## Call to Worship

- Pastor: Long ago God promised a Messiah whose mission would be to make God's presence a reality.
- People: God revealed to Joseph in a dream that Mary's son was to be that Messiah.
- Pastor: Jesus' birth is divine, because God intervened in history to send his Son.
- People: God continues to give himself through his Son; that all who recognize his divine origin may find him to be their Emmanuel.

## **Prayer of Confession:**

We come with joy in our hearts, Father, because we know Jesus came to save us from our sins.

We invite you to be our Emmanuel, and ask that you forgive us our sins through Jesus, your Son.

May the joy we feel at his birth increase as we grow in our commitment to him who has brought your love to us.

We pray through Christ our Lord. Amen.



881

## I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;

the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick 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.

## Glory Be to the Father

WORDS: Lesser Doxology, 3rd-4th cent.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;

as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.