

Worship Guide

8:30 and 10:45 December 1, 2024

Prelude

Announcements & Greeting

To prepare for this service, please bring the following items to the place where you will be participating in worship:

- 4 candles or an Advent wreath.
- A plate with bread on it. Cover the bread with a napkin or cloth.
- A cup or glass with wine or grape juice. You may have small cups for each of the people who will be participating. You may pour from the one cup into the many cups later during the service.
- A heart, soul and mind open to the love of God in Christ Jesus.

Confession & Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, alive in the world, reviving creation, arriving soon. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

God of mercy,
we confess that we have sinned. We trust earthly powers and human authority alone. We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.

God of might,
we confess that we have sinned. We have turned away from our neighbors. We have trusted false promises.

God in our midst,
we confess that we have sinned. We plead: come to us. Bring your mercy to birth in us.

A righteous branch springs forth: it is Christ the Lord, our Savior, in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy. By the power of the Holy Spirit, receive the grace and forgiveness of God through † Christ Jesus, whose day draws near. **Amen.**

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Hymn: "Comfort, Comfort Now My People" ELW 256

- 1 "Comfort, comfort now my people;
tell of peace!" So says our God.
Comfort those who sit in darkness
mourning under sorrow's load.
To God's people now proclaim
that God's pardon waits for them!
Tell them that their war is over;
God will reign in peace forever.
- 2 For the herald's voice is crying
in the desert far and near,
calling us to true repentance,
since the reign of God is here.
Oh, that warning cry obey!
Now prepare for God a way.
Valleys, rise to greet the Savior;
hills, bow down in humble favor.
- 3 Straight shall be what long was crooked,
and the rougher places plain.
Let your hearts be true and humble,
as befits God's holy reign.
For the glory of the Lord
now on earth is shed abroad,
and all flesh shall see the token
that God's word is never broken.

Text: Johann G. Olearius, 1635-1711; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt. Text and music – public domain.

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.**

Lighting the Advent Candle – "Joy to the World" ELW 267 vs. 1

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her king;
let ev'ry heart prepare him room
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748; Text and music – public domain.

Kyrie – page 98

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let
us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen, amen.

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Prayer of the Day

**Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful
protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins. Redeem
us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and
the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Jeremiah 33:14-16

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Prayground

Gospel Acclamation – “*Hark the Glad Sound!*” ELW 239 vs. 1

Hark, the glad sound! The Savior comes,
the Savior promised long;
let ev'ry heart prepare a throne
and ev'ry voice a song.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702-1751; Text and music – public domain.

Luke 21:25-36

The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 21st chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon – Pastor Kristi Weber

Hymn: “My Lord, What a Morning” ELW 438

Refrain

My Lord, what a morning;
my Lord, what a morning;
oh, my Lord, what a morning,
when the stars begin to fall.

1 You will hear the trumpet sound,
to wake the nations underground,
looking to my God's right hand,
when the stars begin to fall. *Refrain*

2 You will hear the sinner cry,
to wake the nations underground,
looking to my God's right hand,
when the stars begin to fall. *Refrain*

3 You will hear the Christian shout,
to wake the nations underground,
looking to my God's right hand,
when the stars begin to fall. *Refrain*

Text: African American spiritual; Text and music – public domain.

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
Born of the Virgin Mary,
Suffered under Pontius Pilate,
Was crucified, died, and was buried;
He descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
He ascended into heaven,
He is seated at the right hand of the Father,
And he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
The holy catholic church,
The communion of saints,
The forgiveness of sins,
The resurrection of the body,
And the life everlasting. Amen.**

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Prayer Song: "Away in a Manger" ELW 277 vs. 3

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay
close by me forever and love me, I pray.

Text: North American, 19th cent. Text and music – public domain.

Prayers of the People

L: Lord, in your mercy.

C: Hear our prayer

Prayer Song: "Away in a Manger" ELW 266 vs. 3

Bless all the dear children in your tender care
and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.

Text: North American, 19th cent. Text and music – public domain.

Offering of Music:

8:30: Instrumental

10:45: Celebration – "Do You Hear What I Hear?"

Words and music by Noel Regney & Gloria Shayne, arr. By Harry Simeone. ©1963 Shawnee Press Used by permission from One License #A-711313.

Offertory: "Your Little Ones, Dear Lord" ELW 286

1 Your little ones, dear Lord, are we,
and come your lowly bed to see;
enlighten ev'ry soul and mind,
that we the way to you may find.

2 With songs we hasten you to greet,
and kiss the ground before your feet.
Oh, blessed hour, oh, sweetest night
that gave you birth, our soul's delight.

3 Oh, draw us wholly to you, Lord,
and to us all your grace accord;
true faith and love to us impart,
that we may hold you in our heart.

4 Until at last we too proclaim,
with all your saints, your glorious name;
in paradise our songs renew,
and praise you as the angels do.

Text: Hans A. Brorson, 1694-1764; tr. Harriet Krauth Spaeth, 1845-1925, alt. Text and music – public domain.

Offering Prayer

Creator God, you made the whole world, even the farthest stars, and you draw near to feed us. We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine. Strengthen us with this food that we may live in expectation for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Communion

At this time, please take the bread you have and uncover it.
Do the same with the wine/grape juice and pour it into the cup you will use.

Gathered together into the one body of Christ from the many places where we experience this holy time of worship, we come to the Lord's table:

Great Thanksgiving ELW page 107

L: The Lord be with you. **C:** And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts. **C:** We lift them to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right ... join their unending hymn:

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Holy, Holy, Holy – ELW page 108

Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

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Eucharistic Prayer and Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

**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**

Distribution

At this time, you may eat the bread and drink the wine, the body and blood of Christ, trusting in faith that Christ is with you.

If you are with other people, you may give them bread and the wine to eat and drink and then receive these gifts of God for yourself.

If you are not partaking in the meal at this time, receive this blessing:
Jesus loves you. This I know.

Lamb of God ELW page 112

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
Have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
Have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
Grant us peace, grant us peace.

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Communion Song: “Come, O Come, Emmanuel” ELW 257

1 O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.

Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.

2 O come, O Wisdom from on high,
embracing all things far and nigh:
in strength and beauty come and stay;
teach us your will and guide our way. Refrain

3 O come, O come, O Lord of might,
as to your tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times you gave the law
in cloud, and majesty, and awe. Refrain

4 O come, O Branch of Jesse, free
your own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell your people save,
and give them vict'ry o'er the grave. Refrain

5 O come, O Key of David, come,
and open wide our heav'nly home;
make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery. Refrain

6 O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer;
O Sun of justice, now draw near.
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadow put to flight. Refrain

7 O come, O King of nations, come,
O Cornerstone that binds in one:
refresh the hearts that long for you;
restore the broken, make us new. Refrain

8 O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear. *Refrain*

Text: Psalterium Canticum Catholicarum, Köln, 1710; tr. Composite Text sts. 2, 6, 7 © 1997 Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission from One License #A-711313.

Communion Song: Instrumental

Prayer After Communion

Generous God, we thank you for the gift of life, for the bread of salvation. We thank you for coming among us, for leading us into peace. We thank you for showering us with mercy, for sending us into the world. Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us as we feed the hungry in your name. Amen

Benediction

God of endings and beginnings, God in the darkness and the light, God, our hope for the journey, ✠ bless and keep you now and forever. **Amen**

Hymn: “Go Tell it on the Mountain” ELW 290

Refrain

Go tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and ev'rywhere;
go tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born!

1 While shepherds kept their watching
o'er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens
there shone a holy light. *Refrain*

2 The shepherds feared and trembled
when, lo, above the earth
rang out the angel chorus
that hailed our Savior's birth. *Refrain*

3 Down in a lonely manger
the humble Christ was born;
and God sent us salvation
that blessed Christmas morn. *Refrain*

Text: African American spiritual, refrain; John W. Work Jr., 1872-1925, stanzas, alt. Text and music – public domain.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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