



How does a weary world rejoice?

We find joy in connection

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME

GATHERING SONG

COMFORT, COMFORT, NOW MY PEOPLE

ELW 256

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Congregation follows the prompts given by Pastor Aleese as we offer our confession to God and as we receive God's forgiveness.

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.

KYRIE

ELW pg. 98

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.

WORD

STORYTELLING AND ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

In preparation to receive God's Word, we light the Christ candle and pray for illumination from God's word. Take a moment for silent reflection.

READING: ISAIAH 40:1-11

GOSPEL: LUKE 1:24-45

In response to the readings:

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

HYMN

HERE I AM

Unison

The musical score is written for a unison voice part. It consists of four staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are printed below the notes. The second staff continues the melody and includes a key signature change to one sharp (F#) in the second measure. The third and fourth staves continue the melody and lyrics. The lyrics are: "An - gel Ga - briel came to Ma - ry In the hills of / Though his words were filled with glo - ry Still the mes - sage / Week by week in Ma - ry's bel - ly God was grow - ing / Whe - ther we may feel we're rea - dy For the task be - / Ga - li - lee fear Ap - pre - hen - sion and con - / brought great li - ble "Who am I to bear the / - fore us and bone laid As her life and path were / - sion Filled her, won - d'ring what's to be / sav - ior With the path - way so un - clear?" / chang - ing Ne - ver was she left a - lone / hold us Ev - en when the fear won't fade / "Do not be a - fraid," the an - gel told the maid / "Here I am," she pledged; the the an - gel Gab - riel fled / With her all the while was to Ma - ry's ho - ly child / We say, "Here I am," to God's tran - scen - dent plan

"God has high - ly fa - vored thee"
 Quick - ly as he had ap - peared
 Pledge of "Here I am" of God's own
 Trust - ing God to lend us God's aid

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Response to "Lord in your mercy" is "hear our prayer."

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.

————— MEAL —————

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

GREAT THANKSGIVING

ELW pg. 107

PREFACE

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

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EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

At Pastor Aleese's direction, the congregation responds "Come, Lord Jesus" and "Come Holy Spirit" in the midst of the prayer.

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.

Receive the bread with open hands, and receive either the wine (red liquid) or juice (clear liquid). If you do not desire to receive communion, you are welcome to come forward for a blessing. Simply cross your arms over your chest as an indication to the server.

LAMB OF GOD

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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENDING

BLESSING

SENDING SONG

ALL EARTH IS HOPEFUL

ELW 266

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is coming.
Thanks be to God!

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