

Sunday January 26, 2025
We Gather to Celebrate God's Presence

Welcome
Family Life and Work
Family Celebrations
Lighting of the Christ Candle:
Acknowledgement of the Land:

Introit: Where Two or Three Are Gathered

MV 14

**Where two or three are gathered in my name,
I am there, I am there.**

**Where two or three are gathered in my name,
I am there, I am there.**

Call to Worship: from Psalm 19, verses 1-4

One: The heavens declare the glory of God;
ALL: **the skies proclaim the work of God's hands.**
One: Day after day they pour forth speech;
ALL: **night after night they reveal knowledge.**
One: They have no speech, they use no words,
ALL: **no sound is heard from them.**
One: Yet their voice goes out into all the earth,
ALL **their words to the ends of the world.**

Opening Hymn: I Am the Light of the World

VU 87 vs 1,2,4

**'I am the light of the world!
You people come and follow me!'
If you follow and love you'll learn the mystery
of what you were meant to do and be.**

**1 When the song of the angels is stilled,
 when the star in the sky is gone,
 when the kings and the shepherds have found
 their way home,
 the work of Christmas is begun: R**

**2 To find the lost and lonely one,
 to heal the broken soul with love,
 to feed the hungry children with warmth**

**and good food,
to feel the earth below, the sky above! R**

**4 To bring hope to every task you do,
to dance at a baby's new birth,
to make music in an old person's heart,
and sing to the colours of the earth! R**

Prayer of Approach:

Loving God, you speak to us in many different ways: through the beauty of nature, the kindness of a stranger, the teachings of Scripture, the sound of a choir's anthem. We pray that today, as we gather for worship, you would also speak to us through the words, the music, the laughter and the silence of this service. May all that is said and done during worship be offered for your glory. We ask this in Jesus' name, Amen

The Lord's Prayer (unison)

**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 for ever and ever. Amen**

First Reading: Psalm 19: 7 - 14

Children's Time:

Gospel Reading: Luke 4: 14 - 21

Gradual Hymn: I Saw the Rich Ones

MV 127

**"I saw the rich ones, I saw what they gave;
the widow who offered two pennies she'd saved;
and I saw she was smiling and I knew she was glad**

But with God the world is turned upside down;

**the poor are embraced and the lost they are found.
Let's work for a world where all people are free;
where it's good to feel good about God loving you and me.**

**I saw Zaccheus, a sinner they said,
but to his house I saw Jesus go to break bread;
and I knew something special had happened
that day when Zaccheus gave half of his riches away...**

**But with God the world is turned upside down;
the poor are embraced and the lost they are found.
Let's work for a world where all people are free;
where it's good to feel good about God loving you and me.**

**The men in the vineyards were grumbling one day;
I knew they weren't happy with what they'd been paid;
for the ones who came later were paid
just the same as the workers who
greeted the dawn when they came... "**

**But with God the world is turned upside down;
the poor are embraced and the lost they are found.
Let's work for a world where all people are free;
where it's good to feel good about God loving you and me.**

We Listen

Meditation:

We Respond

Musical Offering: Lord, Make Us Worthy

Offertory: Give to Me, Lord, a Thankful Heart

VU 513 vs 1

**1 Give to me, Lord, a thankful heart
and a discerning mind;
give, as I play the Christian's part,
the strength to finish what I start
and act on what I find.**

Offertory/Prayer of Dedication:

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession:

**Go, tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and everywhere.
Go, tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born.**

**1 While shepherds kept their watching
o'er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens
there shone a holy light. R**

**2 The shepherds feared and trembled
when lo, above the earth
rang out the angel chorus
that hailed our Saviour's birth! R**

**3 Down in a lonely manger
the humble Christ was born,
and God sent our salvation
that blessed Christmas morn. R**

Benedictions and Commissioning

Choral Benediction: Go Gently, Go Lightly

**Go gently, go lightly,
go safe in the Spirit,
live simply, don't carry
much more than you need:
go trusting God's goodness,
go spreading God's kindness,
stay centred on Jesus
and where he will lead.**

**Go singing, go bringing
the gifts of the Spirit,
go hopefully searching
for things that are true:
in living, in loving,
whatever befalls you,
God keep you, God bless you
in all that you do**