



SOTC Worship
December 1, 2024
First Sunday in Advent

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

God says,

“Do not be afraid.”

God says,

“I have called you by name.”

God says,

“I will be with you.”

God says,

“You are precious and honored in my sight.”

At the beginning of this season,
at the start of this week,
at the top of this hour,
may we wrap ourselves in these words.

May we begin again.

GATHERING SONG

BLESSED BE THE GOD OF ISRAEL

ELW 250

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor Aleese calls the congregation to confession.

Affirming God,

Your first words to creation were words of love. You looked at this earth and said, “It is good.” You spoke affirmations through the prophets. You spoke blessings over Mary. You spoke belonging through Christ. At every turn, you have reiterated that we are a blessing, made in your image, held in your love. Forgive us for forgetting this truth. Forgive us for measuring our worth by society’s measuring stick instead of yours. We believe. Help our unbelief. In Christ’s name we pray. Amen.

Dear friends in Christ,
God declares, "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name and you are mine." In Christ, you are forgiven, you are loved. And by God's grace through faith, you are good; you are created in the image of God; and you are a blessing. May God's mercy leave you awestruck.

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.

KYRIE

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

WORD

STORYTELLING

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.

READINGS: ISAIAH 43:1-7, PSALM 84, LUKE 1:26-38

In response to the readings:

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON



In case no one e - ver told you or
 You are the mas - ter-piece born of God's
 You are u - nique - ly cre - a - ted for

4



you have for - got - ten You are a bless - ing and
 i - ma - gin - a - tion E - ven the parts that are
 love and be - long - ing For - cing your - self to be

9



have been since you were be - got - ten
 cry - ing out for res - tor - a - tion
 some - one you're not is ex - haus - ting

13



Fash-ioned from love Sent to the earth from a - bove
 All that you are Born out of star - dust and scars
 You are a gift There is no box you must fit

18



You're no - thing short of a god - send
 Re - flects God's per - fect cre - a - tion
 Let your be - lov - ed - ness blos - som

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in a blessing God who calls us Beloved.

**We believe that this blessing showed up in the life of Mary,
and was also bestowed upon the hemorrhaging woman, the poor in spirit,
the children, the crowds, the Jews, the Gentiles, the faithful and the
doubting.**

So in faith,

**we trust that God's blessing, like ripples on the water, forever reaches
toward us. And with wild hope, we believe that because of this blessing,
we are covered in love.**

We are more than enough.

Thanks be to God!

Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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. 152

PREFACE

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

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EUCCHARISTIC 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. 154

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENDING

BLESSING

SENDING SONG

THE ANGEL GABRIEL FROM HEAVEN CAME

ELW 265

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

As you leave this place...

Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.

Thanks be to God!

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