

	———— GATHERING ————	
Prelude		
Welcome		
Gathering Song	As with Gladness Men of Old	ELW 302

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor Aleese calls the congregation to confession.

God of new beginnings,

We admit that we often follow the well-worn path, simply because others have been there before.

Sometimes this is holy and humble, but there are days when a new path needs to be tread.

On those new-beginning days, O God, give us the courage to follow your star.

Give us the courage to go home by another way.

Give us the courage to kick up some dust and walk in a new direction for the sake of justice, love, and neighbor.

For when you are doing a new thing, we want to have the courage to follow. With hope in our hearts we wander, we travel.

Amen.

Dear travelers,

No matter the roads you've taken, the steps you've made, or the paths you've traveled, there is nowhere you could go that would land you outside of God's love. Hear and believe the good news of the Gospel: Regardless of the path we travel, of how lost we may get, or the twists and turns along the way, we do not walk alone. In the name of Jesus Christ +, you are forgiven, you are loved, and you are given a chance to begin again. **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

Hymn of Praise ELW pg. 148

Prayer of the Day



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 43:16-21; PSALM 72:1-7, 10-14; MATTHEW 2:1-12

In response to the readings:

Word of God, Word of Life.

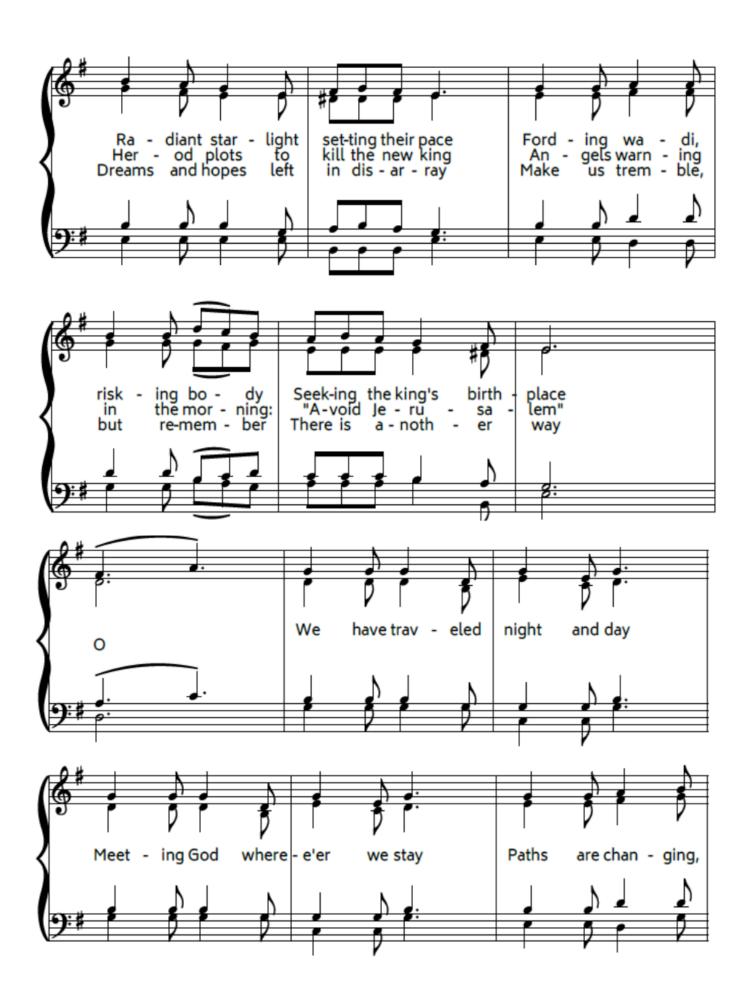
Thanks be to God.

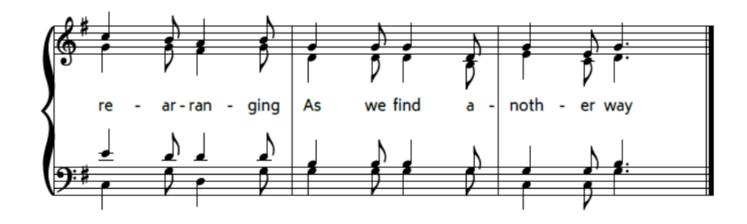
SERMON

HYMN



HOME BY ANOTHER WAY





AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in a with-us God,
a God who is beside us in the mountains and valleys,
holding our hand through every bump and turn.
And in the chaos of our journey,
we believe that God sees
what we cannot always see:
a path home by another way.
Therefore, trusting in this ever-present and guiding God,
we lace up our shoes.
We look for God's fingerprints in the world.
We trust that there are paths still unexplored,
paths that God has only begun to invite us down.
And like the Magi, we dare to follow.
May it be so, 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 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	
SEINDING	

BLESSING

SENDING SONG

SON OF GOD, ETERNAL SAVIOR

ELW 655

vs. 1, 4

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

As you leave this place... Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God!

Copyright acknowledgements:

Music covered under Augsburg Fortress License #SB135131, CCLI License #1141706, One License #738128-A. Scripture from New Revised Standard Version Bible, © 1989 the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. Prayer by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.

Gathering: As With Gladness Men of Old. Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898, alt. Music: Conrad Kocher, 1786-1872. Text and Music: Public Domain.

Hymn of the Day: Home By Another Way. Text: Anna Strickland, A Sanctified Art 2021. Music: John Henry Hopkins (1857). Text and Music: © Anna Strickland, 2021. Commissioned by A Sanctified Art. Public Domain. Covered under A Sanctified Art LLC.

 $Offering: The First Noel. Text: English \ traditional \ Music: English \ traditional; arr. John Stainer, 1840-1901. Text \ and \ Music: @ Public Domain.$

Sending Song: Son of God, Eternal Savior. Text: Somerset C. Lowry, 1855-1932. Music: Oude en Nieuwe Hollantse Boerenlities en Contradansen, 1710; arr. Julius Rontgen, 1855-1932. Text and Music © Public Domain.