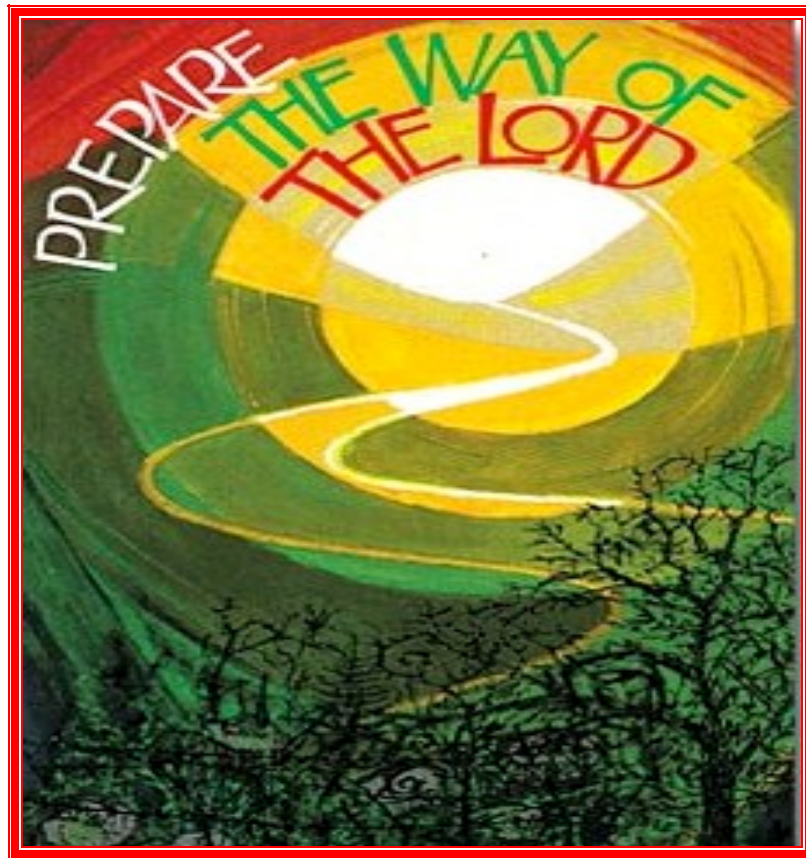


Northeastern Presbyterian Church

2112 Varnum Street, NE, Washington, DC 20018

Telephone: (202) 526-1730 Fax: (202) 526-5900

Email: nepc1@verizon.net Website: <http://nepc-dc.org>



December 7, 2014

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

The Rev. Nancy E. Thornton, Pastor

Northeastern Presbyterian Church



Second Sunday of Advent

The opening of Mark's Gospel reminds us of the decentering of God's good news which is found on the edge...of everything. It goes beyond the boundaries of where we thought God was supposed to be. We find ourselves not in the hustle and bustle of Jerusalem but outside of her city walls, in the margins, on the sidelines. The good news of God brings hope to those who find themselves in the peripheries of our world, but it also belongs there. God's good news of grace announces God's presence on the fringe, God's love that goes beyond the boundaries of where we thought God was supposed to be, and God's promise that there is no place on earth God will not go or be for us. (Karoline Lewis, Working Preacher) Welcome to Northeastern Presbyterian Church!

† Please enter after the invitation of the ushers

*We stand with our hearts or our postures

SOZ refers to the "Songs of Zion" hymnal

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE IN PRAISE AND PRAYER

Prelude

Introit

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

The Chancel Choir

Greetings

†*Invocation



Lighting the Advent Wreath

Mr. & Mrs.

One: Last Sunday we lit the first candle—the candle of hope. Today we light the second candle, the candle of peace. We light it knowing full well that peace is elusive, and in some parts of the world, it is almost completely absent. Yet in this season of Advent, we trust that God is never absent from us. God is always preparing something new. And even where there is war and discord, whether between countries, within families, or within our own hearts, God is present, gently leading us to new possibilities.

(Two candles are lit. Sing verse #2 of "O Come, O come Emmanuel" #9, Hymnal)

All: Loving God, in this time of preparation and planning, we thank You for the hope and peace You unfailingly offer us. Show us the creative power of hope. Teach us the peace that comes from justice. Prepare our hearts to be transformed by You, that we may walk in the light of Christ. Amen.

Singing God's Praises
Congregation

The Choir and

†*Call to Worship

One: Now the word of the prophet is fulfilled.

Many: **Christ is coming! Prepare the way**

One: Pray for the gift of peace from God:

Many: **Shine in our lives, Lord Jesus Christ,**

†*Prayer of Confession

God our Maker, we confess that we are not ready to meet You. You call us to repent, but we turn away from You. You wait patiently for us, but we fail to watch and wait for You. Forgive us, God of grace. Embrace us with tender mercy so that we may be at one with You when all Your glory is revealed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

†*God's Good News

One: Brothers and sisters, by the mercy of Christ, your sins are forgiven, for salvation is at hand for all who turn to God.

Many: **Thanks be to God, who is faithful and has called us into the fellowship of the Son, Jesus Christ our Lord!**

Announcements

Welcome to our Visitors

Passing the Peace #146, SOZ

“Amen”

One: May the peace of Christ be with you.
Many: **And also with you.**

WE EXPERIENCE GOD'S WORD



Children's Message

Mr. Glenn

Response #304, Hymnal
Me”

“Jesus Loves

Invitation to the Offering

The Lord will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase. May your righteousness go before God and prepare a pathway for the Lord. Let us offer our lives and labor to God and fulfill our vows to the Most High.

Offertory

Mr. Sais Kamalidiin, Flute

*Doxology #592, Hymnal
Flow”

“Praise God from Whom All Blessings

†*Prayer of Dedication

Lord, we give you thanks that in the coming of Christ your steadfast love and faithfulness have met and your righteousness and peace have kissed. May the gifts we offer this day lift up those in need and prepare the way of your salvation. Amen.

Experiencing God's Love through Northeastern Presbyterian Church

†Anthem *“Thou Must Leave Thy Lowly Dwelling”* The Chancel Choir

†Prayer of Illumination

Mighty God, send your Holy Spirit to speak peace, that the good news of this age may be proclaimed through your word, which stands forever. Amen.

Scripture Readings: Isaiah 40:1-11, pp. 581-82, Pew Bible
Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13, p. 473, Pew Bible
Mark 1:1-8, p. 812, Pew Bible

One: This is the Word of the Lord.
Many: Thanks be to God!

† Sermonic Selection: "Gesu Bambino" - Pietro Yon - Mrs. Shawnee Ball
with the Northeastern Cherub Choir and Mr. Sais Kamalidiin, Flute

Message "Prepare the Way" Rev. Nancy
Thornton

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*Affirmation of Faith p. 14, Hymnal "The Apostles'
Creed"

† Prayers of the People

† The Prayer Jesus Taught p. 16, Hymnal



The Celebration of the Lord's Supper

WE GO FORTH TO LOVE AND SERVE GOD AND NEIGHBOR

*Hymn #189, SOZ "Old Ship of Zion"

*Charge and Blessing

One: Take your encouragement from Christ, that your joy may be complete.

Many: **We will share in the Spirit; We will find consolation in love.**

One: Practice a ministry of humility and compassion For God is at work in you, empowering you.

All: **We will welcome Christ into our hearts.
We will live worthy of the Gospel.
We will go forth in hope and in peace.**

Benediction "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" (Refrain)

(Please be seated)

Postlude "O Blessed Emmanuel" - J. S. Bach (arr. Van Denman Thompson)

LECTIONARY: ISAIAH 40:1-11; PSALM 85:1-2, 8-13; 2 PETER 3:8-15; MARK 1:1-8
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Today's Worship Leadership

Liturgist: Elder Cynthia Gervais

Greeters: Kathy Cuff and Kathy Spencer
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE ANGEL TREE, CHRISTMAS BASKETS AND GIFTS: Last year because of your generosity, we were able to provide 5 families with gifts and food for the Christmas holidays. This year, we want to help even more families. We have 6 families from LaSalle Backus and 6 families from Ann Beers. An Angel tree is in the sanctuary with the name of a family member and a wish. Please pick up an Angel, and purchase a gift. A box will be in the sanctuary to place the unwrapped gifts. We also need food items. If you or your organization would like to give food and/or monetary donations, please place it in the box provided and give your monetary donations to Elder Jennifer Allen. Please help us help families. It is always better to give. We need all donations by December 14th. If you have any questions or concerns, please see Elder Jennifer Allen or Elder Lisa Slade.

THE ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING of Northeastern Presbyterian Church will be held following the worship service on Sunday, December 14, 2014.

THE ANNUAL PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON will be held on Saturday, December 20, 2014 at 12 noon in the Dorothy Harris Auditorium. Please try to fit it in your schedule.

THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE: As a fundraiser for our most recent project, the purchase of an electronic signboard, the Capital Improvement Committee will be selling dinners on the first Sunday in January, 2015. Pick up a menu form in the narthex, fill it out by December 28th and place it in the Capital Improvement Committee mailbox or the church office mailbox in the breezeway. Thank you for your support.

THE CHANCEL CHOIR will present selections from Handel's Messiah during worship service on Sunday, December 14, 2014. Be sure to attend and invite guest to this special program.

CHURCH DONATIONS: 2015 is quickly approaching! All donations and offerings for 2014 must be received by Wednesday, December 31, 2014, for processing.

CHURCH OFFERING ENVELOPES: The 2015 offering envelopes are ready for pick up. Please pick up your envelopes in the narthex as soon as possible.

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED DC UNIT will serve 3 locations for children gifts; this year: Edward C. Mazique Center, Harmony Public Charter School and Ballou High School Child Development Center on December 10, 2014. The gift bags should include a hat, gloves or mittens, a book and a toy. Please contact sharon_sharon_20017@yahoo.com or 202-291-3829.

THE NEPC SUNDAY SCHOOL will hold its Intergenerational Sunday School class and Breakfast on Sunday, December 14th at 8:30am all are welcome to attend. Class will be led by Pastor Nancy.

THE PRESBYTERIAN MEN'S COUNCIL plans to schedule a group picture taking with the church officers, ministries, music staff, choirs, and office staff for placement on the church website. The undertaking will serve several purposes, not the least of which is to make the NEPC website more attractive, promote its' growth and illustrate that Northeastern is a vibrant congregation. Towards that end, church organizations can expect to be contacted in the near future about scheduling. Should you have questions please contact Robert C. Robinson at 202/635-2008 for further details.

SELF DENIAL is selling pecans for \$11.00. If interested please see Dorothy Williams or give her a call at (301) 559-6513 or any member of the Self-Denial Club.

SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE: If you are concerned about your Medicare program or considering making important healthcare changes, Ms. Kay Moses, an insurance agent is offering free consulting services. She may be reached at 240-351-5261. See the flyer in the Narthex.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER: "Joy to the World." The deepest joy comes when we connect to our Christ nature. The joy of Spirit in us is effervescent. It sparkles in our eyes and add quickness to our steps. Let us rejoice as God's jubilation burst forth from within us doing this season of advent. As we graciously give and receive, we are blessed with abundance of **JOY**.

John – 15:11

TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS will meet at 11:00 a.m., in the Jamison Lounge. The subject of the Book of Exodus is redemption--through the power of God, by means of a deliverer, under the cover of blood. It was written to record the events of Israel's deliverance from slavery in Egypt and contains the Laws that God gave to the Israelites in order to guide them in their relationship with Him. Please join us in studying the Word.

WORSHIP AND MUSIC - Poinsettias are on sale from November 16th through December 21st. Please visit us in the Livingston Room after worship service. Cost is \$13.00 per plant.



1-Ernest Harris; 3-Freddie Peaco; 6-James Wilson; 8-Karen Cooper-Geathers, 10-Isabella Sims; 12-Michelle Williams; 13-Lois Millings, Kathy Spencer; 15-Bishetta Merritt; 22-Josephine Glenn, Dorothy Williams; 30-Robin Miller

**NORTHEASTERN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
VISION STATEMENT**

As we rely on God's guidance, the vision of Northeastern Presbyterian Church is to fulfill the command of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, to promote Christian faith and practice through evangelism, outreach, compassion and fellowship to our congregation and the wider Community.

We commit to:

- Worship
- Witness
- Learn
- Grow
- Nurture
- Serve

Our Thoughts & Prayers are with Northeastern

Members:

Ms. Carol Fleming is recuperating at her mother's home following back surgery.

Mr. Ralph Jefferson is home recuperating. – (202) 329-6207

Dr. Phyllis Hobson c/o Mrs. Valerie Williams – 711 Ash Pl., Gary IN 46403

Mr. Edmund Annor - 4029 – 22nd Street, NE, - Wash., DC 20018 - (202) 832-5049

Ms. Arline Chisholm – 1260 Raum Street, NE, – Wash., DC 20002 – (202) 398-5362

Ms. Shelia Dixon – 350 Galloway Street, NE - Unit 105 – Wash., DC 20018 - 202-269-3731

Mrs. Ethel Farior – The Specialty Hospital of Washington – 700 Constitution Ave., NE, Wash., DC 20002

Mrs. Connie Fortune – 2827 7th Street, NE, Wash., DC 20017 – (202) 832-5281

Ms. Vivian Hayes-Mayes – 14997 Health Care Center Drive, #207 – Bowie, MD 20716, (301) 262-1604
Ms. Jacqueline Hamlin – 1709 Otis Place, NE, – Wash., DC 20018 – (202) 526-1612
Mrs. Harriette Hemby – 11404 Prospect Court – Glenn Dale, MD 20769 (301) 352-0662
Mrs. Mary Hinton – 9250 Edwards Way Dr., #106 – Adelphia, MD–20783 - (301) 439-9229
Mrs. Rutha Hodges – 119 Quincy Place, NE – Washington, DC 20002 – (202) 635-1640
Mrs. Beatrice Hyatt – 6100 Sargent Road, #112 – Hyattsville, MD 20782 – (301) 559-8831
Elder Judine Johnson - 205 Rittenhouse St., NE – Wash., DC 20011 - (202) 726-3219
Mrs. Sadie Johnson – 4810 Eastern Avenue, NE – Washington, DC 20017 – (202) 529-8807
Mrs. Doris Keating – Fox Chase Rehab Ctr – 2015 East West Hgwy – Silver Spring, MD, 20910 – (301) 585-1373
Mrs. Mary Lockard – 10011 Mike Road - Fort Washington, Md. 20744 - 301-248-4326
Ms. Claudia Mallory - 4306 Russell Avenue, #7–Mt. Rainier, Md. 20712 – (301) 779-1746
Mrs. Beatrice O’Byrant – 5339 42nd Street, NW – Wash., DC 20015 – (202) 966-2212
Mr. James Page, Jr. – 6639 – 24th Place, Hyattsville, MD 20782 – (301) 853-3239
Mrs. Helen Price – 55 Trialor Lane - Sicklerville, New Jersey 08081
Mr. Nathan Price - 6532 Parkway Court – Hyattsville, MD 20782 – (301) 559-0723
Mrs. Iris Rogers – 776 Oglethorpe St., NE – Wash., DC 20011 – (202) 635-2047
Mrs. Isabella Sims –9885 Greenbelt Rd – Lanham, MD 20706
Mrs. Verelle Webster – 5000 NH Burroughs Avenue, NE - #531 – Wash., DC 20019– (202) 399-7504
Mrs. Minnie White – Sunrise Senior Assisted Living – 11621 New Hampshire Avenue, #214, Silver Spring, MD 20904
(Desk: 301-625-8655)
Ms. Ethelyne Wilkes – 1217 Tuckerman Street, NW – Wash., DC 20011 – (202) 726-6119

Family

Mr. John Darden–3001 Queens Chapel Rd, #225, Mt Rainier, MD 20712 (Husband of Mrs. Barbara Ross-Darden)
Mrs. Maggie E. Dodson – 5858 Eastern Avenue, NE, Washington, DC 20011 – (202) 526-8144 (Mother of Shirley Dodson and Doretha Elmore)
Mr. Tecumseh Harris – 5432 Shirley Jean Court, Winston Salem, NC 27105 (Nephew of Charlotte Smoot)
Ms. Sylvia Matthews–Signature Health Care–Memphis, TN (Aunt to Amanda Sargent)
Mr. Wilbert Samuel – Winston Salem, NC (Brother of Hasker Samuel)
Mrs. Dorothy Samuel Smith – Tabacoville, NC (Sister of Hasker Samuel)
Mrs. Helen T. Brandon – Althea Woodland Center – 1000 Daleview Dr., Silver Spring, MD 20901 (Sister to James Torrence)

THIS MONTH @ NORTHEASTERN

- Dec. 1 Prayer Conference Call, 9 p.m.
Dial-in Number: (712) 775-7300, Access Code: 190784#
- Dec. 2 Tuesday Morning Bible Study: 11:00 a.m., Jamison Lounge
Noon Day Prayer Service, Chapel
Cherub Choir: 6:30 p.m., Choir Room
Celestial Choir: 7:30 p.m., Choir Room
- Dec. 4 Thankful Thursday. E-mail your reason to be thankful
to nepc1@verizon.net
Herstories, 6:30 p.m., 2nd Floor
Chancel Choir: 7:30 p.m., Choir Room
- Dec. 7 **Sunday Morning Worship Service**, 10 a.m.
Adult Church School, 9:00a.m., Jamison Lounge
Young Folk Church School, 9:00a.m., Auditorium
- Dec. 8 Prayer Conference Call, 9p.m.
Dial-in Number: (712) 775-7300, Access Code: 190784#
AARP Board Mtg., 10 a.m., Jamison Lounge
- Dec. 9 Tuesday Morning Bible Study: 11:00 a.m., Jamison Lounge
Noon Day Prayer Service, Chapel
Cherub Choir: 6:30 p.m., Choir Room
Celestial Choir: 7:30 p.m., Choir Room
- Dec. 10 Presbyterian Men's trip to New York, 6:30 a.m., Parking lot
- Dec. 11 Thankful Thursday. E-mail your reason to be thankful
to nepc1@verizon.net
Herstories, 6:30 p.m., 2nd Floor
Worship & Music Committee meeting, 6:30 p.m., Jamison Lounge
Chancel Choir: 7:30 p.m., Choir Room
- Dec. 13 Delta, 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., Auditorium
Sewing Class: 11:00 a.m., third floor
- Dec. 14 Intergenerational Sunday School and Breakfast**, 8:30 a.m.,
Auditorium
Sunday Morning Worship Service, 10 a.m.
CIC Meeting, Livingston Room, following worship
Social Concerns Meeting, Jamison Lounge, following worship
- Dec. 15 Prayer Conference Call, 9 p.m.
Dial-in Number: (712) 775-7300, Access Code: 190784#
- Dec. 16 Cherub Choir: 6:30 p.m., Choir Room
Celestial Choir: 7:30 p.m., Choir Room
Boy Scout's meeting: 6:30 p.m., Auditorium
- Dec. 18 Thankful Thursday. E-mail your reason to be thankful
to nepc1@verizon.net

- Chancel Choir: 7:30 p.m., Choir Room
- Dec. 20 Food Pantry: 9:30 a.m. – 12 noon, Undercroft
Presbyterian Men, 9:00 a.m., Auditorium
Presbyterian Women's Holiday Program, 12 a.m.
- Dec. 21 Sunday Morning Worship Service, 10 a.m.**
Adult Church School, 9:00 a.m., Jamison Lounge
Young Folk Church School, 9:00 a.m., Auditorium
Deacons' meeting, following worship, Jamison Lounge
Last day to order Poinsettias
Trustees' meeting following worship, 3rd Floor
- Dec. 22 Prayer Conference Call, 9 p.m.
Dial-in Number: (712) 775-7300, Access Code: 190784#
AARP Holiday Celebration, 10-2:00 p.m., Auditorium
- Dec. 23 Tuesday Morning Bible Study: 11:00 a.m., Jamison Lounge
Noon Day Prayer Service, Chapel
Cherub Choir: 6:30 p.m., Choir Room
Celestial Choir: 7:30 p.m., Choir Room
- Dec. 24 Christmas Eve Service, 6:30 p.m., Sanctuary**
- Dec. 25 Christmas Holiday – Church closed**
Thankful Thursday. E-mail your reason to be thankful
to nepc1@verizon.net
- Dec. 28 **Sunday Morning Worship Service, 10:00 a.m.**
Adult Church School, 9:00 a.m., Jamison Lounge
Young Folk Church School, 9:00 a.m., Auditorium
- Dec. 29 Prayer Conference Call, 9 p.m.
Dial-in Number: (712) 775-7300, Access Code: 190784#
- Dec. 30 Tuesday Morning Bible Study: 11:00 a.m., Jamison Lounge
Noon Day Prayer Service, Sanctuary

Church Officers

Elders

Frank Enty
Cynthia Gervais
Angela Hemphill
Pamela Jackson
Bishetta Merritt
Nachee Miller
Freddie Peaco
Lisa Slade
Shawn Thomas
Clarence Wade
James Wilson
Rhonda Winston
Charles Barber, Clerk
cbarber@gwu.edu
301-593-9851

Deacons

Phyllis Adkins
Jacqueline Cook
Willie Jean Cook
Carol Fleming
James Haggins
Ralph Jefferson
Robin Miller
Robert Robinson
Antoinette Spriggs
Lauren Spriggs
Randall Timbers
Cherie Young
Katrin Jones, Moderator
katrin.jones@asoc.usda.gov
301-249-6884

Trustees

Lillian Berry
Iris Burnell
Jeffery Carr
Ernest Harris
William Hymes, Jr.
Chris Jenkins
Arthur Slade, II
Helena Slade
James Williams
Shirley Wilson
Patricia Young
Eliot Johnson, President
eliot.johnson@marriott.com
240-595-2021

Church Music Staff

Director, Chancel Choir/Organist	-	Dr. Laddie Bell
Assistant Organist	-	Ms. Lillian Berry
Director/Pianist, Celestial Choir	-	Rev. Rosemarie Jones
Director, Youth/Cherub Choir	-	Mrs. Michelle Williams
Pianist, Youth/Cherub Choir	-	Ms. Jennifer Allen

Pastor's Information

Cell Phone: 845-518-1683
Home Phone: 202-832-1467
E-mail: nancyethornton@gmail.com
Address: 3617 28th Street, NE, Washington, DC 20018
Office Phone: 202-526-1814



 Northeastern Presbyterian Church



The Celebration of the Lord's Supper December 7, 2014

Invitation

One: God's Banquet is coming. The time we await when all will gather from North, East, West and South.

Many: A banquet where the rich and powerful will sit with the weak and poverty-stricken. A table where young and old will learn from each other. A time when all will sit together in peace, "and the wolf will lie down with the lamb".

One: Here at this table we get a foretaste of God's banquet. This is indeed God's table, not the church's, and so all who seek to follow The Way are welcome to eat and drink from it.

Many: Come and taste the grace eternal, come and see that God is good.

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: God is with us

Many: We are not alone

One: Christ is present here

Many: The Spirit moves within us

One: Let us give thanks to God

Many: In memory and in hope

One: Blessings be to you, Creator God, who in the beginning brought light and life to the world and who continues to bring it love and light everlasting.

Many: Your song of wisdom echoes through the ages, your ancient promise still brings us hope.

One: Over the ages you have called people to embrace your hope and share your love. But even when they have closed their ears to the song you did not stop singing. You sent prophets and messengers to your people, reminding them of the promised time of peace and justice that would surround the world.

Many: They came in the midst of our despair and filled us with hope.

One: And then you came to a young woman named Mary and laid out the promise in a new way.

Many: Promising her a son, who would be called Jesus. Promising her that in her son the world would be changed.

One: And now as we prepare for that child to be born, we echo the ancient cry:

Many: O come, O come Emmanuel

O holy holy holy God,

O God of time and space.

All earth and sea and sky above

bear witness to your Grace.

Hosanna in the highest heaven,

creation sings your praise.

Blessed is the One who comes

and bears your name.

The Story Remembered

One: Yet even now, as we prepare to celebrate his birth, we remember the life that this baby will live.

Many: We remember how he broke the bonds of human tradition to show all what the Banquet of Hope could be as he ate openly with the despised and the outcast of his world.

One: And we remember one special meal, foretaste of the banquet that is to come, that he ate with his closest friends.

Many: Gathering them together in an upper room to share the story of liberation, he prepared them for liberation.

One: And at the end of the meal he took bread, blessed and broke it, then passed it to them saying:

Many: Take and eat. This bread is the body of Life, broken by the world. Eat it in remembrance and in hope.

One: After that he took the cup, blessed it, and passed it to them saying:

Many: This cup is the sign of the New Covenant. Whenever you drink it remember me, for I shall not eat or drink again until the time of the heavenly banquet.

One: Remembering the birth of the child in the stable, we remember also his life, his death and his resurrection.

Many: **We remember how he poured his love out to all he met and look forward to his return and the coming reign of peace, love, and justice.**

One: And in our remembering we state the mystery of faith:

Many: **Christ has died and Christ is risen,
Christ will come again!
Christ has died and Christ is risen,
Christ will come again!**

The Spirit Transforms

One: God, you poured your Spirit on Mary and she sang words of defiance and hope. Pour out your Spirit upon us gathered here. As we eat and drink may we know your presence. As we eat and drink may we be opened to the possibilities of your hope and power. And may we be strengthened in our time of waiting for peace and justice so that we will have the courage to make the Christmas promise a reality. Amen.

The Pouring and Breaking and Serving

One: The Bread we break is the Bread of Life. The Cup we Share is the Cup of Promise. These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

Many: **Thanks be to God.**

One: Come and eat, the banquet awaits.

Prayer Following Communion

God of pregnant expectations, God of Christmas promise, God of child-like hope, we have eaten and drunk from your table. May the eating and the drinking fill us with hope in a world of despair. May we be beacons of hope as we wait for the day when the world will be changed. Grant that this taste of your banquet which is to come would give us the hunger for peace and justice in our community and around the world. Amen.