

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

4<sup>th</sup> of Advent - Sunday December 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017 – 10:30am

\*You are invited to stand, if able – **Please say, sing or pray along with bold text**

### PRELUDE

Sarah Svendsen

### WELCOME

How are you today? **We are blessed and highly favoured!**

### ANNOUNCEMENTS / INVITATION TO WORSHIP

\***HYMN:** #8 “Lo, How a Rose E`er Blooming”

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### ADVENT WREATH – LIGHTING THE 4<sup>TH</sup> CANDLE: LOVE

**HYMN:** #7 “Hope Is a Star”

MOON BEAMS

*Children are invited to gather with the ministers as the hymn is sung.*

### GATHERING WITH THE CHILDREN

*After prayer, the children are invited to participate in Collier`s Kids.*

**FROM THE BIBLE:** Luke 1:26-38

Paul Ambridge

This is the word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

**MINISTRY OF MUSIC:** “And the Glory of the Lord,” from *The Messiah* G.F. Handel

**MESSAGE:** “Faith God Can Use”

William Haughton

\***HYMN:** #44 “It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”

CAROL

*Children return to worship and rejoin their families for the Lord`s Supper.*

### PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERINGS AND CARE CARDS

**OFFERTORY:** “Lo, How A Rose E`er Blooming”

Arr. Sarah Svendsen

Sung by Hailey Choi, Choral Scholar

\***DEDICATION:** #55 “In the Bleak Midwinter”

CRANHAM

**What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;**

**if I were a wise man, I would do my part; yet what I can I give him – give my heart.**

### THE LORD`S SUPPER

Christmas reminds us of God`s love for all creation. **We are opened to such love.**

At Christmas, God came into the world tiny and fragile. In Jesus, the ordinary is made extraordinary. At his table, bread and juice become spiritual food. **We celebrate the gifts of God.**

Christmas reminds us of those in need or without place, of all grieving or in fear and of our calling to work for a world more just. With this food and drink we express our calling to feed others. **We will be a people of compassion.**

Christmas reminds us of peace and light. May this small meal, offered one to another, inspire lovingkindness in the name of the one who welcomes all. **We will be a people of hope.**

Let us pray: Gracious and loving God, we confess that we are not what you have called us to be. **We have stifled our gifts and wasted our time.**

We have avoided opportunities to be kind and been quick to take offense. We have avoided working for peace and justice and made excuses for ourselves. **Have mercy on us, forgive us, and help us to live our lives differently.**

We long for peace, within and without, for harmony in our families and for the well-being of others—enemies as well as friends. **Yet we confess we have often taken the easy road and not faced the difficulties demanded by love.**

Show us how to walk in your path of faithfulness, hope and love. **Amen.**

\***HYMN:** #459 “Here, O My Lord, I See You Face to Face” (1-3)

ST AGNES

### PRAYER OF PREPARATION

### THE INSTITUTION OF THE SUPPER

### DISTRIBUTION AND CONSUMPTION OF THE ELEMENTS

*All coming to the table are invited to instinct, or dip, the bread into the cup.*

### PRAYER, WITH THE LORD`S PRAYER:

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done, on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever, amen.**

\***HYMN:** #9 “People, Look East”

BESANÇON

### \*BLESSING

**POSTLUDE:** “In Dulci Jubilo,” BWV 729

J.S. Bach