

Gather Us, O God



Advent to Gather
Advent Together

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Pastoral Welcome

Prelude

Kristin Sakamoto

Prayers for Fathers

- L: L: Gather us, O God
C: And we will know your life that makes us one.
L: Gather us, O God
C: And we will celebrate our variety and uniqueness.
L: Gather us, O God
C: And we will give you the pain of our brokenness.
L: Gather us, O God
C: And we will share the gifts of your Spirit.
L: Trinity of love braid us as one
C: That our brokenness be healed by you
That our fears be held by you
That our gifts be used by you
That our lives be offered to you
So that the world may know your reign of love. Amen.

Sharing the Peace

- L: Where people squabble
C: Peace be among us.
L: Where races fight
C: Peace be among us.
L: Where neighbors argue
C: Peace be among us.
L: Where nations disagree
C: Peace be among us.
L: Where Christ's disciples gather
C: Peace be our way.
L: The peace of the Lord be with you.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Refrain

Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.

Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.

Prayer of the Day

L: God, this world would deny you,
and rely on human wisdom
in their search for answers
to questions they have yet to ask,
but we will praise you,
and exalt your name,
for we know that you are Alpha,
the beginning of all things,
and Omega,
the end,
and all that is between.
We have known your healing.
We have known your provision.
We have known your victory.
Our sorrow has turned into dancing
and our tears to songs of joy.
We shall praise you ever more. Amen

C: Amen.

The First Reading

Lamentations 3:22-23

L: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God!

The Gospel Acclamation

Carol Riddell

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

The Holy Scripture

Mark 5:21-43

The Message

Song of the Day

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

Carol Riddell

MileStone Celebration for High School Graduates

Prayers of the Faithful

L: Gracious God, source of all healing, we give you thanks for your gifts of strength and life, and especially for the gift of your Son, Jesus Christ, who brought good news to the poor, recovery of sight to the blind, and freedom to the oppressed.

In the spirit of the woman who trusted enough to touch the hem of Jesus' robe and Jairus who cried for the life of his daughter, we offer our prayers today for the restoration and wholeness of the world, the needs of others, and cares and concerns of our lives.

Time of silence.

L: Gracious God, we lay the world at your feet. There are so many places and situations which seek your loving influence and liberating intervention. Many people who yearn for the certainty of your presence and hope for your healing and restoration.

In this silence, you are invited to pray aloud or silently.

L: As we lift our prayers to you,

C: We offer ourselves, too.

L: Gracious God, you know our needs before we ask and in our asking you prepare us to receive the gift of grace. You minister to us not as one who is absent but as one who is present in human hands, voices and lives full of the Holy Spirit.

Let us open our lives to God's healing presence among us, working through us, even though we might not understand it.

In this silence, you are invited to share your needs for healing with God.

L: As we lift our prayers to you,

C: We offer ourselves, too.

L: Gracious God, you call us to hold the needs of our sisters and brothers as dear to us as our own needs. We pray for all of our sisters and brothers who seek comfort, healing, refuge, rest, peace, wholeness, community, acceptance, and unconditional love.

L: We especially pray for:

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| ▪ Ashton family | ▪ Susan McCoy |
| ▪ Lemont Bell | ▪ Carol Morton |
| ▪ Dallas Collins | ▪ Hilda Mertz |
| ▪ Alpha Omega Curry | ▪ Justin Mertz |
| ▪ Dee Dunlap | ▪ Leo Peeler |
| ▪ Charliese Eichler | ▪ Noel Petrea |
| ▪ Eileen Folkerth | ▪ Calvin Roberson |
| ▪ Jennifer Frisina | ▪ Shannon Roberson |
| ▪ Margerite Heming | ▪ Richard Schulz |
| ▪ Donnell Horton | ▪ David Townsend |
| ▪ Nylah Howard | ▪ Laura Tucker |
| ▪ Andrew Hunt | ▪ Joyce Veit |
| ▪ Waylon Kuklantz | ▪ Herbert Watson |
| ▪ GiGi Logan | ▪ Beverly Williams |
| ▪ Elsie Mason | ▪ Lewis Williams |
| ▪ Ray Matthews | ▪ Renate Wilson |
| ▪ Lynn McClurkin | |

L: We now pray aloud or in the silence of our hearts for those we wish to name.

Time for the community to pray.

L: We remember and celebrate the lives of those who have died, especially:

- H. L. Propst, uncle of Debra Efird
- Chris Jackson, frequent visitor of Advent

By your Holy Spirit, comfort their families, and all who grieve, give peace to those who mourn, strengthen all through the promise of eternal life in Jesus Christ.

L: We give thanks:

- For the birth of Hailey Anne McCombs, granddaughter of Jon and Natalie Eklund on June 21st.
- For the news from Rick Messina's doctors that his cancer is now in remission

L: Gracious God, bringer of wholeness, giver of peace, strengthen all healthcare professionals, who are putting themselves on the line, pouring themselves out, looking to the interests of others in order to heal the sick and tend to the suffering. Help them to know they are seen and valued, not only by you, but by all of us who are grateful for their sacrifices and awed by their tenacity, commitment, skill and care.

L: As we lift our prayers to you,

C: We offer ourselves, too.

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L: Gracious God, we offer these prayers to you, those spoken and those still unknown to us. Give us peace to trust you with the timing and the answers you provide.

We ask these things in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

C: Amen.

SHARING THE MEAL

Preparing the Table

"Here is Bread"

Kristin Sakamoto

Invitation to the Table

L: The table of bread and wine is now made ready. It is the table of company with Jesus, and all who love him. It is the table of sharing with the poor of the world, with whom Jesus identified himself. It is the table of communion with the earth, in which Jesus became fully human. So come to the table, all who have much faith and all who would like to have more; all who have been here often and all who have not been in a long time; all who have tried to follow Jesus, and all who have fallen short. Come. It is Christ who invites us all to meet him here.

C: Amen

The Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer (*spoken*)

C: 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.

Post-Communion Blessing

L: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

SENDING GOD'S PEOPLE

Benediction

L: May you never feel alone in the struggle for justice and peace.
May you know the support of family, friends, and people who feel as passionately about the world as you do.

May you feel a part of the great cloud of witnesses, who through the ages, did God's work and prayed for the coming of the Kingdom.

May you never feel alone.

And if you do, may you carry in your heart the words of Jesus, who told his friends: "I am with you always."

C: **Amen.**

Sending Song

Kristin Sakamoto

Dismissal

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God**