



SOTC Worship
December 8, 2024
Second Sunday in Advent

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

In a world that is lonely,
we will save a seat for you.

In a world that is anxious,
we will light candles against the gloom.

In a world that is weary,
we will sing songs of joy and truth.

I am not alone.

We are not alone.

For here in this place, God is weaving us together.

Light the candles! Sing with joy!

We are a three-cord strand, not easily broken.

GATHERING SONG

LIGHT DAWNS ON A WEARY WORLD

ELW 726

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor Aleese calls the congregation to confession.

I have tried to make my own way.

I have tried to lace my own shoes, to build my own house, to kindle my own faith.

I have said a thousand times, "turn back," as if I am fine on my own.

But the days are long and I am forgetful.

I need your help. Can you remind me?

We will remind you of this everlasting truth:

You are not alone.

Where you go, God goes.

You are held in grace.

Trust in this good news.

Thanks be to God! I remember. I believe.

Now we need your help.

We, too, have tried to make our own way.

We have tried to lace our own shoes, to build our own houses, to kindle our own faiths.

We have said a thousand times, “turn back,” as if we are fine on our own.

But the days are long and we are forgetful.

We need your help. Can you remind us?

I will remind you of this everlasting truth:

You are not alone.

Where you go, God goes.

You are held in grace.

Trust in this good news.

Thanks be to God! We remember. We believe.

Alleluia! 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

ELW pg. 147

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: ECCLESIASTES 4:9-12, PSALM 133, RUTH 1:1-5, 8-17, LUKE 1:39-45

In response to the readings:

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

HYMN

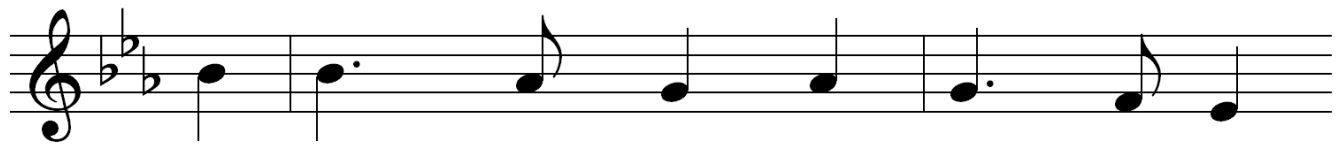
TO BE KNOWN



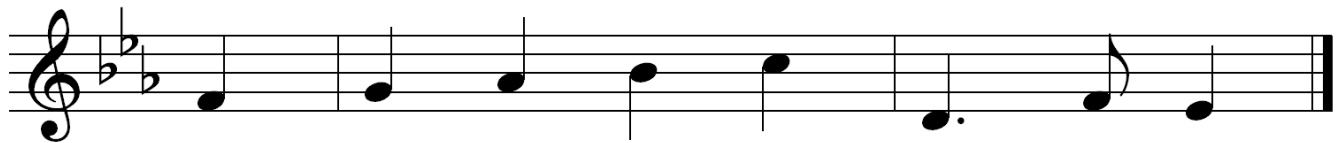
Re - call the truth that we once knew:
For in the gar - den God de - clared
In ev - ery age hu - man - i - ty
Both you and I are in - ter - twined



We were not made for sol - i - tude
That our brief lives on earth be shared
Re - lied on mu - tu - al - i - ty
The warp and weft of hu - man - kind



We need com - mun - i - ties of faith
With part - ners, friends, and fam - i - ly
Our God - breathed spi - rits weren't de - signed
So please don't try to go a - lone



Where we can feel God's warm em - brace
Who hold us in our joy and grief
To be di - vid - ed and con - fined
Your hu - man heart needs to be known

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We believe in a with-us God, Emmanuel:
a God who walks with us in the valley,
dances with us on the mountaintop,
sings with us through the night
and rejoices in the morning.**

**We believe that this with-us God, Emmanuel:
wired us for relationship,
saying to creation on the very first week,
“Humans should not be alone.”**

**Therefore, in an effort to be who God called us to be,
we strive to live like the Trinity—
connected, united, and centered.**

We believe in the power of community.

We commit to learning each other’s names.

We choose to journey with each other,

like Ruth with Naomi,

Mary and Elizabeth,

Moses and Aaron.

And we remember that no one can go through life alone.

Thanks be to God, for lighting our way.

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

ELW pg. 153

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

HE CAME DOWN

ELW 253

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

As you leave this place...

Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.

Thanks be to God!

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