



# Gathering


**LIFE IN THE CHURCH**

Rev. Ryo

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Isaiah 40:3

One: A voice cries out:

**All: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord,  
make straight in the desert a highway for our God."**

**\* HYMN 106***Prepare the Way, O Zion*

BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE***Candlelighters today are Mary Ellen Mays and Kim Pavicich.*

One: We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ.

**All: Advent means coming.****We are preparing for the full coming of God's kingdom.****PRAYER OF CONFESSION** based on Isaiah 60:1-3

One: Arise, shine: for your light has come.

**All: O God, we live as if the light had never defeated  
the darkness in the world or in us.**

One: And the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

**All: We confess that we ignore the Christ  
you sent to be among us, to be in us.**

One: For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples;  
but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you.

**All: We've kept the birth of your Son confined to the Christmas season and  
do not yearn for his birth each moment in our waiting hearts.**

One: And nations shall come to your light,  
and kings to the brightness of your rising.

**All: Lord, you came to us in the fullness of time. Forgive us for not opening  
our eyes to your coming. It's time that we prepare for your coming. Let  
the earth ring with song. Let the light break forth. Let us all rejoice in  
the miracle of love. Let Christ come into the fullness of our time. Amen.**

*from The Worship Sourcebook***ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS**

One: Comfort, comfort you my people, says your God.

Your sins are pardoned. The penalty is paid.

**All: Thanks be to God.****\* PASSING OF THE PEACE****\* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE****Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!**


# Proclaiming


**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Cheryl Gulbranson

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**NEW TESTAMENT READING** Matthew 1:18-25

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** Isaiah 9:2-7

**Hymn 86**

*The People Who Walked in Darkness*

ISAIAH 9

*Please remain seated and sing the refrain. The soloist will sing the stanza.*

**SERMON**

Rev. Ervin

 **Responding** 

\* **HYMN 88** (stanza 1)

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

VENI EMMANUEL

**WELCOME**

**OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS**

**SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

**Invitation to the Lord's Table**

**Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

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

**Words of Institution**

**Communion of the People**

**Prayer After Communion**

Bless the Lord, O my soul; **and all that is within me, bless God's holy name!**

Bless the Lord, O my soul; **and forget not all God's blessings.**

 **Sending** 

\* **HYMN 119**

*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

MENDELSSOHN

\* **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

\* **CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

**Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!**

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\* Please rise in body or spirit.