

First Week in Advent

"Sharing God's Breath"

December 3, 2025



PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Sing to God a new song, give praise from the ends of the earth!

Sing to God a new song, give praise from the ends of the earth!

Mountains and deserts rejoice, give praise from the ends of the earth!

Glory to you Source of all Being, Eternal Word, and Holy Spirit.

Sing to God a new song, give praise from the ends of the earth!

PRAYER

O God of Compassion, you come to be with us in our humanity. Enable us to move beyond our stagnant places to embrace your life-giving waters of new birth. We ask you to bless us in the name of the Eternal Word, who was, who is and who will always be. Amen.

SONG

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 2:4b-9

In the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens, 5 when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no vegetation of the field had yet sprung up—for the Lord God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground, 6 but a stream would rise from the earth and water the whole face of the ground 7 then the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.

8 And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he put the man whom he had formed. 9 Out of the ground the Lord God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

The Word of the Lord: Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE

THE PRAYERS

You show us your love for all creation;
may we be sensitive to all living creatures.
You search after the one who wanders away;
assist us to confront how we wander from your way.
You call us to praise and glorify you, Creator God;
enable us to show our gratitude in songs of thanksgiving.
You comfort the sorrowing and give strength to the weary;
grant us your compassion for one another and all humanity.
You come to bring life to the lonely;

be with us and touch us with your transforming joy and hope.

In confidence we pray; be merciful to us, O God!

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

Nourishing God, you are water in the wilderness and streams in the desert. Through this meal, satisfy our parched places, that we may rejoice and be for the world signs of your kingdom come. **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING, WORDS OF INSTITUTION & COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God our host, at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness. Send us forth, eager to share the feast, to welcome the stranger and bear good fruit in the name of Jesus. **Amen.**

BLESSING

May God who comes among us, Father, \oplus Son, and Holy Spirit, grant you patience in waiting, peace in the darkness, and good news to share today and always. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Keep awake. Thanks be to God.

A Word about This Year's Advent Journey:

In the context of the Bible, the "power of the spoken word" refers to the significant spiritual force words possess, impacting both the speaker and the listener, and even affecting spiritual realities. Key scriptural themes include: God's creative power in his spoken Word, the incarnation of God in human flesh, and the gift of God's own breath empowering the words of ordinary people to make Christ known in time and space throughout the ages. As a people in Advent journeying toward the manger in Bethlehem, may we hear and receive our God anew!

