

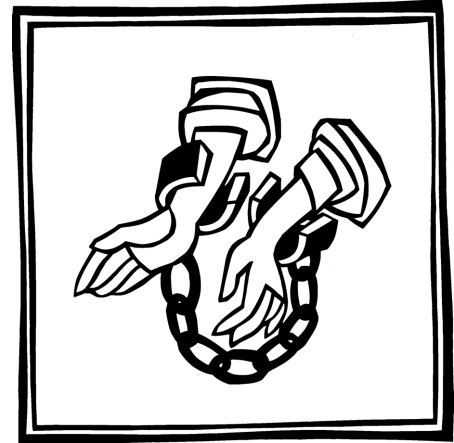
GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE:

WELCOME:

SPECIAL MUSIC: "O Lord, Now Let Your Servant" –
Ringing Praise



CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS: ELW p.116

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

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.

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

Silence is kept for reflection

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 HYMN: ELW 733 - "Great is Thy Faithfulness"

Chorus

Great is Thy faithfulness
Great is Thy faithfulness
Morning by morning
New mercies I see
All I have needed
Thy hand hath provided
Great is Thy faithfulness
Lord unto me

Verse 1

Great is Thy faithfulness
O God my Father
There is no shadow
Of turning with Thee
Thou changest not
Thy compassions they fail not
As Thou hast been
Thou forever wilt be

Verse 2

Summer and winter
And springtime and harvest
Sun moon and stars
In their courses above
Join with all nature
In manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness
Mercy and love

Verse 3

Pardon for sin
And a peace that endureth
Thy own dear presence
To cheer and to guide
Strength for today
And bright hope for tomorrow
Blessings all mine
With ten thousand beside

Thomas Obediah Chisholm, William Marion Runyan
CCLI Song #18723

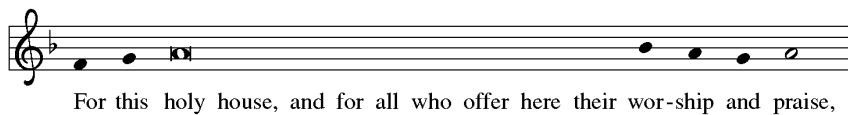
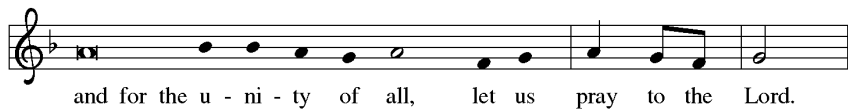
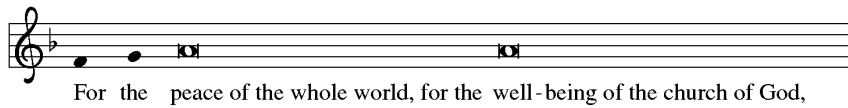
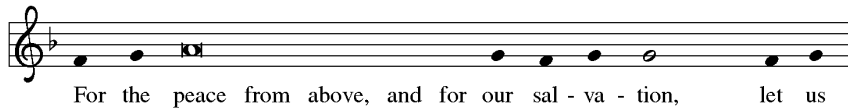
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GREETING:

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: ELW p.120



CANTICLE OF PRAISE: ELW p.121

Refrain



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



1 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.

Refrain



Glo-ry to God in 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, 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.

Refrain



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

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Blessed Lord God,

you have caused the holy scriptures to be written for the nourishment of your people. Grant that we may hear them, read, learn, and inwardly digest them, that, comforted by your promises, we may embrace and forever hold fast to the hope of eternal life, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

INSTALLATION OF DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRIES: Tessa Faust

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE:

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST LESSON: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

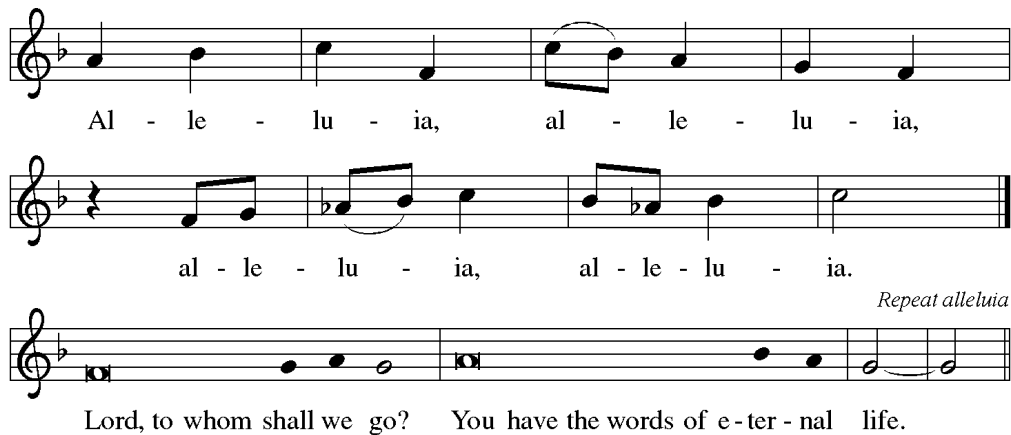
¹ All the people of Israel gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. ² Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. ³ He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. ⁵ And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. ⁶ Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground. ⁸ So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

⁹ And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. ¹⁰ Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength."

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: p.124



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. *Repeat alleluia*
Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

P: The holy gospel according to St. Luke.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Luke 4:14-21

¹⁴ Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. ¹⁵ He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

¹⁶ When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷ and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

¹⁸ "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to let the oppressed go free,

¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

²⁰ And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹ Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON: "Outside the Box" – Rev. Andrea Cain

SERMON HYMN: ELW 715 – "Christ, Be Our Light" (vs. 1, 2, 3, 5)

1 Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
light for the world to see.

Refrain

Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.

2 Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.

Your word alone has pow'r to save us.
Make us your living voice. *Refrain*

3 Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others,
shared until all are fed. *Refrain*

5 Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
signs of your kingdom come. *Refrain*

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

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APOSTLES' CREED: ELW p.126

**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:

Let us pray to God, who is made manifest in Jesus Christ.

A brief silence.

As your word is opened in our midst, we give thanks for all who share scripture. Inspire passion for the stories of faith. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

As heavens declare your glory and the sky proclaims your work, we lift our voices in awe of vast stars and solar systems. Guide us to speak on behalf of your handiwork. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

As Jesus proclaimed peace, unite nations to envision new ways of working together for your promised reign. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

As your word and presence revive the soul, accompany all undergoing medical treatment or surgery, sickness, or suffering (especially). God of grace,
hear our prayer.

As our faith is strengthened by saints who have gone before us, we remember leaders of the early church (especially Timothy, Titus, Lydia, and Phoebe), and beloved friends and family who have died. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.

Amen.

PEACE:

May the peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

We share a word of peace with our neighbors.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING:

The grace of Christ calls us to lives of gratitude and generosity. In Jesus Christ we are given new life. Let us celebrate this life by giving generously to the work of God's redeeming love.

The Hunger Jar is a love offering and is designated in January for the Desert Cross Serves Project.

You are invited to share your gifts in worship while others give electronically at www.desertcross.org with the giving button, text giving, or by QR code. We give thanks for all the ways you support God's mission of outreach through Desert Cross that changes lives for the sake of the gospel.

OFFERING SPECIAL MUSIC:

OFFERING RESPONSE: *"What Feast of Love"* – verse 2 only

2 What light of truth is offered here,
what covenant from heaven?
What hope of everlasting life,
what wondrous word is given?
This, this is Christ the king,
the sun come down from heaven.
Oh, see and hear and sing!
The Word of God is given!

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

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OFFERTORY PRAYER:

Gracious God,
your Word-made-flesh brings harmony to the earth.
As we offer ourselves and these your gifts,
prepare us to receive the grace and truth you offer at this table
and renew in us the song of your salvation,
in Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION:

GREAT THANKSGIVING: ELW p.129

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:

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.

By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations;
in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son;
and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory.

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.130

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

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE:

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father:
Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign.
You have filled all creation with light and life;
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, 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.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

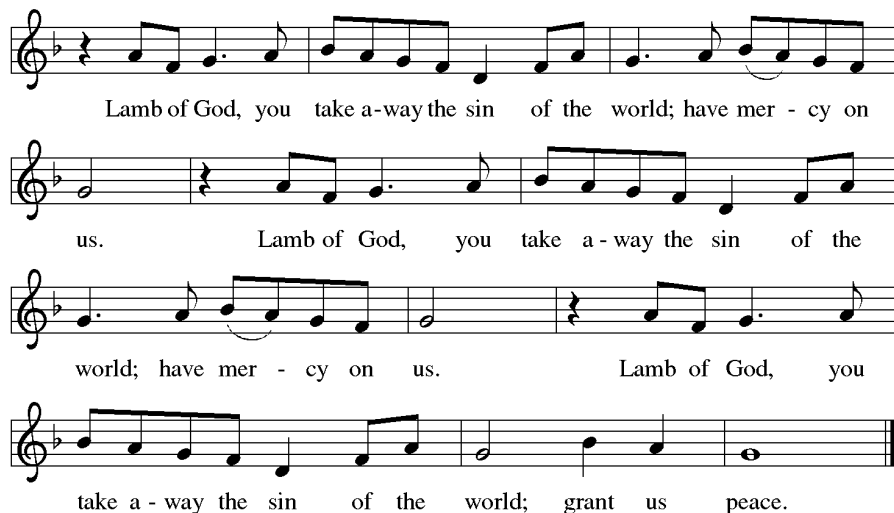
LORD'S PRAYER: ELW p. 134

**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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION:

These are the gifts of God for the people of God.
All are welcome.

LAMB OF GOD: ELW p. 135



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.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION:

Come forward to receive the bread/GF and a cup of wine/juice. Alert an usher for communion in your seat. Children may commune or receive a blessing. All are welcome.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS:

ELW 576 - "We All Are One in Mission"

1 We all are one in mission;
we all are one in call,
our varied gifts united
by Christ, the Lord of all.
A single great commission
compels us from above
to plan and work together
that all may know Christ's love.

2 We all are called for service,
to witness in God's name.
Our ministries are diff'rent;
our purpose is the same:
to touch the lives of others

with God's surprising grace,
so ev'ry folk and nation
may feel God's warm embrace.

3 Now let us be united,
and let our song be heard.
Now let us be a vessel
for God's redeeming Word.
We all are one in mission;
we all are one in call,
our varied gifts united
by Christ, the Lord of all.

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955
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ELW 496 - "One Bread, One Body"

Refrain

One bread, one body, one Lord of all;
one cup of blessing which we bless,
and we, though many throughout the earth,
we are one body in this one Lord.

1 Gentile or Jew, servant or free,
woman or man, no more. *Refrain*

2 Many the gifts, many the works,
one in the Lord of all. *Refrain*

3 Grain for the fields, scattered and grown,
gathered to one for all. *Refrain*

Text: John Foley, SJ, b. 1939
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POST-COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER:

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

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.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BENEDICTION:

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor +
And give you peace.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN: ELW 866 - *"We Are Marching in the Light"*

Chorus

We are marching in the light of God,
we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching in the light of God,
we are marching in the light of God.

We are marching,
(marching, we are marching, marching,)
we are marching in the light of God.

We are marching,
(marching, we are marching, marching,)
we are marching in the light of God.

Additional stanzas ad lib:


We are dancing . . .
We are praying . . .
We are singing . . .

DISMISSAL:

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE:

| Thank you for supporting the Desert Cross mission. Here are the ways you can donate today: | | |
|--|--|---|
| ONLINE GIVING:  Get your smart phone and scan the QR-code with your phone camera | SECURE TEXT GIVING: Text "GIVE" to 833-636-1502 | USPS: 8600 S. McClintock Drive Tempe, AZ 85284 |

Flower Donation: