



The First Sunday of Advent

St. George's Church • Glenn Dale Parish
The Episcopal Diocese of Washington

December 1, 2024
A Service of Holy Eucharist

Welcome to St. George's! If you are new or visiting, we are especially glad to see you this morning, whether in person or virtually. This service booklet has the prayers and hymns needed for your participation in today's service. Wherever you are in your journey, know that you are welcome here.

Prelude: *Forest Green*

Music: Robin Dinda

Opening Hymn: Hymnal 1982 #56 *O come, Emmanuel*, verses 1-4

Words: Latin 9th century. Music: *Veni, veni Emmanuel*, Plainsong Mode I *Processionale* adapt. Thomas Helmore (1811-1890)
Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



O come, O come, Em-man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el,
O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest all things might - i - ly;
O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes on Si - nai's height
O come, thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, free them from Sa - tan's ty - ran - ny



that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
to us the path of know - ledge show, and teach us in her ways to go.
in an - cient times didst give the law, in cloud, and ma - jes - ty, and awe.
that trust thy might - y power to save, and give them vic - tory o'er the grave.



Re-joyce! Re-joyce! Em-man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra-el!

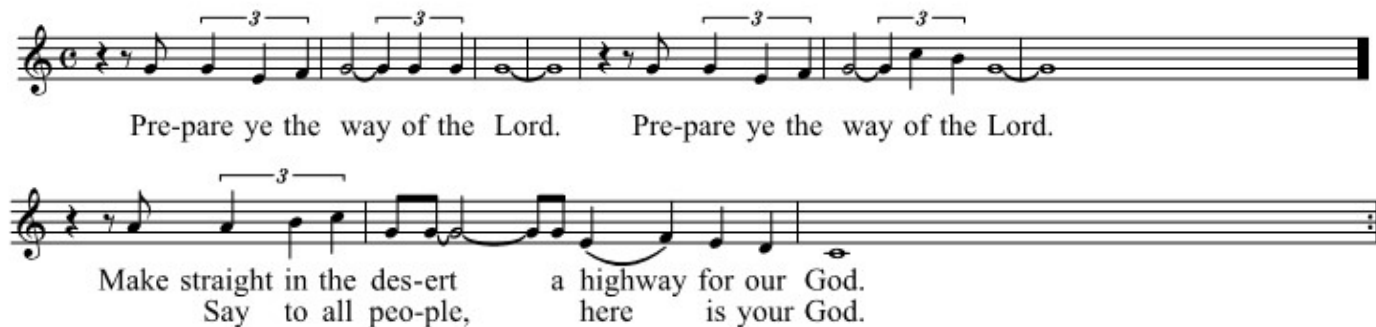
Celebrant: Blessed are you, holy and living One.

People: You come to your people and set them free.

All pray together: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord, Levas # 11 verses 1,4

Words: Isaiah 40:3-4,9. Music: James E. Moore, Jr. © 1992 G.I.A. Publications. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



Pre-*pare* ye the way of the Lord. Pre-*pare* ye the way of the Lord.

Make straight in the des-ert a highway for our God.
Say to all peo-ple, here is your God.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray together the Collect of the Day:

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The people may be seated.

Jeremiah 33:14-16

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**



Psalm 25:1-9

To you Lord I lift up my soul, my God I have put my trust in you:

let me not be disappointed, nor let my enemies triumph over me.

For all those who hope in you shall not be ashamed:

but only those who wantonly break faith.

Make known to me your ways O Lord:

and teach me your paths.

Lead me in the way of your truth and teach me:

you are God my savior, for you have I waited all the day long.

Call to remembrance O Lord your tender care:

and the unfailing love which you have shown from of old.

Do not remember the sins and offences of my youth:

but according to your mercy, remember me Lord in your goodness.

You O Lord are upright and good:

therefore you show the path to those who go astray.

You guide the humble to do what is right:

and those who are gentle you teach your way.

All your ways are loving and sure:

to those who keep your covenant and your commandments.

At the conclusion of the psalm, all say together

**Glory to God, Source of all being, Eternal Word, and Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Gospel Hymn: Wonder, Love and Praise # 804 *Steal Away*

Words and Music: Traditional Spiritual, Arr. Carl Haywood (b. 1949), from *The Haywood Collections of Negro Spirituals* © 1992 Carl Haywood.
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Steal a - way, steal a - way, steal a - way to Je - sus!



Steal a - way, steal a - way home, I ain't got long to stay here!



My Lord he calls me, He calls me by the thun - der.
Green trees are bend - ing, poor sin - ner stands a - tremb - ling;
Tomb - stones are burst - ing, poor sin - ner stands a - tremb - ling;
My Lord he calls me, he calls me by the light - ning.



The trum - pet sounds with - in - a my soul, I ain't got long to stay here.

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Luke 21:25-36

Jesus said, "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you Lord Christ.**

Sermon: The Rev. Connie Reinhardt

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth;**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

In the hushed anticipation of your coming, O Lord, remind us of the words of Jesus, the angels, and the God we know and trust: Be not afraid. May this Advent season call to us of the Light that shines in the world, the Light that we wait for, the Light that is coming: Jesus our Redeemer. We pray, saying **Come Lord Jesus, and hear our prayer.**

O God, in days to come your promise to make a righteous branch spring up for your people shall be fulfilled, and your joy shall reign. We pray for the church, especially Sean our presiding bishop, Mariann our bishop, Connie our rector, and for the community of St. George's, that you might teach us your ways and that we might walk in your paths. We pray, saying **Come Lord Jesus, and hear our prayer.**

Out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and you, O God, shall judge between the nations. We pray for our nation, and all nations, that justice and righteousness will be executed in every corner of the earth, saying **Come Lord Jesus, and hear our prayer.**

We continue to pray for our country and its people. We pray that you lead us with your Spirit in justice and truth and guide us as your church to be your hope for the world, protecting the vulnerable, providing for those in need, welcoming the stranger, feeding the hungry, and caring for one another for the sake of Jesus, the face of Love. We pray saying, **Come Lord Jesus, and hear our prayer.**

You promise to save those in need and gather the outcast, O God, as you restore our fortunes before our eyes. We pray for the sick, the suffering, and those in distress of any kind, especially for those on our parish prayer list, and those we name before you now. *The people may add their own petitions.* We pray also for those who are cold and those who are hungry, and for those who like Mary and Joseph in Bethlehem had no place to lay their head. We pray, saying **Come Lord Jesus, and hear our prayer.**

You call us to sing aloud and exult in your saving presence, O God. We pray for those who rejoice this week as they celebrate their birthdays and anniversaries and other blessings of this life; that you lead us home to you with joy and gladness. We pray, saying **Come Lord Jesus, and hear our prayer.**

In the fullness of time, O God, you sent your son, to be born of our sister Mary. And his name was Emmanuel: God With Us. You are with us even through the grave and gate of death; and so we pray for those whom we love but see no longer. *The people may add their own petitions.* We pray, saying **Come Lord Jesus, and hear our prayer.**

God of joy, you strengthen what is weak; you enrich the poor and give hope to those who live in fear. We ask you to hear our prayers, and come among us soon; for we are waiting for you, and none other. Come Lord Jesus. **Amen.**

The Confession and Absolution

Celebrant: Now let us confess our sins to God. *Silence is kept.*

Jesus, you came to call us to repentance: **Lord, have mercy.**

You come in word and sacrament to share your life abundant: **Christ, have mercy.**

You will come again in glory to renew the whole creation: **Lord, have mercy.**

God for whom we wait and watch, we ask you to forgive us the wrongs we have done, and help us turn again to you, that we may serve you with whole hearts as we wait for your coming in Christ Jesus, our Redeemer. Amen.

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of Christ be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Blessings for Birthdays & Anniversaries

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant(s) and anyone celebrating their birthday or anniversary this week as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Offertory

Do good works and share what you have, for these are the sacrifices pleasing to God.

Although St. George's no longer physically "passes the basket" everyone is invited and encouraged to make a financial offering to express your gratitude to God for the gifts we are given and in support of our mission and ministries. Baskets for donations by check or cash are located at the corner entrances to the Sanctuary. We encourage you to give electronically: you can text stgeodragon to 73256, use a web browser to go to onrealm.org/StGeorgesChurch/give, or donate via Zelle to donations@stgeorgesglennedale.org. (*For texts, message and data rates may apply. Message frequency varies. Text HELP to 73256 for help. Text STOP to 73256 to cancel.)*

Offertory Hymn: Hymnal 1982 #73 *The King shall come when morning dawns*

Words: Greek, Tr. John Brownlie (1859-1925). Music: *St. Stephen*. William Jones (1726-1800). Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light tri - um - phant breaks:
Not, as of old, a lit - tle child, to bear, and fight, and die,
The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and earth's dark night is past;
and let the end - less bliss be - gin, by wear - y saints fore - told,
The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light and beau - ty brings:



when beau - ty gilds the east-ern hills and life to joy a-wakes.
but crowned with glo - ry like the sun that lights the morn-ing sky.
O haste the ris - ing of that morn, the day that e'er shall last;
when right shall tri - umph o - ver wrong, and truth shall be ex-tolled.
Hail, Christ the Lord! Thy peo-ple pray, come quick-ly, King of kings.

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

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

People: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

O God of grace and blessing, in the abundance of your love you have caused all things to be: from dust and spirit you have woven our humanity and opened our eyes to see your starlit beauty.

You parted the wide heavens to send your light of hope, and you sent your Word to take our mortal flesh in Jesus, who was promised by those who shared your dream of peace.

John the Baptist cleared his way with words of desert fire; Mary and Joseph accepted his coming with tenderness and faith. We know that Jesus the Promised One draws near to us again to show us who we really are with honesty and love.

Therefore, we take up the song of hope that has been sung by your people throughout the ages:

Holy, holy, holy Lord *Sanctus*

Setting: David Hurd (b. 1950) Hymnal 1982 #S 124. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,



hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



Blest is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy One, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your Son Jesus to be our Savior. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to the prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. In love for us and for you he gave himself up to death, and rising from the grave he destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And so we remember that on the night he was betrayed, Jesus gathered with his faltering friends for a meal that tasted of freedom. Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it and said: "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this to remember me."

In the same way after supper, he took the cup, saying "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, whenever you drink it, to remember me."

Great then is the mystery of faith:
Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.



And now, we pray you to send your Holy Spirit upon us, O God, and upon these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice, and love.

As we offer these gifts and ourselves to you O Holy One, for you alone are the giver, and Christ is the gift through which we live once and for all.

And now through him who was emptied to bear your fullness we make our prayer with all created life, to the glory of the God who fills all in all, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant: And now let us pray with confidence the words our Savior has taught us:

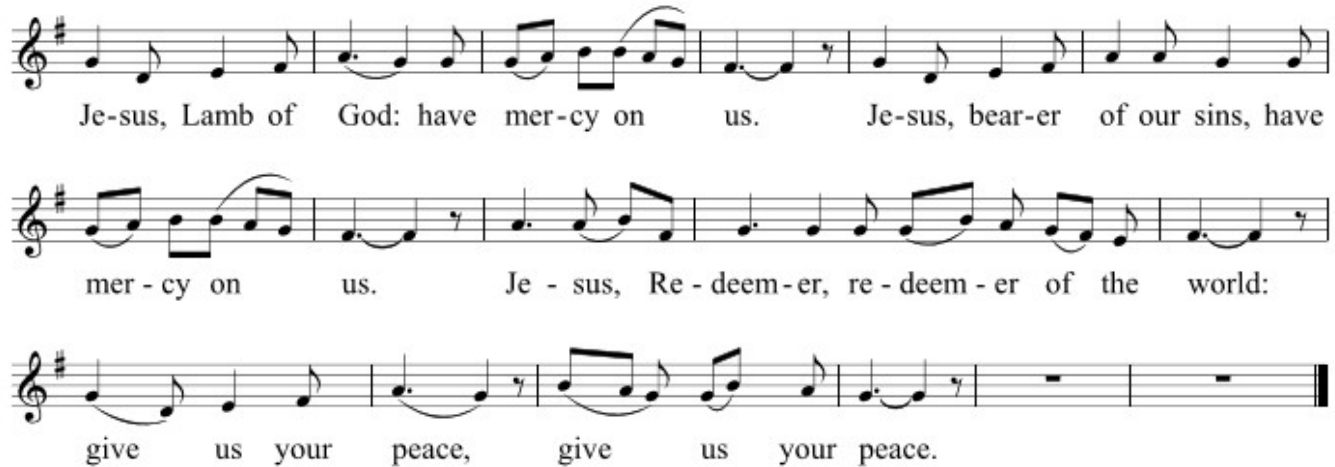
**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

The bread is broken. After a time of silence, all sing together

Fraction Anthem: *Jesus, Lamb of God*

Setting: from *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Peter Schubert (1790-1828). Arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Hymnal 1982 # S 164.
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Je-sus, Lamb of God: have mer-cy on us. Je-sus, bear-er of our sins, have
mer - cy on us. Je - sus, Re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:
give us your peace, give us your peace.

Celebrant: Mindful that not all are present physically to receive the sacrament, we pray with those who receive spiritual Holy Communion this day:

Lord Jesus, in union with your faithful people, we offer to you our praise and thanks. Since we cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, we pray that you come spiritually into our hearts. Strengthen us with your grace, O Lord, and let us never be separated from you. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

Celebrant: The gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ lived, died, and rose again for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The Communion

*Wherever you are on your journey, whatever you believe or don't believe,
know that you are welcome at this table. For this is Christ's table, and all are welcome.*

*If you would prefer not to receive the Eucharist, you are welcome to come up for a blessing;
cross your hands to your shoulders to indicate this to the priest.*



Communion Hymn 1: Hymnal 1982 #57 *Lo! He comes, with clouds descending*

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788) Music: *Helmsley*; melody Augustine Arne (1710-1778). Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



Lo! he comes, with clouds de - scend - ing, once for our sal - va - tion slain;
Ev - ery eye shall now be - hold him, robed in dread - ful ma - jes - ty;
Those dear to - kens of his pas - sion still his daz - zling bo - dy bears,
Yea, a - men! let all a - dore thee, high on thine e - ter - nal throne;



thou - sand thou - sand saints at - tend - ing swell the tri - umph of his train:
those who set at nought and sold him, pierced, and nailed him to the tree,
cause of end - less ex - ul - ta - tion to his ran - somed wor - ship - ers;
Sa - vior, take the power and glo - ry; claim the king - dom for thine own:



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing, shall the true Mes - si - ah see.
with what rap - ture, with what rap - ture, with what rap - ture, gaze we on those glo - rious scars!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone.

Communion Hymn 2: Gather #256 *Wait for the Lord*

Text: Isaiah 40, Philippians 4, Matthew 6-7. The Taizé Community, 1984. Music: Jacques Berthier (1923-1994) © 1984 Les Presses de Taizé, G.I.A Publications. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



Wait for the Lord, whose day is near, Wait for the Lord, be strong, take heart.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Celebrant: Let us pray: **God of new beginnings, we thank you for drawing near to us in word and sacrament to strengthen us with your love and to renew us for your service. Kindle in us the fire of your Spirit, that your light would so shine through us that all may welcome your son at his coming. This we ask in the name of Jesus Emmanuel, who was and is and is to come. Amen.**

Announcements

The Blessing

May God be with you as you keep watch for the One whose Advent is promised. **Amen.**

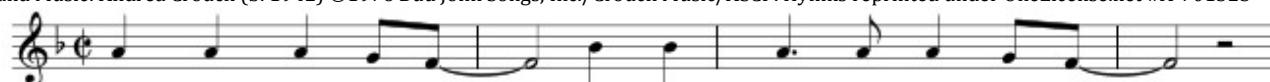
May God embolden your witness to Christ's coming and so prepare his way. **Amen.**

May you be found ready at Christ's return, at peace in body, mind and spirit. **Amen.**

And may the blessing of God Almighty, God who created us, Christ Jesus who gives us new life, and the Holy Spirit who guides and sustains us, be with you now and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Dismissal Hymn: LEVAS #14 *Soon and Very Soon*

Words and Music: Andrea Crouch (b. 1942) ©1976 Bud John Songs, Inc./Crouch Music/ASCP. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



Soon and ver - y soon we are goin' to see the King,
No more cry - in' there we are goin' to see the King,
No more dy - in' there we are goin' to see the King,
Soon and ver - y soon we are goin' to see the King,



Soon and ver - y soon we are goin' to see the King,
No more cry - in' there we are goin' to see the King,
No more dy - in' there we are goin' to see the King,
Soon and ver - y soon we are goin' to see the King,



Soon and ver - y soon we are goin' to see the King.
No more cry - in' there we are goin' to see the King,
No more dy - in' there we are goin' to see the King,
Soon and ver - y soon we are goin' to see the King.



Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le - lu - jah, we're goin' to see the King!



Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le - lu - jah.

The Dismissal

Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Postlude: *Verset en Ut*

Music: Lucien Guittard

Christmas Services at St. George's

Tuesday, December 24: 5:00 pm Family Service with Pageant

This service includes the Christmas pageant followed by Holy Communion, a wonderful celebration of the magic and mystery of Christmas Eve.

Tuesday, December 24: 9:00 pm Festive Eucharist

This service of Holy Communion begins with special music by the choir. Come and celebrate Jesus' birth with word and song, bread and wine. Joy to the world!

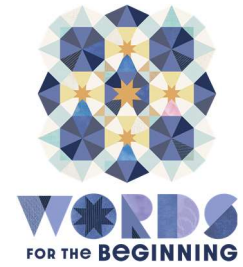
Wednesday, December 25: Christmas Day 9:00 am Eucharist

We continue the celebration of the Incarnation with a service of Holy Communion on Christmas Day.

**As we move into the Season of Advent,
join our Advent program.**

We will gather via Zoom at 7:00 pm this week on
Monday, December 2.

Our materials from the Advent Devotional center on the theme



We Can't Go Alone

with scripture reflections from Ecclesiastes and the Book of Ruth
and on the image *From the Three*.



FROM THE THREE

by Hannah Garrity

Inspired by Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

Acrylic painting with mixed media on canvas

At the end of this Ecclesiastes text, we read that the threefold cord is not easily broken. I had a piece of twine, which when I pulled it apart, broke into four sections. I sistered two into one, making three. I filmed myself pulling apart and re-weaving the twine. Then I drew this quilt square design from the still images in my video.

I dislike the final energy in the central motif of this artwork. It feels discordant. Perhaps that's the point. When I read this scripture, it seems to focus on strength—but in the rope itself, I find weakness. It was so easy to unravel the cord

and create weakness. Its strength lies in the weave, in the interwoven fibers coming together. Without that interweaving, the fibers are weak.

As I continue to watch our communities come together and splinter apart, it is always through the aspirational and the altruistic that the re-weaving begins. This discordant quilt square calls us to sit in the tension of the in-between, to weave our lives together rather than pulling them apart. And yet, I hate it, the asymmetry of it all. I want the art, the community, and the collective life to be simple, symmetrical, and full of order. But in Ecclesiastes, our practical God emphasizes that two are better than one and three are stronger than two. A three-ply cord isn't easily broken. This offers a very trinitarian way forward in the messy, interwoven, beautiful, and powerful collective.

—Hannah Garrity