

GATHERING OF THE CHURCH FAMILY

GREETINGS, JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRELUDE AND A TIME FOR CENTERING arr. D. Wagner

"The Rocking Carol"

The time for centering can be used to make the transition between "getting here" and "being here" as fellow journeyers, able to receive as well as to give. Allow for time to get in touch with the Spirit that meets us here. In quiet, experience the presence of God, who is with us.

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP arr. Crocker

"Do You Hear What I Hear?" Choir

***LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE** The Smith family

Leader: We are called to worship this day as we light the fourth candle, remembering love. We are reminded that God loves the world so much that Jesus was sent to be our Savior.

People: *We worship God in the Way of Jesus, receiving and sharing God's love, so that we are saved from ways of death and saved for ways of receiving and sharing abundant life.*

Leader: Holy Spirit, breathe in us the breath of life this day, that we can be part of celebrating and sharing your new life in Christ.

People: *Open our eyes, ears, and hearts that we would love you body, mind, and spirit, and love our neighbors and ourselves for the healing and hope of the world.*

***HYMN TO CELEBRATE OUR GATHERING** No. 126

"Angels from the Realms of Glory"

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

God, we join with the angels, the great cloud of witnesses, and one another this day to celebrate you and the gift of Jesus Christ. We name that we get distracted and lost often in the chaos of daily life, and this has kept us from sharing in the joy, love, and life that you

intend. Trusting your love and forgiveness, we confess the ways we have missed out and fallen short (silent prayers of confession). And all of God's people say: Amen.

HYMN OF RESPONSE (please remain seated) (tune: Stuttgart)

Born all people to deliver, born a child, you came to reign!

Born to rule on earth forever, come, be known to us again.

OUR MORNING OFFERING AND DEDICATION

ANTHEM Eaton/Grant

"Christmas Lullaby"

***DOXOLOGY** (tune: *Puer Nobis Nascitur*)

*All praise to you, eternal Son,
whose Advent has our freedom won.*

Whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Spirit evermore.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

PRAYER SONG No. 124

"Away In A Manger" (verses 1&3)

PASTORAL PRAYER AND PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Centering Silence/Pastoral Prayers/Spoken or Silent Prayers/
Silence for Listening Prayer/Lord's Prayer*

THE 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, the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

[**Actual CHRISTMAS PAGEANT BEGINS HERE**]

Narration (Narrator or MC)

Scripture Reading *John 1:1-4, 5, 9-14, 18* **Reader #1**

Sing “This Little Light of Mine“

Narration

Scripture Readings Luke 1:26-38

Reader #2

Sing “Here I Am, Lord”
(vv. 1 & 3) (See Insert)

Narration

Sing “O Little Town of Bethlehem”
(vv. 1 & 2) (See Insert)

(Mary & Joseph with baby enter the sanctuary and go up the aisle during song and take seats in chancel).

Narration

Sing “Away in a Manger”
(vv. 1 & 2) (See Insert)

(Child-angel with star goes and stands behind Mary and Joseph during this song.)

Narration

Sing “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”
(vv. 1 & 3) (See Insert)

(All the other angels move to the front.)

Narration

Sing “O Come, All Ye Faithful”
(vv 1 & 2) (See Insert)

(All shepherds move to the front during the singing of this Carol.)

Narration

Sing “Do You Hear What I Hear?”
(vv. 1 & 2) (See Insert)

(All animals move to the front during the singing of this Carol.)

Narration

Sing “Go Tell It On the Mountain”
(vv. 1 & 2) (See Insert)

(All the townspeople will move to the front during the singing of this Carol.)

Proclamation of the Good News

Sing “Joy to the World”
(vv. 1, 2, & 4) (See Insert)

(Everybody leaves the front and makes a circle around the sanctuary while singing)

Merry Christmas!