many peoples shall come and say,

"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths."

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

4He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

<sup>5</sup>O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

PSALM: PSALM 122

<sup>1</sup>I was glad when they said to me,
"Let us go to the house of the LORD!"

<sup>2</sup>Our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem.

<sup>3</sup>Jerusalem — built as a city that is bound firmly together.

<sup>4</sup>To it the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD, as was decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the LORD. <sup>5</sup>For there the thrones for judgment were set up, the thrones of the house of David.

<sup>6</sup>Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:
"May they prosper who love you.

<sup>7</sup>Peace be within your walls,
and security within your towers."

<sup>8</sup>For the sake of my relatives and friends
I will say, "Peace be within you."

<sup>9</sup>For the sake of the house of the LORD our God, I will seek your good.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 1:1-17

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 1st chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.** 

<sup>1</sup>An account of the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

<sup>2</sup>Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, <sup>3</sup>and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Aram, <sup>4</sup>and Aram the father of Aminadab, and Aminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, <sup>5</sup>and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, <sup>6</sup>and Jesse the father of King David.

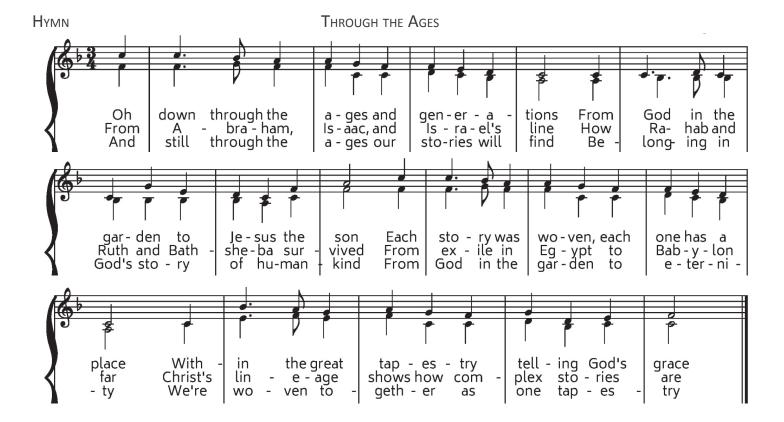
And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, <sup>7</sup>and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asaph, <sup>8</sup>and Asaph the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, <sup>9</sup>and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, <sup>10</sup>and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amos, and Amos the father of Josiah, <sup>11</sup>and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon.

<sup>12</sup>And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Salathiel, and Salathiel the father of Zerubbabel, <sup>13</sup>and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, <sup>14</sup>and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, <sup>15</sup>and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, <sup>16</sup>and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called the Messiah.

<sup>17</sup>So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations; and from David to the deportation to Babylon, fourteen generations; and from the deportation to Babylon to the Messiah, fourteen generations.

The Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you O Christ** 

**S**ERMON



PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always!

And also with you!

Congregation is invited to share a sign of peace with others. Pull out your cell phones and send a text and/or a picture to someone, sharing the peace of Christ with them as well!



**O**FFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

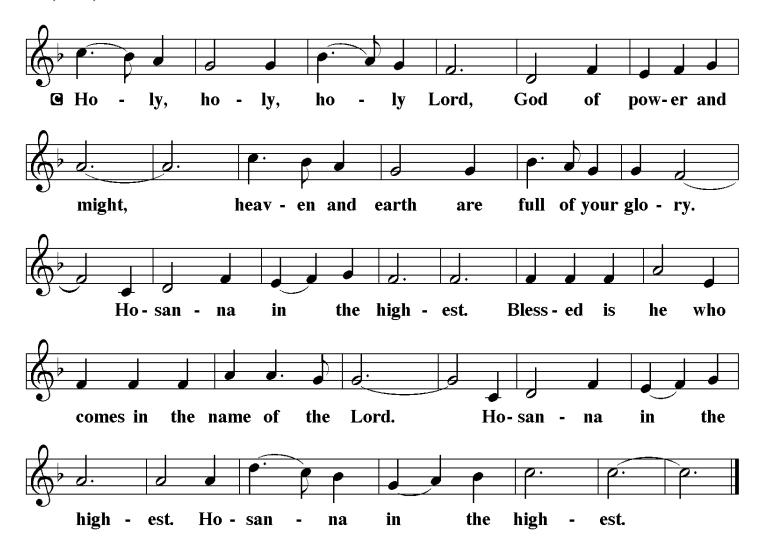
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

# HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



# **EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ... as we proclaim the mystery of faith: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit...To you, almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

Amen.

# LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

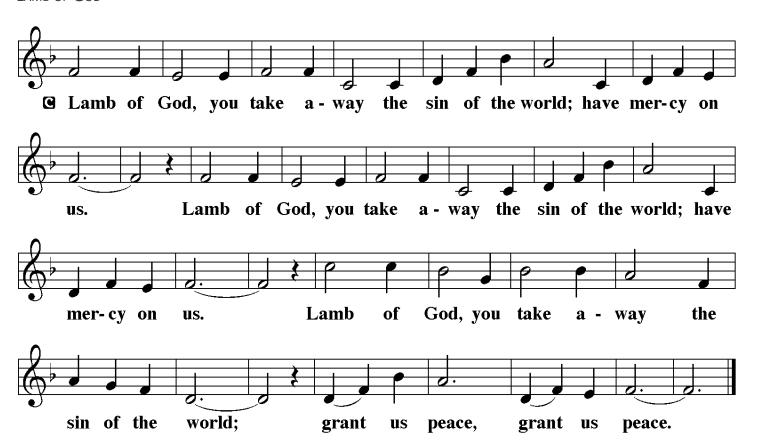
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

### COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

Together we receive God's gift of love given to us in the sacrament of communion. All are welcome at the table, where Christ is our host.

Following the directions of the ushers, the congregation will be invited forward in groups. Each group will stand before the altar to receive the bread and wine/juice. After receiving both bread and wine, remain with your group until Pastor Aleese offers a short blessing, dismissing each group to return to their seats. Those not desiring to receive communion may come forward for a blessing.

### LAMB OF GOD



Prayer after Communion

Si	NDING ———
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BLESSING

SENDING SONG PEOPLE, LOOK EAST ELW 248

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** 

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God!

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