

Waiting...for light

Prelude

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, whose forgiveness is sure and whose steadfast love endures forever. **Amen.** Together let us honestly and humbly confess that we have not lived as God desires. *Silence is kept for reflection.*

Loving and forgiving God, **we confess that we are held captive by sin. In spite of our best efforts, we have gone astray. We have not welcomed the stranger; we have not loved our neighbor; we have not been Christ to one another. Restore us, O God. Wake us up and turn us from our sin. Renew us each day in the light of Christ. Amen.**

People of God, hear this glad news: by God's endless grace your sins are forgiven, and you are free—free from all that holds you back and free to live in the peaceable realm of God. May you be strengthened in God's love, ☩ comforted by Christ's peace, and accompanied with the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Opening Hymn – O Come, O Come, Emmanuel #257 (red hymnal), #34 (green), vs. 1 & 6

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.

6. 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*

Prayer of the Day

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. Show us your gift of light in new ways so that we might serve you more faithfully. We pray this in your holy name. Amen.

Kids' Sermon

Candle Lighting

Gospel Hymn – God Came Down #253

1. God came down that we may have love; God came down that we may have love; God came down that we may have love; hallelujah forevermore.
2. God came down that we may have hope; God came down that we may have hope; God came down that we may have hope; hallelujah forevermore.
3. God came down that we may have light; God came down that we may have light; God came down that we may have light; hallelujah forevermore.

Scripture: Isaiah 60:1-5a

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. ²For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. ³Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. ⁴Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. ⁵Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice,

Sermon**This Little Light of Mine #677 (red hymnal)**

1. This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine; this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine; this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
2. Ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine; ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine; ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
3. Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine; Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine; Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Prayers of the People**Holy Communion****Benediction****People, Look East #248 (red hymnal), vs. 1 & 3**

1. People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People, look east, and sing today—Love, the Guest, is on the way.
3. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east, and sing today—Love, the Star, is on the way.

Announcements**Postlude****Drive-thru Offering Collection & Communion Distribution**