

**Worship Plan for Sunday, November 27, 2022**  
**From Generation to Generation: There's A Room for Every Story**  
**First Sunday of Advent**  
**ELW Holy Communion Setting Nine**

United in Faith Lutheran Church, Chicago  
Rev. Carla Thompson Powell, pastor

Musician: Richard Trost  
Assisting Minister: Denise Boyer

“Prayers by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed | Music by Rev. Anna Strickland | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.”



**INTRODUCTION:** Our series begins with Matthew’s genealogy. In that long list of names, we remember the trauma and triumph of those who came before; each name holds a story and their story gives way to Christ’s story. When you zoom in, you may not be able to see how each character propels the story forward, but when you zoom out, you can see how each story is woven together into a larger tapestry. The Isaiah passage illustrates a convergence of opposing groups and identities coming together. Instead of the way of the past—of war—they learn a new way by transforming their weapons into gardening tools. What are the old paths that we’ve followed, and where must we diverge into a new way?

## **PRELUDE**

### **CANDLELIGHTING LITURGY - FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION (READ)**

#### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS - FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION**

P: In God's house, everyone is welcome— those who seem like they have it all together, and those who feel like their world is falling apart. No matter who we are, there's room for us here. With that confidence, we turn to God in prayer, speaking the truth of our lives. Let us pray:

**C: God of today and God of tomorrow, you say, "Bring your full self. There's room for you here." But we say, "Our lives are too messy." You say, "Bring your hopes and your dreams. There's room for you here." But we say, "It's too risky to hope." You say, "Bring your grief and your prayers. There's room for you here." But we say, "Some things are easier to forget." God of today and God of tomorrow, we know in our hearts that there's room for us here. Forgive us for withholding our full selves from you. Forgive us for giving only our Sunday best. Help us remember, today and tomorrow, There's room for every story. Amen.**

P: Family of faith, we who feel scattered are held together. We who have lost our way are forgiven and found. And we who are lonely are brought into the fold and are told, "There's room for you here." From generation to generation, this is the good news of the gospel. In Jesus Christ we are held, forgiven, found, and welcomed. Thanks be to God! **C: Amen.**

GATHERING SONG *Bring Many Names* (ACS 1094)

## Bring Many Names



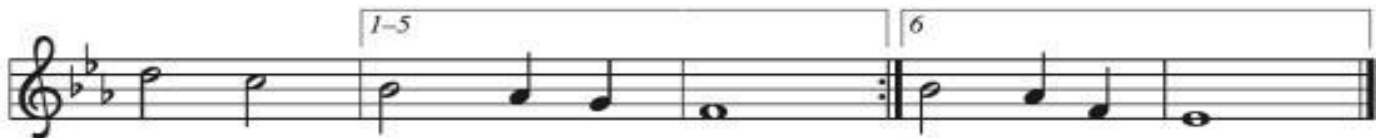
1 Bring man - y names, beau - ti - ful and good,  
2 Strong moth - er God, work - ing night and day,  
3 Warm fa - ther God, hug - ging ev - 'ry child,  
4 Old, ach - ing God, gray with end - less care,  
5 Young, grow - ing God, ea - ger, on the move,  
6 Great, liv - ing God, nev - er ful - ly known,



cel - e - brate, in par - a - ble and sto - ry, ho - li - ness in  
plan - ning all the won - ders of cre - a - tion, set - ting each e -  
feel - ing all the strains of hu - man liv - ing, car - ing and for -  
calm - ly pierc - ing e - vil's new dis - guis - es, glad of good sur -  
say - ing no to false - hood and un - kind - ness, cry - ing out for  
joy - ful dark - ness far be - yond our see - ing, clos - er yet than



glo - ry, liv - ing, lov - ing God. Hail and ho -  
qua - tion, gen - i - us at play: Hail and ho -  
giv - ing till we're rec - on - ciled: Hail and ho -  
pris - es, wis - er than de - spair: Hail and ho -  
jus - tice, giv - ing all you have: Hail and ho -  
breath - ing, ev - er - last - ing home: Hail and ho -



san - na! Bring man - y names!  
san - na, strong moth - er God!  
san - na, warm fa - ther God!  
san - na, old, ach - ing God!  
san - na, young, grow - ing God!  
san - na,

6 great, liv - ing God!

Text: Brian Wren, b. 1936

Music: WESTCHASE, Carlton R. Young, b. 1926

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## **GREETING**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C: And also with you.**

## **KYRIE (ELW p. 193) & GLORY TO GOD (ELW p. 195)**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY** P: God of the ages, in scripture we hear stories of people like us—ordinary people, people who longed to know you, people who longed to follow you, people who made mistakes, people who tried to grow— old, young, native, immigrant, new to the faith, lifelong believer. In scripture we hear stories of people like us, so just as you walked with them, help us to hear and remember all the ways that you walk with us. We are listening. We are grateful. We are yours. **C: Amen.**

## **WORD**

### **FIRST READING: Isaiah 2:1-5**

<sup>1</sup>The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

<sup>2</sup>In days to come the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. <sup>3</sup>Many peoples shall come and say,

“Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.”

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

<sup>4</sup>He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

<sup>5</sup>O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

A: Word of God, word of life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM: Psalm 122 (read responsively)**

<sup>1</sup>I was glad when they said to me, “Let us go to the house of the LORD.”

<sup>2</sup>**Now our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.**

<sup>3</sup>Jerusalem is built as a city that is at unity with itself;

<sup>4</sup>**to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD, the assembly of Israel, to praise the name of the LORD.**

<sup>5</sup>For there are the thrones of judgment, the thrones of the house of David.

<sup>6</sup>**Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: “May they prosper who love you.**

<sup>7</sup>Peace be within your walls and quietness within your towers.

<sup>8</sup>**For the sake of my kindred and companions, I pray for your prosperity.**

<sup>9</sup>Because of the house of the LORD our God, I will seek to do you good.”

### **SECOND READING: Romans 13:11-14**

<sup>11</sup>Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; <sup>12</sup>the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; <sup>13</sup>let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. <sup>14</sup>Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires. A: Word of God, word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 198)**

### **GOSPEL: Matthew 1:1-17**

P: The holy gospel according to Matthew. **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>An account of the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

<sup>2</sup>Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, <sup>3</sup>and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Aram, <sup>4</sup>and Aram the father of Aminadab, and Aminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, <sup>5</sup>and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, <sup>6</sup>and Jesse the father of King David.

And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, <sup>7</sup>and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asaph, <sup>8</sup>and Asaph the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, <sup>9</sup>and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, <sup>10</sup>and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amos, and Amos the father of Josiah, <sup>11</sup>and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon.

<sup>12</sup>And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Salathiel, and Salathiel the father of Zerubbabel, <sup>13</sup>and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, <sup>14</sup>and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, <sup>15</sup>and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, <sup>16</sup>and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called the Messiah.

<sup>17</sup>So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations; and from David to the deportation to Babylon, fourteen generations; and from the deportation to Babylon to the Messiah, fourteen generations. P: The gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **SERMON – Pastor Carla Thompson Powell**

### **HYMN OF THE DAY – “Through The Ages”**

#### **Tune: MUELLER (“Away in a Manger”, ELW 277)**

Oh down through the ages and generations  
From God in the garden to Jesus the son  
Each story was woven, each one has a place  
Within the great tapestry telling God’s grace

From Abraham, Isaac, and Israel’s line  
How Rahab and Ruth and Bathsheba survived  
From exile in Egypt to Babylon far  
Christ’s lineage shows how complex stories are

And still through the ages our stories will find  
Belonging in God's story of humankind

From God in the garden to eternity  
We're woven together as one tapestry

## CREED

**C: We believe in a God who promised to Abraham, who wrestled with Jacob, who walked with Ruth, who spoke with Moses, who grieved with Bathsheba, who danced with David, who dreamed with Joseph, and who hoped like Mary. We believe in a God who has been loving, inviting, transforming, and challenging us from generation to generation. And we believe that same God is here with us now, saying, "Come on in; there's room for you here." Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: As we prepare for the fullness of Christ's presence, let us pray for a world that yearns for new hope. God of all, your children everywhere cry out for mercy. Awaken the global church to the urgent needs of our time. Break down barriers of culture and custom and unite people of all faiths in your redemptive and healing work. God, in your mercy, **C: receive our prayer.**

A: God of wonder, the earth's beauty and abundance is your gift. Teach us your ways of sharing resources and caring for life. Guard fragile habitats, preserve the wild places, and protect endangered plants and animals. God, in your mercy, **C: receive our prayer.**

A: God of peace, you judge the nations. Beat our weapons into tools for serving the neighbor. Strengthen the resolve of all who work for an end to war. We pray for lasting peace in the land of Jesus' birth. God, in your mercy, **C: receive our prayer.**

A: God of lovingkindness, you desire fullness of life for everyone. Fill those who hunger. Comfort the grieving and attend to those near death. Bring help and hope to any who are sick or needing your care. God, in your mercy, **C: receive our prayer.**

A: God of community, you are present when we gather in your name. Guide congregations in transition or conflict. Give wisdom to congregational councils, call committees, and ministry leaders. Keep us alert to unexpected opportunities for mission. God, in your mercy, **C: receive our prayer.**

A: God of promise, your goodness is everlasting. We give thanks for the lives of the faithful who now rest in you. We trust that you will bring us into the company of all the saints with rejoicing. God, in your mercy, **C: receive our prayer.**

A: *For whom else do we pray...*

A: God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children. In Jesus' name we pray. **C: Amen.**

## MEAL

### OFFERING

### OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray. **C: God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

### **DIALOGUE (SUNG)**

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

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

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### **PREFACE**

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 200)**

### **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE (ELW p. 200)**

P: 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:

**C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

P: 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.

**C: Come, Lord Jesus.**

P: 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.

**C: Come, Holy Spirit.**

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

## LORD'S PRAYER

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

**C: 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.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Taste and see that the Lord is good.

## LAMB OF GOD (ELW p. 201)

### COMMUNION

*ALL ARE WELCOME AT GOD'S TABLE OF GRACE.*

(Please discard your plastic communion cup into the basket or empty tray.)

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (ELW p. 202)

P: Let us pray. **C: God for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BLESSING

P: As you leave this place, may you go knowing that from generation to generation, we have been claimed and loved. From generation to generation, God has been by our side. From generation to generation, we are not alone. The God of yesterday and the God of tomorrow knows you by name, loves you, and calls you forth, saying, "Go be the person you are called to be, love wildly, do justice, and come back soon." **C: May it be so. Amen.**

## SENDING SONG *Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn* (ELW 242)

## DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Be a blessing in the world. **C: Thanks be to God.**

## PEACE

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

## POSTLUDE