**Opening prayer**

Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace. We praise you; we bless you; we worship you; we glorify you; we give thanks to you for your greatest glory. O Lord the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, Lamb of God, the Only Son of the Father who takes away the humanity sins. You are great and worthy of being praised. Lord, we praise you in this your holy church. Amen.

**Call to worship** (congregation read the words in bold)

Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth, worship the Lord with gladness.

C**ome before him with joyful songs,know that the Lord is God.**

It is God who made us, and we are his, we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

**Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise.**

Give thanks to him and praise his name.

**For the Lord is good and his love endures forever;  
his faithfulness continues through all generations.**

**Scripture reading**

**Act 16: 22-36**

The crowd joined in the attack against Paul and Silas, and the magistrates ordered them to be stripped and beaten with rods. After they had been severely flogged, they were thrown into prison, and the jailer was commanded to guard them carefully. When he received these orders, he put them in the inner cell and fastened their feet in the stocks. About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the prison were shaken. At once all the prison doors flew open, and everyone’s chains came loose. The jailer woke up, and when he saw the prison doors open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself because he thought the prisoners had escaped. But Paul shouted, “Don’t harm yourself! We are all here!” The jailer called for lights, rushed in, and fell trembling before Paul and Silas. He then brought them out and asked, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” They replied, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved you and your household.” Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all the others in his house. At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then immediately he and all his household were baptized. The jailer brought them into his house and set a meal before them; he was filled with joy because he had come to believe in God, he, and his whole household. When it was daylight, the magistrates sent their officers to the jailer with the order: “Release those men.” The jailer told Paul, “The magistrates have ordered that you and Silas be released. Now you can leave. Go in peace.”

The word of God the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**