

## Worship Plan for January 10, 2021

### Announcements

### Video Message from Bishop Leila Ortiz

#### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (ELW p. 94)

*The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God,  
who forgives all our sin,  
whose mercy endures forever.

**Amen.**

*The presiding minister may lead one of the following or another prayer of preparation.*

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

*One of the following or another confession is prayed.*

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*The assembly kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection.*

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.**

**Amen.**

*The presiding minister announces God's forgiveness with these or similar words.*

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✙ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**Amen.**

**GATHERING SONG *Baptized and Set Free* (ELW 453)**

*The time of gathering song may be brief or extended, and may include one or more of the following: hymns, psalms; a Kyrie; a canticle of praise.*

1 We are people created,  
chosen by God.  
Then we're washed, ever gently,  
in mercy and love.  
Sin has power no more.  
Jesus opened the door  
to a fountain bringing healing,  
and wholeness and more.

2 We are fed and we're nourished,  
filled and refreshed.  
Then our hunger returns and  
again we are blessed.  
For whatever the need,  
God is greater indeed:  
endless ocean, always deeper  
than all of our need.

3 We are nourished by water,  
all living things,  
and by life that the Spirit  
abundantly brings.  
As we journey toward home,  
may your presence be known:  
precious river, ever-flowing,  
now carry us home.

4 Now with praise and thanksgiving,  
we join the song.  
All are welcome! We gather  
to sing loud and strong.  
Not enslaved, but set free!

From now on, all will be  
one in Jesus, one in water,  
baptized and set free!

**GREETING (ELW p. 98)**

*During this time, the presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.*

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.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY (ELW p. 102)**

*The presiding minister leads the prayer of the day.*

Let us pray.

*A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

Everlasting God, the radiance of all faithful people, you brought the nations to the brightness of your rising. Fill the world with your glory, and show yourself to all the world through him who is the true light and the bright morning star, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

**WORD**

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

**FIRST READING: Isaiah 60:1-6**

*The reading may be announced:*

A reading from Isaiah.

1 Arise, shine; for your light has come,  
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

2 For darkness shall cover the earth,  
and thick darkness the peoples;  
but the Lord will arise upon you,  
and his glory will appear over you.

3 Nations shall come to your light,  
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

4 Lift up your eyes and look around;  
they all gather together, they come to you;  
your sons shall come from far away,  
and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.

5 Then you shall see and be radiant;  
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,  
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you,  
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

6 A multitude of camels shall cover you,  
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;  
all those from Sheba shall come.

They shall bring gold and frankincense,  
and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

## **GOSPEL: Matthew 2:1-12**

*The gospel is announced.*

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*God's promise shines bright in the night as magi follow a star to honor a new king. Strangers from a faraway land, they welcome the long-awaited messiah of Israel.*

1In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, 2asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." 3When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; 4and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. 5They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

6'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for from you shall come a ruler  
who is to shepherd my people Israel.' "

7Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. 8Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." 9When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. 10When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. 11On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. 12And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

*The gospel concludes:*

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY Beautiful Savior (ELW 838)**

1 Beautiful Savior,  
King of creation,  
Son of God and Son of Man!  
Truly I'd love thee,  
truly I'd serve thee,  
light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

2 Fair are the meadows,  
fair are the woodlands,  
robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;  
Jesus is fairer,  
Jesus is purer,  
he makes our sorrowing spirit sing.

3 Fair is the sunshine,  
fair is the moonlight,  
bright the sparkling stars on high;  
Jesus shines brighter,  
Jesus shines purer  
than all the angels in the sky.

4 Beautiful Savior,  
Lord of the nations,  
Son of God and Son of Man!  
Glory and honor,  
praise, adoration,  
now and forevermore be thine!

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.*

Joining our voices with the song of the angels, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

Glorious God, fill your church with joy. Let your faithful people live as beacons of your redemption. Give wisdom and courage to your church that it may speak with boldness and confidence, even when words of mercy are met with scorn. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Show us your faithfulness in the rising and setting of the sun. Place wonder into the hearts of those who search the skies and explore the heavens. Curb waste and pollution, that all might have clean air to breathe. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Bring all nations and rulers to the splendor of your dawn. Raise up advocates who champion the cause of exploited and vulnerable people. Inspire leaders to be generous with abundance, that all people might live in stability and freedom. We pray for the United States. We pray for the stories and experiences of those seeking justice across the world this week whose voices weren't heard because of the needless destruction in Washington DC. We pray for the next 10 days. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Come quickly with your healing power to all who seek love, support, and restoration. Dispel fears and shadows. Restore broken relationships and mend broken hearts. Bring relief to those who are sick or struggling. We pray for all of those who are in long term care. We pray for those who await the vaccine. We pray that the vaccine be administered justly and safely across our nation and world. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Send traveling mercies to anyone who risks travel out of necessity and guide those that travel reckless and needlessly. Guard refugees, immigrants, and asylum seekers. Protect families fleeing conflict in their homelands or abuse in their homes. Tend to those who have no place to lay their heads. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We pray for teachers and employees of all schools. We pray for parents. We pray for students. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

We give thanks for the equity, justice and grace you provide all that enter paradise. You are a just God and we rejoice in the eternal resting place you have provided those whom we grieve.

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of mercy, come quickly to us with grace upon grace as we lift these and all our prayers to you, in the name of Jesus.

**Amen.**

### **PEACE (ELW p. 106)**

This week, a message of peace is important to hear. Peace in our world and peace in our homes.

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

### **OFFERING PRAYER (ELW p. 107)**

*After the table is set, the assisting minister may lead one of the following or a similar prayer.*

Let us pray.

God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord.

**Amen.**

### **COMMUNION**

In the night in which Jesus was betrayed,

Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;

broke it, and gave it to the disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, Jesus 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.

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.

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (ELW p. 114)**

*The assisting minister leads one of the following or a similar prayer after communion.*

Let us pray.

Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart, and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the world, and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

**BLESSING (ELW p. 114)**

*The presiding minister proclaims God's blessing.*

The God of steadfastness and encouragement  
grant you to live in harmony with one another,  
in accordance with Christ Jesus.

**Amen.**

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.

**Amen.**

The God of all grace ✠ bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

**SENDING SONG *Shine, Jesus, Shine* (ELW 671)**

*If “Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace” was not sung at the end of the communion, it may be sung here, or another sending song may be sung.*

Lord the light of Your love is shining  
In the midst of the darkness, shining  
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us  
Set us free by the truth You now bring us  
Shine on me  
Shine on me

Shine, Jesus, shine  
Fill this land with the Father's glory  
Blaze, Spirit, blaze, Set our hearts on fire  
Flow, river, flow  
Flood the nations with grace and mercy  
Send forth Your Word, Lord And let there be light

Lord, I come into Your awesome presence  
From the shadows into Your radiance  
By the blood I may enter Your brightness  
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness  
Shine on me  
Shine on me

Shine, Jesus, shine  
Fill this land with the Father's glory  
Blaze, Spirit, blaze, Set our hearts on fire  
Flow, river, flow  
Flood the nations with grace and mercy  
Send forth Your Word, Lord And let there be light  
Shine, Jesus, shine  
Fill this land with the Father's glory  
Blaze, Spirit, blaze, Set our hearts on fire  
Flow, river, flow  
Flood the nations with grace and mercy  
Send forth Your Word, Lord And let there be light

**DISMISSAL (ELW p. 115)**

*The assisting minister may send the assembly into mission.*

Go in peace. Share the good news.

**Thanks be to God.**

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