

THE HOLY SPIRIT CALLS US TOGETHER AS THE PEOPLE OF GOD

Prelude Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Welcome And Announcements

Gathering Hymn Angels We Have Heard On High ELW #289

1 Angels we have heard on high,
 sweetly singing o'er the plains,
 and the mountains in reply,
 echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain

Gloria in excelsis Deo;
gloria in excelsis Deo.

2 Shepherds, why this jubilee?
 Why your joyous strains prolong?
 What the gladsome tidings be
 which inspire your heav'nly song? *Refrain*

3 Come to Bethlehem and see
 him whose birth the angels sing;
 come, adore on bended knee
 Christ the Lord, the newborn king. *Refrain*

P: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

C: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

P: Those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness, on them light has shined.

C: We have beheld Christ's glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.

P: To us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

C: In the Word was life, and the life was the light of all people.

Confession And Forgiveness

P: We worship in the name of the Father, and the Son +, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

P: In Christ, we are bold to name our sin and cry out for peace.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Holy God,

C: we confess our sin before you.

We replace compassion with competition.

We seek what is mighty while ignoring the meek.

We are quick to anger but slow to forgive.

We have not put on love in harmony with you.

Wrap us in the grace of your powerful Word.

Swaddle our hearts with your peace,

that all we do, in word or deed,

may reflect your love born among us.

Amen.

P: I bring you good news of great joy for all people: God has come among us in the child born of Mary, Christ the Lord. I declare that you are forgiven and clothed in peace in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: The Light has come into the world! Christ is Born; Alleluia, alleluia! The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray.

All : Shine into our hearts the light of your wisdom, O God, and open our minds to the knowledge of your word, that in all things we may think and act according to your good will and may live continually in the light of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

GOD SPEAKS TO US IN SCRIPTURE, PREACHING AND SONG

First Reading Colossians 3:12-17

Children's Message

Gospel Reading Luke 2:41-52

Message Pastor Amanda

Hymn of the Day Of the Father's Love Begotten ELW #295 vs. 1,2,3,5

**1 Of the Father's love begotten
ere the worlds began to be,
he is Alpha and Omega,
he the source, the ending he,
of the things that are, that have been,
and that future years shall see,
evermore and evermore.**

**2 Oh, that birth forever blessed,
when the virgin, full of grace,
by the Holy Ghost conceiving,
bore the Savior of our race,
and the babe, the world's redeemer,
first revealed his sacred face,
evermore and evermore.**

**3 This is he whom seers in old time
chanted of with one accord,
whom the voices of the prophets
promised in their faithful word;
now he shines, the long-expected;
let creation praise its Lord
evermore and evermore.**

5 Christ, to thee, with God the Father,
and, O Holy Ghost, to thee,
hymn and chant and high thanksgiving
and unwearied praises be:
honor, glory, and dominion,
and eternal victory
evermore and evermore! Amen.

Apostle's Creed

P: Let us confess our faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed:

C: 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 into hell. 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.

Prayers of Intercession

After each petition.. P: Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great.**

Sharing a Sign of God's Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always!

C: And also with you!

GOD FEEDS US WITH THE PRESENCE OF JESUS CHRIST

Offering

Tw'as in the Moon of Wintertime (ELW #284)

1 'Twas in the moon of wintertime
when all the birds had fled,
that *God the Lord of all the earth
sent angel choirs instead;
before their light the stars grew dim,
and wond'ring hunters heard the hymn:

Refrain

Jesus your king is born! Jesus is born,
in excelsis gloria!

2 Within a lodge of broken bark
the tender babe was found;
a ragged robe of rabbit skin
enwrapped his beauty round;
but as the hunter braves drew nigh,
the angel song rang loud and high: *Refrain*

3 The earliest moon of wintertime
is not so round and fair
as was the ring of glory on
the helpless infant there.
The chiefs from far before him knelt
with gifts of fox and beaver pelt. *Refrain*

4 O children of the forest free,
the angel-song is true;
the holy child of earth and heav'n
is born today for you.
Come, kneel before the radiant boy,
who brings you beauty, peace, and joy. *Refrain*

**original: "mighty Gitchi Manitou"*

Offering Prayer

P: Good and loving God,

C: we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be blessing for others. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

Holy, Holy, Holy

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

Distribution Hymns

Away In A Manger	ELW #277
What Child Is This	ELW #296
Little Town of Bethlehem	ELW #279

Post- Communion Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

Post- Communion Prayer

P: Great and saving God,

C: you have gathered your scattered people around gifts of grain and wine, the body and blood of our Savior Christ. As we, like the shepherds, return on our way, help us to proclaim all that we have heard and seen, praising you in word and loving deed for the gift of Jesus, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

GOD BLESSES US AND SENDS US IN MISSION TO THE WORLD

Blessing

P: God most high, God with us, God poured out on us, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn

For God so Loved the World W&P #39

**For God so loved the world
That He gave His only begotten Son
That whosoever believes in Him
Should not perish but**

Chorus 1

**Have life everlasting have life everlasting
Have life everlasting have life everlasting
For God so loved the world
That He gave His only begotten Son**

Sending

Go in Peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Good Christian Friends Rejoice

Music by Dani Lemieux

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