

	GATHERING	
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Prelude

WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

In those days, in the beginning,
Joseph and Mary traveled to Bethlehem.
He was to be registered, and she was expecting a child.
The time came for Mary to give birth, so she delivered her child, wrapped him in bands of cloth and laid him in a manger.

And the angels sang,
"Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth, peace to all whom God favors."
Let us worship our with-us God.

Let us sing songs of praise!

GATHERING SONG

O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

ELW 279

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.

Prayer of the Day

_____ 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.

Readings: Isaiah 9:2-7; Psalm 96; Luke 2:1-20

In response to the readings:

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Hymn Love Broke Forth



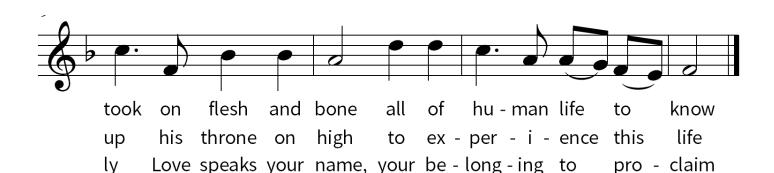
Love broke forth diant fa - shion and in ra God forth in - to bo - dy Love broke gent - ly а Love broke forth to know com - plete - ly who you



called cre-a tion God made hu - mans in her good on Ma - ry's chest laid See him swad - dled in а and who you'll Gath - er - ing be in - to are one



loved and un der stood Then God be mage to Giv - ing man - ger, Migh - ty God now po - wer less bo - dy all Ten - der of hu - man - i ty our



AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe that on a night like this one, a baby was born and placed in a manger. We believe that baby was God's love in the flesh, who grew up to love the outcast and change the world. We believe that Jesus' love was so big and so personal that the world will never be the same. So despite the mystery of this holy night, we believe that a star shone, that the shepherds ran, that the angels sang, and that love was born. Yes, we believe it when the prophets say that unto you. unto us, a savior is born. Glory to God in the highest heaven! We believe.

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	
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OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

Great Thanksgiving ELW pg. 152

Preface

Holy, Holy, Holy ELW pg. 153

EUCHARISTIC 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 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!

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