



How does a weary world rejoice? *We make room*

GATHERING

PRELUDE

ALL IS WELL

SPECIAL MUSIC
TOM ATKINSON & BOB DANNER

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, + one God, the maker of heaven and earth, the Word made flesh, the Lord the giver of life.

Amen.

This, tonight, is the meeting place of heaven and earth

For this, tonight, is the stable in which God keeps his appointment to meet his people.

Not many high are here, not many holy; not many innocent, not many worldly wise; not all familiar faces, not all frequent visitors.

But, if tonight only strangers met, that would be enough. For Bethlehem was not the hub of the universe, nor was the stable a platform for famous folk.

In an out-of-the-way place, in the little town of Bethlehem, there God kept and keeps his promise.

There a child has been born to us this night. There God sent his Son.

GATHERING SONG

O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

ELW 279
(vs. 1, 2, 4)

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.

OPENING PRAYER

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 AND PSALM: ISAIAH 9:2-7, PSALM 96

In response to the readings:

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: LUKE 2:1-20

The Gospel is announced:

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 2nd chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

After the reading:

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

THE FIRST NOEL

ELW 300

(vs. 1-2)

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

COVENTRY CAROL

SPECIAL MUSIC
ELYSE EICHELBERGER & BOB DANNER

OFFERING PRAYER

GREAT THANKSGIVING

ELW pg. 107

PREFACE

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

ELW pg. 108

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

ELW pg. 112

COMMUNION SONGS

AWAY IN A MANGER
INFANT HOLY, INFANT LOWLY

ELW 277

ELW 276

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENDING

SENDING SONG

SILENT NIGHT

ELW 281

BLESSING

DISMISSAL

Christ the Savior is born!
Go in peace. Proclaim this news of great joy.
Thanks be to God!

POINSETTIAS

Thank you to those who donated poinsettias to decorate the sanctuary.

Barb Swanson	In memory of Melvin Swanson
Joseph Reddy	In memory of Floyd Reddy
Joseph Reddy	In honor of Tryeve Lai
Gladys Reig	In memory of Glenn Reif
Lynn Sulzberger	In memory of Lonnie G. Sulzberger
Kim and Judy Bartling	In honor of our grandchildren
Linda Adams	In memory of Logan & Bessie Corder
Linda Adams	In memory of Clifford & Betty McKillip
Linda Adams	In memory of Dan Adams
Delene and Parke McConnaha	In memory of our parents
Doug and Bobbie Bunn	In memory of Mary Ellen Ford
Connie Hoekstra	In memory of Richard Koll
Gary and Marlys Grete	In honor of our children and grandchildren
Doug and Bobbie Bunn	In memory of Rusty Bromwell
Reggie and Melanie Drake	In memory of Leslie Freed

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Prayers written by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org. Adapted Rev. A. Kenitzer