Opening Prayer and Call to Worship

In you alone we put our hope, God the Father, Creator and Sustainer, who gives all good things seen and unseen.

In you alone we put our hope, God the Son, Saviour and Redeemer, who died for our sins and rose again.

In you alone we put our hope, God the Spirit, Teacher and Comforter, who moves us to sing "Our God reigns!"

In you alone we put our hope. It is you we worship, Triune God.

Candle Lighting God's Greeting Song: Everlasting God (strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord...) Be Still for the Presence of the Lord Prayers of the People

Confession and Lament

Prayer: Waiting and Longing (based on Romans 8:18-25)

God of the seasons, God of the years, God of the eons, Alpha and Omega, before us and after us. We know you as this God.

And yet – We are tired of waiting for our lives to get back to normal. We are tired of listening to the cries of those who are anxious, worried, sick. We are tired of worrying about our friends and family, our children and grandchildren living in a world that does not seem to work right.

(Song: Wait for the Lord)

God, we know you as the One who promises and we wait: we wait with eager longing, we wait amid doubt and anxiety, we wait with patience thin, and then we take life into our own hands. We make decisions quickly. We get angry at the way the world comes down on us sometimes. We speak words we later regret. We are frustrated with the countless media words that flood our headspace.

(Song: Wait for the Lord)

God, we wait because you are the One and the only one. We wait for your peace and your mercy, for your justice and your good rule. Give us your spirit that we may wait with patience, obediently and with discernment, caringly and without passivity, trustingly and without cynicism honestly and without grand ideas of perfection.

Grant that our wait may be appropriate to your coming soon and very soon, soon and not late, late but not too late. We wait while the world groans in eager longing.

(Song: Wait for the Lord)

Words of Assurance and Hope:

(Psalm 130)

Out of the depths we cry to you, O Lord. Lord, hear our voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of our supplications! If you, O Lord , should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered. We wait for the Lord , our souls wait, and in his word we hope; we wait for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning, more than those who watch for the morning. O Israel, hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and with him is great power to redeem. It is he who will redeem us from all our iniquities.

Children's Time Scripture Meditation Songs: Be Still and Know (that I am God) Still (Hillsong) Oceans Generosity Creed Song: Jesus Strong and Kind Offerings at the door God's parting Blessing Song: Guide Me O My Great Redeemer (bday song dave abma)