WORSHIP OUTLINE

WE ARE GATHERED

SONG- COME THOU LONG EXPECTED JESUS

Worship Song - PREPARE THE WAY

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS (pastor front center)

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 WL: Last Announcement: Let us stand, turn to our neighbor and say hello.

WL: Please join me in prayer ... < PAUSE>

WL: God of our salvation, you bring victory to the righteous and comfort to the outcast.

As we come before you this day, lighten our hearts with laughter and loosen our tongues to sing your praise. For you alone are the source of our hope; you alone are the fountain of our joy.

Be with us now and always. Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness

P: God is forgiving and gracious.

Join with me in your hearts for this time of confession.

ALL: We confess that we have sinned. We trust earthly powers and human authority alone, and we grow fearful. We cling to false comforts, and we turn away from our neighbors. We plead: come to us, bring your mercy to birth in us.

P: Friends, God's spirit embraces us with forgiveness and grace. In the name of Jesus, your sins are forgiven. Amen.

Worship Song – CHRIST BE OUR LIGHT

During the Litany, the family lights **One** candle on the Advent wreath.

WL: We light the candle of Faith.

ALL: We remember the God who keeps promises.

In the darkness of doubt and fear, God speaks words of comfort.

WL: By faith, we trust God's promise fulfilled in Jesus Christ.

ALL: O God of promise, kindle our faith that we may live as your people now and always. Amen.

AWL Song – CHRIST BE OUR LIGHT

P: The congregation may be seated.

WE ARE TRANSFORMED

Children's Message

Word – Psalm 122; Matthew 24:36-44 NRSVue

Introduction: Advent begins with a call to awaken and trust in God's promises, even when the future feels uncertain. Jesus calls us to be ready—not out of fear, but in faithful expectation. As we light the candle of faith, we ask: how can we live as people who trust God's promise, even in the unknown? Psalm 122 invites us into joyful worship, reminding us that faith is nurtured in community. Let us read responsively, Psalm 122.

WL: ¹I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord."

All: ² Now our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.

WL: ³ Jerusalem is built as a city that is at unity with itself;

All: 4 to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, the assembly of Israel, to praise the name of the Lord.

WL: ⁵ For there are the thrones of judgment the thrones of the house of David.

PSALM CONTINUES → →

All: ⁶ Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you.

WL: ⁷ Peace be within your walls and quietness within your towers.

All: 8 For the sake of my kindred and companions, I pray for your prosperity.

WL: ⁹ Because of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek to do you good."

P: ³⁶ "But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷ For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸ For as in the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹ and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so, too, will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰ Then two will be in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. ⁴¹ Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken, and one will be left. ⁴² Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³ But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴ Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

ALL: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON – STEVE
SERMON RESPONSE – COME LIGHT OUR HEARTS

After each petition, please respond with: P: God of faith,

ALL: receive our prayer

Offering

WL: You may be seated.

- We take a moment to offer our thanks to God.
- I invite you to use the gratitude card in your bulletin.
- Place it in the offering plate your gratitude card along with any offering. You can also make an offering electronically.

Would the ushers please come forward.

Offering Song-GOD WITH US

Communion

P: WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

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

P: Lord's Prayer:

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.

P: You may be seated. Please follow the direction of the ushers to come forward. There is gluten free bread and juice available upon request. The table is set and all are welcome. (optional) Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Distribution – NOW AND AT THE HOUR

Post communion prayer:

P: Most High God, you have come among us at this table. By the Spirit's power, form us to be bearers of your word, sharing gifts of mercy and grace with all, through Christ Jesus, our host and our guest.

All: Amen.

WE ARE SENT

Sending & Blessing

Sending Song – LIGHT OF THE WORLD

Dismissal

WL: Go in peace. Rejoice in Christ our Savior.

ALL: Thanks be to God!