

GATHERING

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

PRELUDE:

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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.

CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 112):

Blessed are those who honor the Lord and delight in God's commandments.

We walk in God's light, trusting in steadfast love.

Those who are generous and compassionate will not be shaken.

We open our hearts and share freely, as God has shared with us.

Our hearts are secure as we shine with God's promises.

We gather to worship with trust and thanksgiving.

EPIPHANY KYRIE:

Chorus:

Light of heaven, sent to lead us,
Lord, have mercy.

Promise given, sent to teach us,
Christ, have mercy.

Hope eternal, sent to free us,
guide us with Your light
Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

Verse (Leader Only)

For the way that leads to heaven,
and the truth Your teaching brings,
For the life You set before us,
hear us now, in Jesus' name, we pray:

© Text & Music: Joni Van Rossum

OPENING PRAYER:

Loving God,
You call us to be salt and light.
Shine through us so our lives reflect your goodness and love.
May we share your light with those around us,
and season their lives with your gifts.
Amen.

GATHERING SONG: ELW 721 Goodness Is Stronger than Evil

Verse 1

Goodness is stronger than evil;
love is stronger than hate;
light is stronger than darkness;
life is stronger than death;
vict'ry is ours, vict'ry is ours,

through God who loves us.
Vict'ry is ours, vict'ry is ours,
through God who loves us.

Text from *An African Prayer Book* selected by Desmond Tutu, © 1995 by Desmond Tutu. Used by permission of Doubleday, a division of Random House, Inc., and Lynn C. Franklin Associates, Ltd.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE: This Little Light of Mine

1 This little light of mine,
I'm goin'-a let it shine;
this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;

this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Sat 5pm Tempe: ***NO Children's Message***
Sunday Tempe & Gilbert: *Sing at all services*

GILBERT SPECIAL MUSIC: Lead Me Lord, Chancel Choir

WORD

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

FIRST LESSON: Psalm 112:1-9 (Responsively)

¹ Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the LORD
and have great delight in God's commandments!

² **Their descendants will be mighty in the land;
the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

³ Wealth and riches will be in their house,
and their righteousness will last forever.

⁴ **Light shines in the darkness for the upright;
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.**

⁵ It is good for them to be generous in lending
and to manage their affairs with justice.

⁶ **For they will never be shaken;
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.**

⁷ They will not be afraid of any evil rumors;
their heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD.

⁸ **Their heart is established and will not shrink,
until they see their desire upon their enemies.**

⁹ They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast forever;
they will hold up their head with honor.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

EPIPHANY GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Refrain:

On this day, the radiant Light,
Draws all nations to your sight.
Christ revealed, our Light has come;
God made flesh for everyone;
O Word of Life, you make us one.

GOSPEL: Matthew 5:13-20

[Jesus said:] ¹³ "You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

¹⁴ "You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵ People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

¹⁷ "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. ¹⁸ For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹ Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰ For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON:

"Salty"

Pastor Andrea Cain
(Sunday Tempe)

"Parsley, Sage, Rosemary, and Thyme"

Pastor Thaddeus Book
(Sat 5pm/Gilbert)

SONG OF THE DAY: ELW 732 Borning Cry

1 "I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized
to see your life unfold.
I was there when you were but a child,
with a faith to suit you well;
in a blaze of light you wandered off
to find where demons dwell."

2 "When you heard the wonder of the Word
I was there to cheer you on;
you were raised to praise the living Lord,
to whom you now belong.
If you find someone to share your time
and you join your hearts as one,
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme
from dusk till rising sun."

3 "In the middle ages of your life,
not too old, no longer young,
I'll be there to guide you through the night,
complete what I've begun.
When the evening gently closes in
and you shut your weary eyes,
I'll be there as I have always been,
with just one more surprise."

4 "I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized
to see your life unfold."

Text: John C. Ylvisaker, b. 1937
Text © 1985 John C. Ylvisaker

APOSTLES' CREED:

**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 for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

Gracious God, You call your church to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world. Grant that we may shine with your love and preserve your truth in all we do.
Lord, in your mercy;

Hear our prayer.

God of healing, let your light break through the darkness of illness and suffering, bringing wholeness and hope to the sick and those who care for them (especially ...).
Lord, in your mercy;

Hear our prayer.

God of peace, inspire us to live as peacemakers in our communities and in our world. May your light guide leaders and nations to seek reconciliation and understanding.
Lord, in your mercy;

Hear our prayer.

Eternal God, give us confidence in your promise of everlasting life, that we may live in hope and share your love until we are gathered with the saints into your eternal presence. Lord, in your mercy;

Hear our prayer.

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

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 for the "Souper Bowl" of Caring for Kyrene Resource Center.

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

EPIPHANY OFFERING SONG: Goodness of God

Verse 1

I love You Lord
Oh Your mercy never fails me
All my days
I've been held in Your hands
From the moment that I wake up
Until I lay my head
I will sing of the goodness of God

Chorus

All my life You have been faithful
All my life You have been so so good
With every breath that I am able
I will sing of the goodness of God

Bridge

Your goodness is running after
It's running after me
Your goodness is running after
It's running after me
With my life laid down
I'm surrendered now
I give You everything
Your goodness is running after
It's running after me

Ben Fielding, Brian Johnson, Ed Cash, Jason Ingram, Jenn Johnson
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OFFERING PRAYER:

O Lord,
you look upon us in love and refresh our souls through the gifts of bread and wine.
Send us out, reflecting the light of your grace,
to tell the story of Jesus Christ, our bright morning star.

Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION:

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS FOR EPIPHANY SEASON:

As the light of Christ shines brightly in this Epiphany season, let us come before God, trusting in God's mercy and seeking renewal.

(Silence for reflection)

Radiant God,

you reveal your glory to the nations and guide us by the light of your love.

Yet we confess that we often turn away from your path.

We close our eyes to the needs of our neighbors and ignore the signs of your presence among us.

**Forgive us. Shine your light upon us, renew us in your grace,
and lead us to follow your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.**

Amen.

The good news of Epiphany is this: God's light breaks into our darkness.

In Christ, your sins are forgiven. + You are made new to walk as children of light.

Rejoice and share the light of Christ with all.

Amen.

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION:

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.

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER:

**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:

This is Christ's table. There is a place for you.
All are welcome.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION:

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

LAMB OF GOD: ELW p. 201 *(Tempe Only)*

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, grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION SONGS: Come As You Are

Verse 1

Come out of sadness from wherever you've been
Come broken-hearted let rescue begin
Come find your mercy O sinner come kneel
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal

Chorus

(So) Lay down your burdens lay down your shame
All who are broken lift up your face
O wanderer come home
You're not too far
So lay down your hurt lay down your heart
Come as you are

Verse 2

There's hope for the hopeless
And all those who've strayed
Come sit at the table come taste the grace
There's rest for the weary
Rest that endures
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't cure

Lord, I Need You

Verse 1

Lord I come I confess
Bowing here I find my rest
And without You I fall apart
You're the one that guides my heart

Chorus 1

Lord I need You oh I need You
Ev'ry hour I need You
My one defense my righteousness
Oh God how I need You

Verse 2

Where sin runs deep Your grace is more
Where grace is found is where You are

Bridge

Come as you are
Fall in His arms
Come as you are

Verse 3

There's joy for the morning O sinner be still
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal

Ending

Come as you are
Come as you are
Come as you are

Ben Glover, David Crowder, Matt Maher

CCLI Song #7017790

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And where You are Lord I am free
Holiness is Christ in me
Where You are Lord I am free
Holiness is Christ in me

Bridge

So teach my song to rise to You
When temptation comes my way
And when I cannot stand I'll fall on You
Jesus You're my hope and stay
And when I cannot stand I'll fall on You
Jesus You're my hope and stay

Chorus 2

Lord I need You oh I need You
Ev'ry hour I need You
My one defense my righteousness
Oh God how I need You
My one defense my righteousness

Oh God how I need You

Christy Nockels, Daniel Carson, Jesse Reeves, Kristian Stanfill, Matt Maher
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POST-COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER:

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

Amen.

Gracious God,
as we gather at your table,
we give thanks for the gift of Christ's presence in bread and wine.
Renew our hope and awaken our hearts to watch and wait for his coming.
Empower us to carry his light into the world.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

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

BENEDICTION:

God who sent the Light into our world,
God who shone in the Bethlehem manger,
God who shines the Spirit's rays,
Bless you + and keep you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG: My Lighthouse

Verse 1

In my wrestling and in my doubts
In my failures You won't walk out

Your great love will lead me through
You are the peace in my troubled sea whoa oh
You are the peace in my troubled sea

Verse 2

In the silence You won't let go
In the questions Your truth will hold
Your great love will lead me through
You are the peace in my troubled sea whoa oh
You are the peace in my troubled sea

Chorus

My Lighthouse my Lighthouse
Shining in the darkness
I will follow You oh
My Lighthouse my Lighthouse
I will trust the promise
You will carry me safe to shore
Safe to shore safe to shore safe to shore

Verse 3

I won't fear what tomorrow brings
With each morning I'll rise and sing
My God's love will lead me through
You are the peace in my troubled sea whoa oh
You are the peace in my troubled sea

Bridge

Fire before us
You're the brightest
You will lead us
Through the storms (hey)
(REPEAT 3X)

Chris Llewellyn, Gareth Gilkeson

CCLI Song #7002032

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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:

The flowers on the altar in Tempe this weekend are given by Lola Peterson in loving memory of her husband, Jim Peterson.