

**First Sunday of Christmas
Holy Communion at Resurrection Lutheran Church
December 26, 2021**

The assembly gathers in seating in the nave, maintaining appropriate physical distance and wearing face masks.

OPENING VOLUNTARY

GATHERING HYMN “Once in Royal David’s City” (ELW 269)

Once in Royal David's City

1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly cat - tle shed,
 2 He came down to earth from heav-en who is God and Lord of all,
 3 And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own re - deem - ing love;
 4 Not in that poor low - ly sta - ble, with the ox - en stand - ing by,

where a moth - er laid her ba - by in a man - ger for his bed:
 and his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his cra - dle was a stall;
 for that child so dear and gen - tle is our Lord in heav'n a - bove;
 we shall see him; but in heav - en, set at God's right hand on high;

Mar - y was that moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ, her lit - tle child.
 with the poor and meek and low - ly, lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
 and he leads his chil - dren on to the place where he is gone.
 there his chil - dren gath - er round, bright like stars, with glo - ry crowned.

Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818–1895
 Music: IRBY, Henry J. Gauntlett, 1805–1876

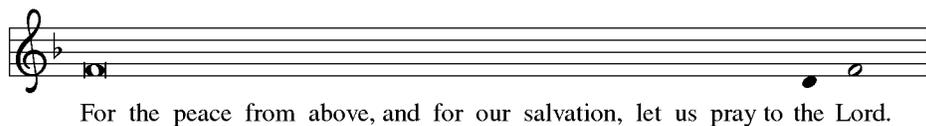
Greeting

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.

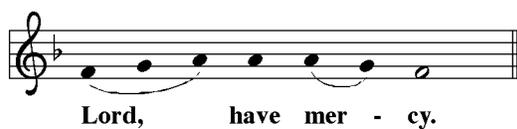
Kyrie and Gloria, ELW Setting Three



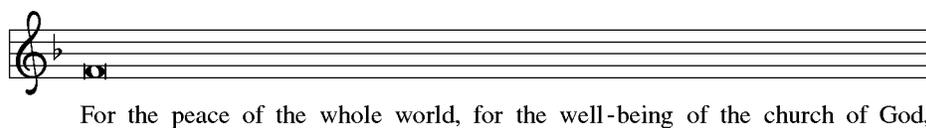
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



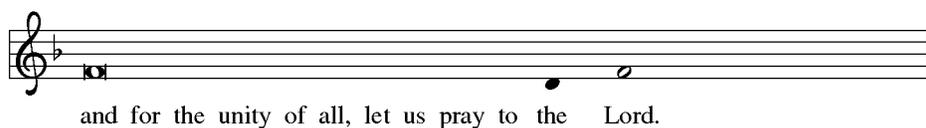
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



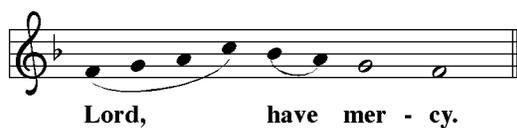
Lord, have mer - cy.



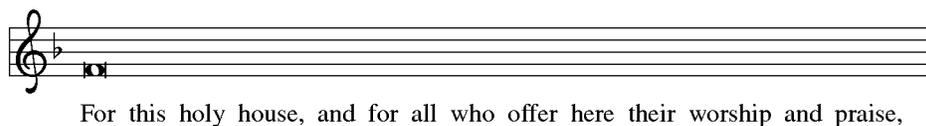
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



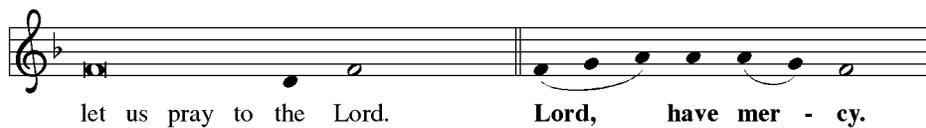
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



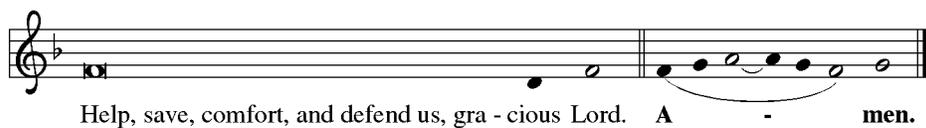
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

Assisting minister



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All



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.



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.



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.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

Shine into our hearts the light of your wisdom, O God, and open our minds to the knowledge of your word, that in all things we may think and act according to your good will and may live continually in the light of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

First Reading: 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26

A reading from First Samuel.

¹⁸Samuel was ministering before the LORD, a boy wearing a linen ephod. ¹⁹His mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year, when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. ²⁰Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say, “May the LORD repay you with children by this woman for the gift that she made to the LORD”; and then they would return to their home. ²⁶Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favor with the LORD and with the people.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 148

Refrain:



Psalm 148:13

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Tone:



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- ¹Hallelujah! Praise the LORD¹ from the heavens;
praise God¹ in the heights.
- ²**Praise the LORD,¹ all you angels;
sing praise, all you¹ hosts of heaven.**
- ³Praise the LORD,¹ sun and moon;
sing praise, all you¹ shining stars.
- ⁴**Praise the LORD, heav-¹ en of heavens,
and you waters a-¹ bove the heavens.**
- ⁵Let them praise the name¹ of the LORD,
who commanded, and they¹ were created,
- ⁶**who made them stand fast forev-¹ er and ever,
giving them a law that shall not¹ pass away. R**
- ⁷Praise the LORD¹ from the earth,
you sea monsters¹ and all deeps;
- ⁸**fire and hail,¹ snow and fog,
tempestuous wind, do-¹ ing God's will;**
- ⁹mountains¹ and all hills,
fruit trees¹ and all cedars;
- ¹⁰**wild beasts¹ and all cattle,**

creeping things and | flying birds;
¹¹sovereigns of the earth | and all peoples,
princes and all rulers | of the world;
¹²**young | men and maidens,**
old and | young together. R
¹³Let them praise the name | of the LORD,
whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over | earth and heaven.
¹⁴**The LORD has raised up strength for the people and praise for all | faithful**
servants,
the children of Israel, a people who are near the LORD. | Hallelujah! R

Second Reading: Colossians 3:12-17

A reading from Colossians.

¹²As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. ¹³Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. ¹⁷And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God, the Father, through him.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia sung by the assembly. Verse sung by the cantor.

Al-le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Repeat alleluia

Let the peace of Christ rule¹ in your hearts, and let the word of Christ dwell¹ in you richly.

Gospel: Luke 2:41-52

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

⁴¹Now every year [Jesus'] parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. ⁴²And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. ⁴³When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. ⁴⁴Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. ⁴⁵When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. ⁴⁶After three days they found Jesus in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷And all who heard Jesus were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." ⁴⁹Jesus said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰But they did not understand what he said to them. ⁵¹Then Jesus went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. ⁵²And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: “Word of God, Come Down on Earth” (ELW 510)

Word of God, Come Down on Earth

1 Word of God, come down on earth, liv - ing rain from
 2 Word e - ter - nal, throned on high, Word that brought to
 3 Word that speaks God's ten - der love, one with God be -

heav'n de - scend - ing; touch our hearts and bring to birth
 life cre - a - tion, Word that came from heav'n to die,
 yond all tell - ing, Word that sends us from a - bove

faith and hope and love un - end - ing. Word al - might - y,
 cru - ci - fied for our sal - va - tion, sav - ing Word, the
 God the Spir - it, with us dwell - ing, Word of truth, to

we re - vere you; Word made flesh, we long to hear you.
 world re - stor - ing, speak to us, your love out - pour - ing.
 all truth lead us; Word of life, with one bread feed us.

Text: James Quinn, SJ, b. 1919
 Music: LIEBSTER JESU, WIR SIND HIER, Johann R. Ahle, 1625-1673
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Prayers of Intercession

Joining our voices with Christians throughout time and space, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need, responding to each petition with the words “receive our prayer.”

O God, you come to us in gatherings of your church across the globe. Bless all who serve in your church. Hold our children and teenagers in your embrace. Comfort those who celebrate the birth of your Son even when they are weighed down by grief, loss, poverty, hunger, or injustice. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

O God, you come to us in the diverse splendor of the universe. Save us from climate disasters. Grant us the humility to trust our place in the network of your creation. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

O God, you come to us through relationships of many kinds: families, friendships, communities, and nations. Show us yourself through these relationships. Accompany those who live alone or are isolated from others. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

O God, you come to us through those who are vulnerable. Protect the children of the world. Save humankind from the coronavirus. Send peace to a world filled with violence, comfort to those who are imprisoned, guidance to refugees, healing to those struggling with addiction and living with disease. We name before you especially. . . .

1. Henry Flatness
2. Janet Lewis
3. Maggie Mount
4. Rosalie Dech
5. Krista Kurth
6. Evon Lippencot
7. Nancy MacDonald
8. Bob MacDonald
9. Grant Aldonas
10. Norm Olsen
11. Ellie Barnes
12. Judy Frank

13. Effie Stallsmith
14. Malcolm Stark
15. Barb Jensen
16. Charlotte Boeck
17. Lynn Kiewel
18. Phillip Swingler
19. Maria Liwski
20. Tucker Dean
21. Irene Belcher
22. Sharon Kravetz
23. John and Anneliese Arnold
24. Julie Bates

Welcome to yourself all who today will die. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

O God, you come to each of us in hidden ways. Hear now the silent petitions of our hearts. . . . Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

O God, you come to us through those who have died in the faith. We give thanks for Stephen, deacon and martyr, who gave his life to tell the story of your love. Unite us with him and with all the faithful until we join with them in glory. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Rejoicing in your Word made flesh among us, we commend these prayers to you, confident of your grace and love made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

The assembly greets each other with Christ's Peace by bowing to each other, waving, or offering another appropriate gesture. For continued safety, please refrain from handshakes and hugs.

Offering and Setting the Table

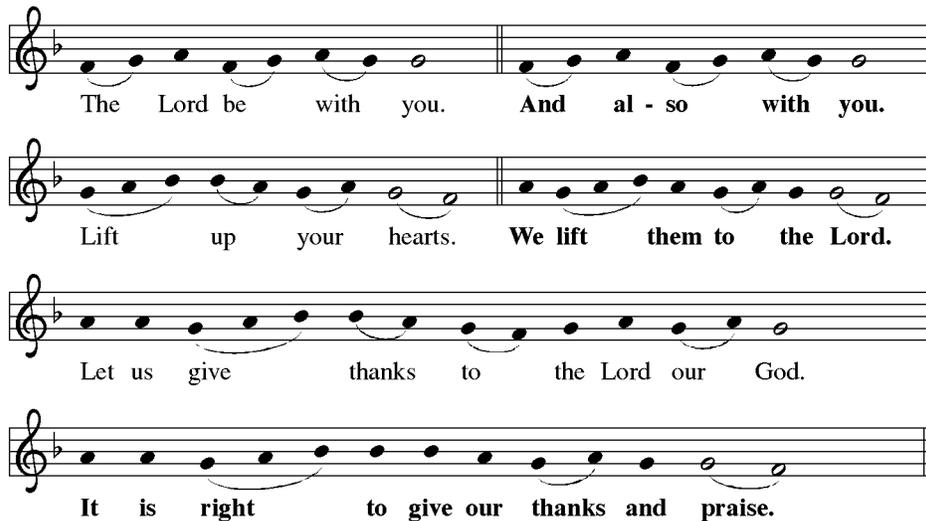
While the table is set for Holy Communion, members of the assembly may prepare to bring their offering forward when ushers invite them to come to the chancel where baskets are available to receive your gift. Communion ministers will sanitize and cleanse their hands prior to handling the gifts of bread and wine.

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

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.

Dialogue and Preface



The Lord be with you. **And** al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. **We lift** them to the Lord.

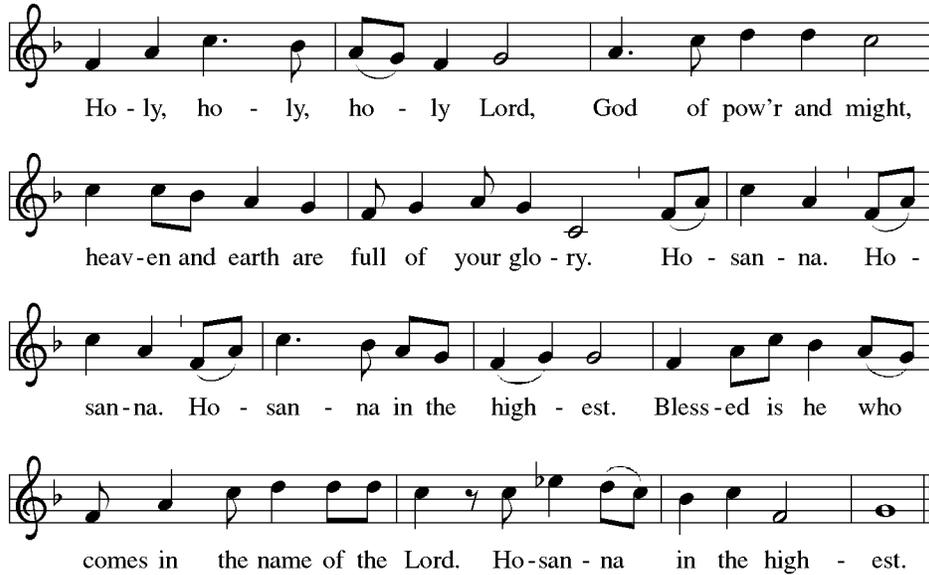
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our du - ty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you,
al - mighty and merciful God, through our Sav - ior Je - sus Christ.
In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened
the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vis - ion of your glo - ry,
that be - holding the God made vis - i - ble,
we may be drawn to love the God whom we can - not see.
And so, with all the choirs of an - gels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heav - en,
we praise your name and join their un - end - ing hymn:

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Holy, Holy, Holy ELW Setting Three



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. 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.

Thanksgiving at the Table

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,
the Word made flesh.

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

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup
we remember your Word dwelling among us,
full of grace and truth.
We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.
We look with hope for his coming.
Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.
Come among us.
Bless this meal.
May your Word take flesh in us.
Awaken your people.
Fill us with your light.
Bring the gift of peace on earth.
Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours,
Holy One of Israel,
Word of God incarnate,
Power of the Most High,
one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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

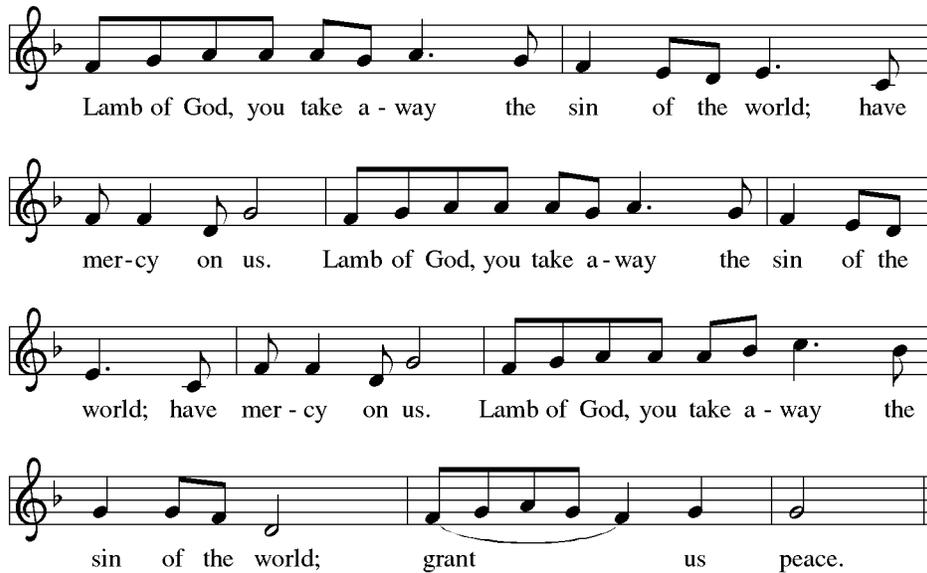
**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Breaking of Bread and Invitation to Communion

In Christ's manger, at Christ's table,
come, taste and see what God makes known for you.

*At the direction of ushers, baptized and communing members of the assembly wishing to commune will proceed to the front of the nave in a continuous line, maintaining appropriate physical distance. Others may also come forward for a blessing. To receive the bread, place your hands palms up and level so that the presiding minister is able to drop the bread onto your uplifted hands without touching you. Using a receptacle, such as a small juice glass which you have brought from home, hold it firmly that the assisting minister is able to pour wine from the common cup into your individual glass. For health safety reasons, you may **not** dip the bread into the wine in the chalice. You may also elect to commune by receiving the bread only. You may, of course, remove your mask to commune. Gluten free hosts are available to those who need that option. Once you have received the bread and wine, return to your places by the side aisles, while maintaining appropriate physical distance from your neighbors.*

Lamb of God: ELW Setting Three



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.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

We thank you, wondrous God, for Jesus,
God with us, in these gifts of bread and wine.
As we have shared this feast of love,
strengthen us to share your love with all the world.
In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

Blessing

The God of hope
fill you with all joy and peace in believing,
so that you may abound in hope
by the power of the Holy Spirit, +
through Christ Jesus, the Word made flesh.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN “Cold December Flies Away” (ELW 299)

Cold December Flies Away



1 Cold De - cem - ber flies a - way at the rose - red splen - dor.
2 In the hope - less time of sin shad - ows deep had fall - en.
3 Now the bud has come to bloom, and the world a - wak - ens.



A - pril's crown - ing glo - ry breaks while the whole world won - ders
All the world lay un - der death. Eyes were closed in sleep - ing.
In the lil - y's pur - est flow'r dwells a won - drous fra - grance.



at the ho - ly un - seen pow'r of the tree which bears the
But, when all seemed lost in night, came the sun whose gold - en
And it spreads to all the earth from the mo - ment of its



flow'r. On the bless - ed tree blooms the red - dest flow'r. On the tree blooms the
light brings un - end - ing joy, brings the end - less joy of our hope, high - est
birth; and its beau - ty lives. In the flow'r it lives, in the flow'r, and it



rose here in love's own gar - den, full and strong in glo - ry.
hope, of our hope's bright dawn - ing, Son be - lov'd of heav - en.
spreads in its heav'n - ly bright - ness sweet per - fume de - light - ful.

Text: Catalonian carol; tr. Howard Hawhee, b. 1953
Music: EL DESEMBRE CONGELAT, Catalonian carol
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Dismissal

Go in peace. Rejoice in Christ our Savior.
Thanks be to God.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY:

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