

WHERE TWO OR THREE ARE GATHERED: WORSHIP FOR SMALL ASSEMBLIES

ADVENT - YEAR B

NOTES FOR PLANNER

- Candle Lighting: Sundays and Seasons.com has 2 suggested readings for each Sunday in Advent, other suggestions can be found on <http://www.textweek.com/advent.htm>
Choose one candle lighting song for the 4 Sundays of Advent:
 ELW 240 Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah. Sing verse 1 on Advent 1, adding additional verses each week; or
 ELW 262 Wait for the Lord – sing through several times
- Instead of Confession & Forgiveness/Thanksgiving for Baptism, use prayers found in ELW.
- Sing or speak Kyrie from Setting 8.
- Suggesting 2 Scripture readings only. Use NRSV or another translation, e.g. The Message
- Prayers of the People – omit, as words in Setting 8 Kyrie are similar petitions. Instead, include one short prayer selected from ELW for each Sunday
- If no sermon/message, could use Lectio Divina for Gospel reading
- If Communion is being celebrated, use Words of Institution/Eucharistic Prayer III on p. 110 (no Great Thanksgiving, Sanctus, etc.)
- Consider asking some of those present to help with the readings and prayers
- Hymns suggested for each Sunday, including option of using the same Sending Song for the first three Sundays (ELW 247 Come Now, O Prince of Peace) if preferred.
- If choosing to have a time set aside for the Offering, then an Offertory prayer is suggested for each Sunday.

ADVENT I – “STIR UP YOUR POWER...AND COME”

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

GATHERING

Candle Lighting: ELW 240 Light One Candle – vs. 1, OR ELW 262 Wait for the Lord

Prayer: Into your hands, almighty God, we place ourselves: our minds to know you, our hearts to love you, our wills to serve you, for we are yours. Into your hands, incarnate Saviour, we place ourselves: receive us and draw us after you, that we may follow your steps; abide in us and enliven us by the power of your indwelling. Into your hands, O hovering Spirit, we place ourselves: take us and fashion us after your image; let your comfort strengthen, your grace renew, and your fire cleanse us, soul and body, in life and death, in this world of shadows and in your changeless world of light eternal, now and forever, **Amen.**
(*ELW p. 86 Commitment*)

Greeting: 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.**

Kyrie: Setting 8, p. 184 ELW – sung or spoken

Refrain: **Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way.**
 Kyrie eleison, ev’ry day.

For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all;
for this holy house, for all who worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain*

That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor;
that we may live out truth and justice and grace,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain*

For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family;
for life and for love, for our work and our play,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain*

For your Spirit to guide; that you centre our lives in the water and the Word;
that you nourish our souls with your body and blood,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain*

Prayer of the Day: Stir up your power, Lord Jesus Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**
(*ELW p. 18 Advent 1, Year B*)

WORD

Isaiah 64:1-9

Mark 13:24-27

Sermon/Reflection or Lectio Divina

Hymn of the Day: ELW 438 My Lord, What A Morning

Apostles' Creed

Prayer: Power of the eternal Father, help me. Wisdom of the Son, enlighten the eye of my understanding. Tender mercy of the Holy Spirit, unite my heart to yourself. Eternal God, restore health to the sick and life to the dead. Give us a voice, your own voice, to cry out to you for mercy for the world. You, light, give us light. You, wisdom, give us wisdom. You, supreme strength, strengthen us. Amen.

(ELW p. 87 A Prayer of Catherine of Siena)

Sharing of the Peace

MEAL

Offering/Offertory Prayer: God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Saviour and Lord. Amen. *(ELW p. 64 Advent)*

Words of Institution:

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 in 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 has 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.

(Eucharistic Prayer III – ELW p. 110)

Lord's Prayer

Prayer after Communion: God, for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. **Amen.** *(ELW p. 65 Advent)*

SENDING

Blessing: The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus. Amen. *(ELW p. 115)*

Sending Song: ELW 244 Rejoice, Rejoice Believers OR
ELW 247 Come Now, O Prince of Peace

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

ADVENT I – “STIR UP YOUR POWER...AND COME”

SERVICE OF THE WORD

GATHERING

Candle Lighting: ELW 240 Light One Candle – vs. 1, OR ELW 262 Wait for the Lord

Prayer: Into your hands, almighty God, we place ourselves: our minds to know you, our hearts to love you, our wills to serve you, for we are yours. Into your hands, incarnate Saviour, we place ourselves: receive us and draw us after you, that we may follow your steps; abide in us and enliven us by the power of your indwelling. Into your hands, O hovering Spirit, we place ourselves: take us and fashion us after your image; let your comfort strengthen, your grace renew, and your fire cleanse us, soul and body, in life and death, in this world of shadows and in your changeless world of light eternal, now and forever, **Amen.**
(*ELW p. 86 Commitment*)

Greeting: 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.**

Kyrie: Setting 8, p. 184 ELW – sung or spoken

Refrain: **Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way.**
 Kyrie eleison, ev’ry day.

For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all;
for this holy house, for all who worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain*

That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor;
that we may live out truth and justice and grace,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain*

For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family;
for life and for love, for our work and our play,
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For your Spirit to guide; that you centre our lives in the water and the Word;
that you nourish our souls with your body and blood,
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Prayer of the Day: Stir up your power, Lord Jesus Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**
(*ELW p. 18 Advent 1, Year B*)

WORD

Isaiah 64:1-9
Mark 13:24-27

Sermon/Reflection or Lectio Divina

Hymn of the Day: ELW 438 My Lord, What A Morning

Apostles' Creed

Prayer: Power of the eternal Father, help me. Wisdom of the Son, enlighten the eye of my understanding. Tender mercy of the Holy Spirit, unite my heart to yourself. Eternal God, restore health to the sick and life to the dead. Give us a voice, your own voice, to cry out to you for mercy for the world. You, light, give us light. You, wisdom, give us wisdom. You, supreme strength, strengthen us. Amen.

(ELW p. 87 A Prayer of Catherine of Siena)

Sharing of the Peace

THANKSGIVING

Offering/Offertory Prayer: Almighty God, your Holy Spirit equips the church with a rich variety of gifts. Grant that we may use them to bear witness to Christ in lives that are built on faith and love. Make us ready to live the gospel and eager to do your will, so that we may share with all your church in the joys of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen. *(ELW p. 76 Congregational Ministries)*

Thanksgiving for the Word

Let us pray: Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things:
You spoke light in to darkness, call forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being.
For your Word of life, O God, **we give you thanks and praise.**

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts:
freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you.
For your Word of life, O God, **we give you thanks and praise.**

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness:
Forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love.
For your Word of life, O God, **we give you thanks and praise.**

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us:
Renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory forever. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

SENDING

Blessing: The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus. Amen. (*ELW p. 115*)

Sending Song: ELW 244 Rejoice, Rejoice Believers OR
ELW 247 Come Now, O Prince of Peace

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

ADVENT 2 – “PREPARE THE WAY”

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

GATHERING

Candle Lighting: ELW 240 Light One Candle – vs. 1-2, OR ELW 262 Wait for the Lord

Prayer: Behold, Lord, an empty vessel that needs to be filled. My Lord, fill it. I am weak in the faith; strengthen me. I am cold in love; warm me and make me fervent, that my love may go out to my neighbour. I do not have a strong and firm faith; at times I doubt and am unable to trust you altogether. O Lord, help me. Strengthen my faith and trust in you. In you I have sealed the treasure of all I have. I am poor; you are rich and came to be merciful to the poor. I am a sinner; you are upright. With me, there is an abundance of sin; in you is the fullness of righteousness. Therefore I will remain with you, of whom I can receive, but to whom I may not give. Amen. (*ELW p. 87 A Prayer of Martin Luther*)

Greeting: 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.**

Kyrie: Setting 8, p. 184 ELW – sung or spoken

Refrain: **Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way.**
 Kyrie eleison, ev’ry day.

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that we may live out truth and justice and grace,
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For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family;
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let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain*

For your Spirit to guide; that you centre our lives in the water and the Word;
that you nourish our souls with your body and blood,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain*

Prayer of the Day: Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. His coming strengthen us to serve you with purified lives; through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. (*ELW p. 19 Advent 2, Year B*)

WORD

Isaiah 40:1-11

Mark 1:1-8

Sermon/Reflection or Lectio Divina

Hymn of the Day: ELW 256 Comfort, Comfort Now My People

Apostle's Creed

Prayer: Gracious and holy God, lead us from death to life, from falsehood to truth. Lead us from despair to hope, from fear to trust. Lead us from hate to love, from war to peace. Let peace fill our hearts, our worlds, our universe; through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen. (*ELW p. 76 Peace*)

Peace

MEAL

Offering/Offertory Prayer: God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Saviour and Lord. Amen. (*ELW p. 64 Advent*)

Words of Institution:

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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;
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(Eucharistic Prayer III – ELW p. 110)

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SENDING

Blessing: The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus. Amen. *(ELW p. 115)*

Sending Song: ELW 239 Hark the Glad Sound OR
 ELW 247 Come Now, O Prince of Peace

Dismissal: Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

ADVENT 2 – “PREPARE THE WAY”

SERVICE OF THE WORD

GATHERING

Candle Lighting: ELW 240 Light One Candle – vs. 1-2, OR ELW 262 Wait for the Lord

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WORD

Isaiah 40:1-11

Mark 1:1-8

Sermon/Reflection or Lectio Divina

Hymn of the Day: ELW 256 Comfort, Comfort Now My People

Apostle's Creed

Prayer: Gracious and holy God, lead us from death to life, from falsehood to truth. Lead us from despair to hope, from fear to trust. Lead us from hate to love, from war to peace. Let peace fill our hearts, our worlds, our universe; through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen. (*ELW p. 76 Peace*)

Peace

THANKSGIVING

Offering/Offertory Prayer: Almighty God, your Holy Spirit equips the church with a rich variety of gifts. Grant that we may use them to bear witness to Christ in lives that are built on faith and love. Make us ready to live the gospel and eager to do your will, so that we may share with all your church in the joys of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen. (*ELW p. 76 Congregational Ministries*)

Thanksgiving for the Word

Let us pray.

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For your Word of life, O God, **we give you thanks and praise.**

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts:
freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you.
For your Word of life, O God, **we give you thanks and praise.**

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness:
Forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love.
For your Word of life, O God, **we give you thanks and praise.**

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us:
Renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory forever. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

SENDING

Blessing: The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus. Amen. (*ELW p. 115*)

Sending Song: ELW 239 Hark the Glad Sound OR
ELW 247 Come Now, O Prince of Peace

Dismissal: Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

ADVENT 3 – “OPEN OUR EARS”

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

GATHERING

Candle Lighting: ELW 240 Light One Candle – vs. 1-3, OR ELW 262 Wait for the Lord

Prayer: Almighty God, by our baptism into the death and resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, you turn us from the old life of sin. Grant that we who are reborn to new life in him may live in righteousness and holiness all our days, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. *(ELW p. 86 Daily Renewal)*

Greeting: 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.**

Kyrie: Setting 8, p. 184 ELW – sung or spoken

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For your Spirit to guide; that you centre our lives in the water and the Word;
that you nourish our souls with your body and blood,
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Prayer of the Day: Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the words of your prophets, that, anointed by our Spirit, we may testify to your light; through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.
(ELW p. 19 Advent 3, Year B)

WORD

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
John 1:6-8, 19-28

Sermon/Reflection or Lectio Divina

Hymn of the Day: ELW 264 Prepare the Royal Highway

Apostle's Creed

Prayer: Almighty and eternal God, so draw our hearts to you, so guide our minds, so fill our imaginations, so control our wills, that we may be wholly yours, utterly dedicated to you; and then use us, we pray, as you will, but always to your glory and the welfare of your people, through our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen. (*ELW p. 86 Commitment*)

Peace

MEAL

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(Eucharistic Prayer III – ELW p. 110)

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SENDING

Blessing: The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus. Amen. *(ELW p. 115)*

Sending Song: ELW 715 Christ, Be Our Light OR
ELW 247 Come Now, O Prince of Peace

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

ADVENT 3 – “OPEN OUR EARS”

SERVICE OF THE WORD

GATHERING

Candle Lighting: ELW 240 Light One Candle – vs. 1-3, OR ELW 262 Wait for the Lord

Prayer: Almighty God, by our baptism into the death and resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, you turn us from the old life of sin. Grant that we who are reborn to new life in him may live in righteousness and holiness all our days, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. *(ELW p. 86 Daily Renewal)*

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(ELW p. 19 Advent 3, Year B)

WORD

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
John 1:6-8, 19-28

Sermon/Reflection or Lectio Divina

Hymn of the Day: ELW 264 Prepare the Royal Highway

Apostle's Creed

Prayer: Almighty and eternal God, so draw our hearts to you, so guide our minds, so fill our imaginations, so control our wills, that we may be wholly yours, utterly dedicated to you; and then use us, we pray, as you will, but always to your glory and the welfare of your people, through our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen. (*ELW p. 86 Commitment*)

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THANKSGIVING

Offering/Offertory Prayer: Almighty God, your Holy Spirit equips the church with a rich variety of gifts. Grant that we may use them to bear witness to Christ in lives that are built on faith and love. Make us ready to live the gospel and eager to do your will, so that we may share with all your church in the joys of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen. (*ELW p. 76 Congregational Ministries*)

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By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts:
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For your Word of life, O God, **we give you thanks and praise.**

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness:
Forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love.
For your Word of life, O God, **we give you thanks and praise.**

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us:
Renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory forever. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

SENDING

Blessing: The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus. Amen. (*ELW p. 115*)

Sending Song: ELW 715 Christ, Be Our Light OR

ELW 247 Come Now, O Prince of Peace

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

ADVENT 4 – “MY SOUL PROCLAIMS YOUR GREATNESS”

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

GATHERING

Candle Lighting: ELW 240 Light One Candle – vs. 1-4, OR ELW 262 Wait for the Lord

Prayer: O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son. Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred that infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and, through our struggle and confusion, work to accomplish your purposes on earth; so that, in your good time, every people and nation may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen.

(ELW p. 79 The Human Family)

Greeting: 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.**

Kyrie: Setting 8, p. 184 ELW – sung or spoken

Refrain: **Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way.**
 Kyrie eleison, ev’ry day.

For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all;
for this holy house, for all who worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain*

That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor;
that we may live out truth and justice and grace,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain*

For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family;
for life and for love, for our work and our play,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain*

For your Spirit to guide; that you centre our lives in the water and the Word;
that you nourish our souls with your body and blood,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain*

Prayer of the Day: Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that would obstruct your mercy, that willingly we may bear your redeeming love to all the world, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, Amen.

(ELW p. 19 Advent 4, Year B)

WORD

Annunciation and Magnificat

Luke 1:26-38 (Annunciation), 46b-55 (Magnificat)

Sermon/Reflection or Lectio Divina

Hymn of the Day: ELW 251 My Souls Proclaims Your Greatness OR
ELW 723 Canticle of the Turning

Apostle's Creed

Prayer: Almighty and eternal God, so draw our hearts to you, so guide our minds, so fill our imaginations, so control our wills, that we may be wholly yours, utterly dedicated to you; and then use us, we pray, as you will, but always to your glory and the welfare of your people, through our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen. (*ELW p. 86 Commitment*)

Peace

MEAL

Offering/Offertory Prayer: God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Saviour and Lord. Amen. (*ELW p. 64 Advent*)

Words of Institution

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 in 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 has 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.

(Eucharistic Prayer III – ELW p. 110)

Lord's Prayer

Prayer after Communion: God, for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen. *(ELW p. 65 Advent)*

SENDING

Blessing: The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus. Amen. *(ELW p. 115)*

Sending Song: ELW 715 Christ, Be Our Light
ELW 247 Come Now, O Prince of Peace

Dismissal: Go in peace. Remember the poor. **Thanks be to God.**

ADVENT 4 – “MY SOUL PROCLAIMS YOUR GREATNESS”

SERVICE OF THE WORD

GATHERING

Candle Lighting: ELW 240 Light One Candle – vs. 1-4, OR ELW 262 Wait for the Lord

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Peace

THANKSGIVING

Offering/Offertory Prayer: Almighty God, your Holy Spirit equips the church with a rich variety of gifts. Grant that we may use them to bear witness to Christ in lives that are built on faith and love. Make us ready to live the gospel and eager to do your will, so that we may share with all your church in the joys of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen. (*ELW p. 76 Congregational Ministries*)

Thanksgiving for the Word

Let us pray.

Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things:
You spoke light in to darkness, call forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being.
For your Word of life, O God, **we give you thanks and praise.**

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts:
freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you.
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