

## Worship Plan for Sunday, January 2, 2022 2 Christmas

*We are privileged to gather today in Treaty 4 Territory and the traditional homeland of the Metis.*

### **Welcome Statement**

*You are welcome here, you, whose face does not resemble mine, whose spirit I may not define, you, whose eyes have seen, what I will never dream. You, whose frame is bent or broken, whose mind fears the unspoken. You are welcome here.*

*Regardless of your race, your age, your gender identity or expression, your marital status, physical and mental ability, your sexual orientation, country of origin, economic and religious status, you will be honoured here.*

*For Christ has made us whole and Christ has set us free. His daily grace enables us to live in harmony.*

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (ELW p. 94)**

*The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*The presiding minister may lead one of the following or another prayer of preparation.*

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*One of the following or another confession is prayed.*

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

Most merciful God, **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

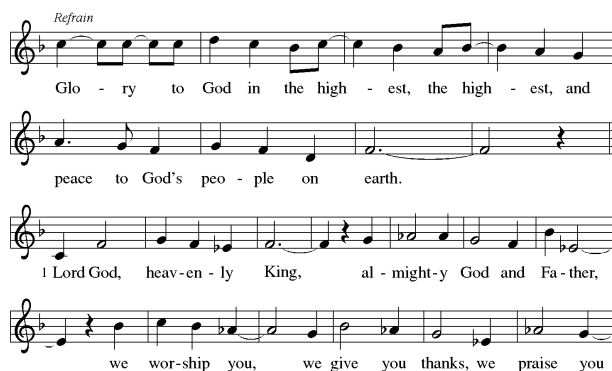
## **GATHERING SONG O Come, All Ye Faithful (ELW 283) vss. 1, 3, 4**

### **GREETING (ELW p. 184)**

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.**

### **CANTICLE OF PRAISE (ELW p. 185)**

*Refrain*



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and  
peace to God's peo - ple on earth.  
I Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,  
we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you



for your glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high-  
est, the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God,  
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the  
right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

*Refrain*  
Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and  
peace to God's peo - ple on earth. 3 For you a -  
lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,  
you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the  
Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.  
A - men. A - men. A - men.

*Final refrain*  
Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and peace to God's  
peo - ple on earth. Glo - ry to God in the high-  
est, the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

### PRAYER OF THE DAY (ELW p. 188)

Let us pray. Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

### SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:3-14. A reading from Ephesians.

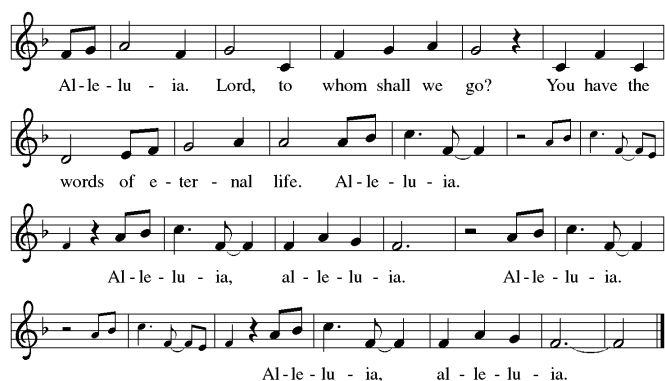
<sup>3</sup>Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, <sup>4</sup>just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. <sup>5</sup>He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, <sup>6</sup>to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. <sup>7</sup>In

him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace <sup>8</sup>that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight <sup>9</sup>he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, <sup>10</sup>as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. <sup>11</sup>In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, <sup>12</sup>so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup>In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; <sup>14</sup>this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM: Psalm 147:12-20

- <sup>12</sup>Worship the LORD, | O Jerusalem;  
praise your | God, O Zion,  
<sup>13</sup>**who has strengthened the bars | of your gates**  
**and has blessed your chil- | dren within you.**  
<sup>14</sup>God has established peace | on your borders  
and satisfies you with the | finest wheat.  
<sup>15</sup>**God sends out a command | to the earth,**  
**a word that runs | very swiftly. R**  
<sup>16</sup>God gives | snow like wool,  
scattering | frost like ashes.  
<sup>17</sup>**God scatters | hail like bread crumbs.**  
**Who can stand a- | gainst God's cold?**  
<sup>18</sup>The LORD sends forth the | word and melts them;  
the wind blows, and the | waters flow.  
<sup>19</sup>**God declares the | word to Jacob,**  
**statutes and judg- | ments to Israel.**  
<sup>20</sup>The LORD has not done so to any | other nation;  
they do not know God's judgments. | Hallelujah! **R**

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 188)



### GOSPEL: John 1:[1-9] 10-18. The holy gospel acc. to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.  
<sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being <sup>4</sup>in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. <sup>9</sup>The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.]

<sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup>He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. <sup>12</sup>But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, <sup>13</sup>who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

<sup>14</sup>And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. <sup>15</sup>(John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") <sup>16</sup>From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup>The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup>No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known. The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **SERMON (ELW p. 189)**

### **HYMN OF THE DAY *Cold December Flies Away* (ELW 299)**

### **CREED (ELW p. 189)**

**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.**

### **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Joining our voices with the heavenly host and Christians throughout time and space, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need. *A brief silence.*

You make yourself known in the gift of language in diverse forms. Draw our attention to those who communicate through sign, braille, and technology. Make your church a place where all methods of communication are celebrated. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Creating God, the sun greets us anew each morning. Thank you for waking us up today to witness and share your abundance. Awaken us always to your wisdom and deepen our care for your natural world. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Emmanuel, in your name we are assured that you are with us. Train nations and peoples to honor and respect one another, especially those whose names and identities have been mistreated, neglected, or oppressed. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You adopt us as your beloved ones. Accompany parents and children navigating the adoption process, especially those in the foster system. Sustain those struggling with infertility or pregnancy loss. Tenderly embrace all in need *especially* Terri, Beth, Lynne, Paul, Michael, Dennis, Harley, Emma, Kevin, Cooper from Edenwold, Jane, Joanne, Lorraine, Pastor Kragbe, Pastor Lindsay and Pastor Larry. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You journey with us through change. Guide those assuming new roles in this congregation or making transitions in their families, workplaces, or communities. As the seasons and the calendar change, equip us for unexpected challenges. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We give you thanks for all who modeled lives of loving service. Lead us in your grace until, with all your saints, we enter the fullness of your glory. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Rejoicing in your Word made flesh among us, we commend these prayers to you, confident of your grace and love made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

**PEACE (ELW p. 189)** The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

#### **OFFERING & OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray. Good and loving God, 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.**

#### **DIALOGUE (ELW p. 190)**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

#### **PREFACE (ELW p. 190)**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh  
you have opened the eyes of faith  
to a new and radiant vision of your glory,  
that, beholding the God made visible,  
we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see.  
And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 190)**

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -  
 san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -  
 est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
 san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

**THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE (ELW p. 190)**

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:  
 Blessed are you for the birth of creation.  
 Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.  
 Blessed are you for your promise to your people.  
 Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.  
 Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.  
 Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,  
 the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
 our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
 broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
 Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
 and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
 This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
 shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:  
**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

With this bread and cup  
 we remember your Word dwelling among us,  
 full of grace and truth.  
 We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.  
 We look with hope for his coming.  
**Come, Lord Jesus.**

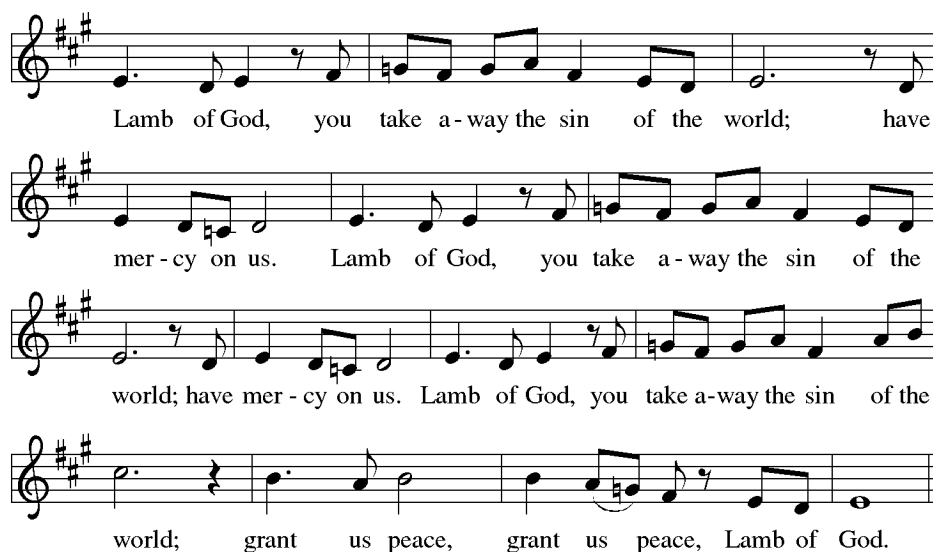
Holy God, we long for your Spirit.  
 Come among us.  
 Bless this meal.  
 May your Word take flesh in us.  
 Awaken your people.  
 Fill us with your light.  
 Bring the gift of peace on earth.  
**Come, Holy Spirit.**

All praise and glory are yours,  
 Holy One of Israel,  
 Word of God incarnate,  
 Power of the Most High,  
 one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**LORD'S PRAYER (ELW p. 191)**

Our Father in heaven,  
     hallowed be your name,  
     your kingdom come,  
     your will be done,  
         on earth as in heaven.  
 Give us today our daily bread.  
 Forgive us our sins  
     as we forgive those  
         who sin against us.  
 Save us from the time of trial  
     and deliver us from evil.  
 For the kingdom, the power,  
     and the glory are yours,  
     now and forever. **Amen.**

## COMMUNION (ELW p. 191) & COMMUNION SONG (ELW p. 191)



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (ELW p. 191)

*The assisting minister leads one of the following or a similar prayer after communion.*

Let us pray.

Radiant God, with our eyes we have seen your salvation, and in this meal we have feasted on your grace. May your Word take flesh in us, that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

**BLESSING (ELW p. 192)** Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS (ELW p. 192)

## SENDING SONG 'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime (ELW 284)

## DISMISSAL (ELW p. 192)

Go in peace. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

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