**GATHERING**

* Indicates where those who are able to do so are invited to stand

- Preparation
  At the prelude and the lighting of the candles, let us prepare for worship in silence and meditation

- Greeting and Welcome
- Announcements
- Chiming the Hour Prelude
  Melchior Teschner/arr. Paul Manz
- Introit
  Then Swenska Psalmbooken
- Call to Worship
  We are invited into God’s presence to offer our praise and thanksgiving

- * Opening Hymn
  (see insert)
  The Advent Candle Lighting
  The Scripture Lessons
  The Candle Lighting
  The Lighting of the Candles of Hope, Peace, & Joy
  The Lighting of the Candle of Love

**WORD**

- The Message for the Young at Heart
  The Advent Prayer of Thanksgiving

- The Message
  The Rev. Dr. Douglas Nagel

**THANKSGIVING**

- The Offering of Our Gifts and Ourselves
  Offertory
  Henry Purcell
- * A Christmas Doxology
  (Tune: “Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”)

- * Prayer of Dedication
  The Prayers of the People
  The Pastoral Prayer
  The Lord’s Prayer

- * Closing Hymn
  #256
  Bring a Torch

- * Charge
  Benediction
  *Choral Blessing
  Tattersall’s Psalmody
- * Postlude
  Johann Pachelbel
- * Parting of the Fellowship

**PRELUDE**

* The Sharing of the Peace
  Children should come forward during the Sharing of the Peace

- “Faith is that strengthening power within urging me on my way, teaching me all that I must know, helping to obey. Faith is that strengthening power within lighting the road I trod, helping me know which way to go, pointing the way to God.”
  —Author Unknown

- The Advent Hymn
  (see insert)
  “Light a Candle in the Darkness”
  (sing verses 1-4)

- “The Lord be with you.
  And also with you.

- * The Sharing of the Peace
  Children should come forward during the Sharing of the Peace

- The Lord be with you.
  And also with you.

- The Advent Hymn
  (see insert)
  “O Lord, How Shall I Meet You?”

- The Anthem
  Paul Manz

- Illumination Prayer
  Old Testament Lesson

- * The Hymn
  (see insert)
  The Advent Prayer of Thanksgiving

- “Prepare the Way”
  In the midst of darkness, God brings a new light.
  * Thanks be to the God of light.
  In the midst of confusion and fear, God rings hope and peace.
  * Thanks be to the God of peace.
  In the midst of strife and stress, God comforts and soothes us.
  * Let us praise God who truly loves us and brings us new life. AMEN.

- “Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”
  Doug & Jane Price, 8:30
  Bob & Susan McCreary, 11:00
  Matthew 1:18-25, p. 783, Pew Bible
  Psalm 80:17-19, p. 471, Pew Bible
  The Holy Spirit has come to fulfill what has been promised by the Prophets.
  * A child will be born whose name will be Jesus. (pause)
  He will save the people from their sins.
  * Amen! God will be with us! (pause)
  God will restore you and reveal your salvation. We see the light of God dawning over the land. We light a fourth candle, the Candle of Love, in anticipation of Immanuel.
  * We will prepare room for the Light of lights, even Jesus Christ our Lord.

- The Message
  O Lord, How Shall I Meet You?

- *The Prayer of Thanksgiving

- “E’en So, Lord Jesus Quickly Come”
  Isaiah 7:10-16, Pew Bible, page 554
  The Word of the Lord.
  Thanks be to God.

- “Long Ago, Prophets Knew”
  Who are we, Lord God, that you should come to us?
  Yet you have visited your people and redeemed us in your Son.
  As we prepare to celebrate his birth, make our hearts leap for joy at the sound of your word, and move us by your Spirit to bless your wonderful works.
  We ask this through him whose coming is certain, whose day draws near, your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

- “Doxology”

- “Adagio”
  Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to Christ the Son, Glory to the Holy Spirit, Glory to the Three-in-One.
  Here we offer to you gladly all the gifts that you impart, as we glory in your Presence, giving from a grateful heart.

- “Love Has Come!”

- “Lord Dismiss Us With Thy Blessing”
  “Voluntary in D Minor”
  (See insert)