



Gathering

Welcome, Confession & Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, Wonderful Counselor, Mighty Savior, Prince of Peace. Amen. Trusting in God’s steadfast love and faithfulness, let us confess our sin. Silence is kept for reflection.

Reconciling God, we yearn for your presence to transform our grief, pain, and despair. We confess that we have not always prepared room in our hearts for your love; we have not always recognized your presence among us; we have not always embraced your message of peace. We cry out, weary with the burden of violence, oppression, and fear. We confess our failure to make room for those seeking refuge; our participation in violent systems that harm your innocent ones; our reluctance to embody your good news. Be born in us today and teach us to sing the joyful song of your salvation. Amen.

God’s grace upon grace flows over you. + Christ’s presence redeems the whole creation. Your sins are forgiven. Let the earth rejoice and be glad! Amen.

Gathering Hymn “We Three Kings” insert  
Greeting & This Is the Feast page 140

Prayer of the Day

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.

Word

Kid’s Sermon  
First Reading: Jeremiah 31:7-14

God promises to bring Israel back to its land from the most remote parts of exile. In Zion Israel will rejoice over God’s gift of food and livestock. Young women will express their joy in dancing; God will give gladness instead of sorrow.

Psalm 147

Worship the Lord, O Jerusalem; praise your God, O Zion,  
Who has strengthened the bars of your gates and has blessed your children within you.  
God has established peace on your borders and satisfies you with the finest wheat.  
God sends out a command to the earth, a word that runs very swiftly.

God gives snow like wool, scattering frost like ashes.  
God scatters hail like bread crumbs. Who can stand against God’s cold?

Second Reading: Ephesians 1:3-14

In Jesus, all of God’s plans and purposes have been made know as heaven and earth are united in Christ. Through Jesus, we have been chosen as God’s children and have been promised eternal salvation.

Gospel Acclamation “Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?” page 142  
The Holy Gospel John 1:1-18

John begins his gospel with this prologue: a hymn to the Word through whom all things were created. This Word became flesh and brought grace and truth to the world.

Sermon Pastor Bryant Bakkum  
Hymn of the Day “Of the Father’s Love Begotten”, vs. 1, 2 & 4 #295

Prayers of the People Lord, in your mercy. Hear our prayer.

Sharing of the Peace

Offering

Offertory Song “Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful” #182  
Offering Prayer—Let us pray together:

God of glory, great are your wonders among us and many are the blessings you bestow. Use us and these your gifts for the needs of the world, that all the ends of the earth may rejoice in your saving grace, through Christ our Savior. Amen.

Meal

The Great Thanksgiving & Holy, Holy, Holy page 144  
Words of Institution  
The Lord’s Prayer Our Father, who art in heaven... page 145  
Communion “Lamb of God” page 146  
“The First Noel” #300

Prayer after Communion—Let us pray together:

Incarnate God, you are among us at this table. May we treasure this gift and ponder in our hearts the mystery of your presence. Move us to discover the wonders of your love in the everyday moments of our lives, through Christ born in us. Amen.