

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

THE INVITATION

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Now, in this holy season of Advent, God comes to be with you.

God comes to be with you as well.

As we begin our journey to Bethlehem, let us open our hearts to God.

For God will fill them with strength and courage for the journey.

Let us join our voices in singing praise to God.

We will lift glad songs of joy to the One who is coming to us.

When you were tired of waiting, we sing your praises this day:

Holy Holy Holy, my heart, my heart adores you

My heart is glad to say to you, You are Holy, God

In your holiness, you could have stood apart from us,

. . . . we proclaim that mystery which is our faith:

Christ died, giving his life as he called to you;

Christ was raised, resurrection love shining the way;

Christ will come, to gather us from every time and place.

Remembering that we are all your people,

. . . . God in Community, Holy in One. Amen.

SHARING THE ELEMENTS

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Waiting is hard. Expectation, that time between anticipation and fulfillment . . . can make us restless. But you, O Christ, are with us. As you have nourished us at this table, help us to wait in quiet expectation for that day when there will be room for all of Your Children at the Table you have prepared. Meanwhile, send us out to share what we know: that nothing can separate us from Your love. **Amen.**

In the Presbyterian Church, we believe that Christ is present in our celebration together; the bread and juice remain bread and juice, the sacrament reminds us that Jesus is always with us.

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Music Director: Mira Ordon Pianist: Megan James

December 3, 2017
First Sunday of Advent
We Gather In God's Name

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MOMENT OF SILENCE

CHORAL INTROIT

LIGHTING THE ADVENT AND PEACE CANDLES

KENYON FAMILY

* RESPONSE: (VS. 1) "SHE FLIES ON"

Gentle waters rocking on the morning of our birth

Like an empty cradle waiting to be filled

And from the heart of God, the Spirit moved upon the earth

Like a mother breathing life into Her child

She comes sailing on the wind, her wings flashing in the sun

On a journey just begun, She flies on

And in the passage of her flight, her song rings out through the night

Full of laughter, full of light, She flies on.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: Now, in this holy season of Advent, we wait.

PEOPLE: For the faithful God is coming to us.

LEADER: Now, in this season of waiting, we listen.

PEOPLE: For the faithful Word speaks of good news to us.

LEADER: Now, in the waiting and listening, we watch.

PEOPLE: For the faithful Spirit is moving among us.

***HYMN # 4 (V. 1-3)

"CREATOR OF THE STARS OF NIGHT"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Creator of All, we are so terrible at waiting. And even worse at it when we are filled with expectation! We try to guess at how things will work out, talking over each other to predict, hoping to be right . . . mostly because we just can't stand not knowing. We get anxious, impatient, cranky, and we take it out on others. Sometimes we miss out on what is happening right now because we are so focused on whatever is next. Forgive us our impatience, O God. Help us to take a deep breath, to remember that no matter what, You are with us . . . to enjoy the time of expectation even as we look forward to that which is expected—the Word, full of light and truth, coming to dwell within and among us.

Silence is kept.

Forgive us and open our hearts and eyes, that when the Light of the World comes, we may know, recognize, and receive. Amen.

PROMISE OF GOD

LEADER: Friends believe the good news.

PEOPLE: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

RESPONSE HYMN # 4 (V. 4) "CREATOR OF THE STARS OF NIGHT"
To God, Creator, God the Son,
and God the Spirit, Three in One,
Praise, honor, might & glory be
from age to age eternally. Amen.

We Proclaim God's Word

MINUTE FOR MISSION

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

SCRIPTURE:

GENESIS 1/ JOHN 1

ANTHEM

COMPOSERS CLARK/NIX

'LIGHT THE ADVENT CANDLES'

WORD TO THE CHILDREN

SERMON

'THE WORD BECAME FLESH'

*HYMN #309 (Words on Screen)

'OF THE FATHER'S LOVE BEGOTTEN'

We Give Thanks to God

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LORD'S PRAYER (DEBTS/DEBTORS)

*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 debts as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power.
And the glory forever. Amen.*

The Lord's Prayer is based on the version in Matthew's Gospel, which specifically asks forgiveness from financial debt. Most Jews were mired in debt; burdened by Roman and temple taxes.

THE GIVING OF OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY

* RESPONSE "WHAT DOES THE LORD REQUIRE OF YOU"

**What does the Lord require of you?
What does the Lord require of you?**

Justice, kindness, walk humbly with your God
*To seek justice and love kindness
And walk humbly with your God.*

What Does the Lord Require of You is from the prophet Micah (6:8) and serves as Trinity's mission statement. Sing all or repeat a verse of your choosing.

UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God-who-loves-us, you do so, not so we might have more, but we might care for those who have so little; not so we might splurge, but we might share. In the waiting of Advent, may we see the wanting, and use our resources for fill their lives with hope, grace, and joy. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION (SEE BACK OF BULLETIN)

We Disperse In God's Name

*HYMN #5

"LET ALL MORTAL FLESH"

*BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE

***Those Who Are Able Are Invited To Stand**