

Lessons and Carols: Christmas Eve Service.
Gathering as God's People
Wednesday December 24 2025

Prelude

From back door declare the good news

Declaration of Good News

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this. Isaiah 9:6-7

Processional Carol: O Come, All Ye Faithful ELW 283

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 O come, all ye faithful,
joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethleher
come and behold him,
born the king of angels: | 2 The highest, most holy,
light of light eternal,
born of a virgin,
a mortal he comes;
Son of the Father
now in flesh appearing! Refrain |
|--|---|

Refrain

**O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!**

- | |
|---|
| 3 Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God
in the highest: Refrain |
|---|

- 4** Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory giv'n!
Word of the Father,
now in flesh appearing: **Refrain**

Text: attr. John Francis Wade, 1711-1786; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802-1880, sts. 1, 3-4; tr. unknown, st. 2. Text: Public Domain.

Call to Worship

Like the shepherds, we come to the stable, uncertain of what we have heard and seen, **longing to hear a word of peace and joy.**

Like the wise ones, we have journeys to make, gifts to offer, and hope in our hearts, **that this world can change for the better.**

Here, in the stillness of a winter's night, we gather to share the light of Christ, a light that shines in the nightfall. **We gather in the wonder of this night to share our joy and thanks for new life.**

Lighting the Advent Wreath

Advent, the season of preparing, is nearly over. Our waiting is nearly finished. Now is a time of fulfillment and celebration.

In the darkness of night, we give thanks for light.

We light a candle of hope: hope for ourselves, and for God's beloved world.

We light a candle of peace: peace in our hearts, and on earth.

We light a candle of joy: joy to the world, and within our whole being.

We light a candle of love: the promise of God's love for us, and for all creation.

And now the hour has come and the season is fulfilled.

We light the Christ candle, the light of the world, the light of possibility.

Amen.

Sign of Peace

"Even as the heavens opened and angels spoke, the first word they sang was 'Peace.' Even as confused shepherds came from their hills and flocks, uncertain but hopeful, they greeted each other with 'Peace.' In the midst of our preparations and excitement, we take a moment to greet one another with a word of peace: peace in this place, peace in our homes, peace in this world..."

Peace be with you. **And also with you.**

Choir Anthem

3:00pm service – Mixed Choir – 'How Quietly' by Joel Raney

**7:00pm service – Men's Choir – 'As Lately We Watched'
*Austrian Carol, arranged by Theron W. Kirk***

Carol: Once in Royal David's City ELW 269

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1 Once in royal David's city
stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a mother laid her baby
in a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ, her little child.</p> | <p>3 And our eyes at last shall see him,
through his own redeeming love;
for that child so dear and gentle
is our Lord in heav'n above;
and he leads his children on
to the place where he is gone.</p> |
| <p>2 He came down to earth from
heaven who is God and Lord of all,
and his shelter was a stable,
and his cradle was a stall;
with the poor and meek and
lowly, lived on earth our Savior
holy.</p> | <p>4 Not in that poor lowly stable,
with the oxen standing by,
we shall see him; but in heaven,
set at God's right hand on high;
there his children gather round,
bright like stars, with glory
crowned.</p> |

Text: attr. John Francis Wade, 1711-1786; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802-1880, sts. 1, 3-4; tr. unknown, st. 2. Text: Public Domain.

The First Lesson Luke 1:26-35 - The Birth of Jesus Foretold

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." ²⁹But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³²He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." ³⁴Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" ³⁵The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God.

Carol: Hark! the Herald Angels Sing ELW 270

1 Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king;
peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful, all you nations, rise;
join the triumph of the skies;
with angelic hosts proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Refrain

**Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king!"**

2 Christ, by highest heav'n adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come,
offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see!
Hail, incarnate deity!
Pleased as man with us to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel! ***Refrain***

3 Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace!
Hail the Sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
ris'n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
born that we no more may die,
born to raise each child of earth,
born to give us second birth. ***Refrain***

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt. Text Public Domain.

The Second Lesson Luke 2:1-7 - The Birth of Jesus

¹ In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴ Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵ He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷ And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Children's Message

Hymn: Away in the Manger ELW 277

1 Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;
the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

2 The cattle are lowing; the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky
and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

3 Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay
close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care
and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.

Text: North American, 19th cent.

The Third Reading Luke 2:8-20 - The Shepherds and the Angels

⁸ In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹ to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

¹⁴ “Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” ¹⁶ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Carol: Angels, from the Realms of Glory ELW 275

1 Angels, from the realms of glory,
wing your flight o'er all the earth;
once you sang creation's story,
now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn king.

2 Shepherds, in the fields abiding,
watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing,
yonder shines the infant light.
Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn king.

3 Sages, leave your contemplations,
brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great desire of nations,
you have seen his natal star.
Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn king.

4 All creation, join in praising
God, the Father, Spirit, Son,
evermore your voices raising
to the eternal Three in One.
Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn king.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771-1854, alt., sts. 1-3; Salisbury Hymn Book, 1857, st. 4

Reflection

Carol: O Little Town of Bethlehem ELW 279

- 1 O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.
- 2 For Christ is born of Mary,
and, gathered all above
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wond'ring love.
O morning stars, together
proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the king,
and peace to all the earth!
- 3 How silently, how silently
the wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of his heav'n.
No ear may hear his coming;
but, in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him, still
the dear Christ enters in.
- 4 O holy child of Bethlehem,
descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in,
be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell;
oh, come to us, abide with us,
our Lord Immanuel!

Text: Phillips Brooks. 1835-1893

Nicene Creed

Let us confess our faith using the words of the Nicene Creed.

We believe in one God, the Father, the almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. Who with the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Responding in Love

Prayers of the People

God of star and stable, you lead us to wonder and to hope. You gather us together to hear your promise of love. As we gather, we offer our concerns and our dreams, our hopes and fears... *(silence)*

Like the shepherds who sought the stable, we seek your promise of peace. We pray for your people broken by violence, those who live with fear, and those who live without hope. We remember them all, and we pray for your courage and peace... *(silence)*

Like the wise ones who dedicated their gifts, we remember those in need. We pray for those who are lonely, hungry, or forgotten; for those who are ill in body and in spirit; for those who are confused or afraid (especially *Jason, Martha, Rhonda, Heather, Joan, Judy, Larry, Garnet, Betty, Karl, Elva, Clarence, Eva, Barbara, Inge, Marcella, Kirk, David, Gwen, Jeanette, James, Brittany, Jean, Delton, Jean, June, Katie, Allan... and those we name in our hearts and minds*) We pray for your joy and love, for all your people, especially those we remember now... *(silence)*

We also pray for those who grieve the death of Judy Blais.

Holy One, you came as a child, offering renewal of spirit and of living. May our prayers be a new beginning: for healing, truth, and trust. May we embody love that is forgiving, compassionate, and gracious. May we send back the angels' song of peace and joy. We pray these things in the name of Jesus who became the Christ, Amen.

Offering *(please be seated as the offering is collected.)*

Offertory Song: Go Tell It on the Mountain ELW 290

Refrain

**Go tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and ev'rywhere;
go tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born!**

2 The shepherds feared and trembled
when, lo, above the earth
rang out the angel chorus
that hailed our Savior's birth.

Refrain

1 While shepherds kept their
watching o'er silent flocks by
night, behold, throughout the
heavens there shone a holy light.

3 Down in a lonely manger
the humble Christ was born;
and God sent us salvation
that blessed Christmas morn.

Refrain

Refrain

Text: African American spiritual, refrain; John W. Work Jr., 1872-1925, stanzas, alt. Text: Public Domain.

Offertory Prayer: A. Let us pray.

Lord of Christmas, receive and bless these gifts we have offered. Join our hearts with the song of the angels, and gather us at your table of celebration. Strengthen us to share with all the world the abundance of your grace upon grace, poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Amen.

**7:00 pm Special Music – Kara Buehlow-Fleck – *Mary, Did You Know?*
*by Mark Lowry and Buddy Greene***

GREAT THANKSGIVING

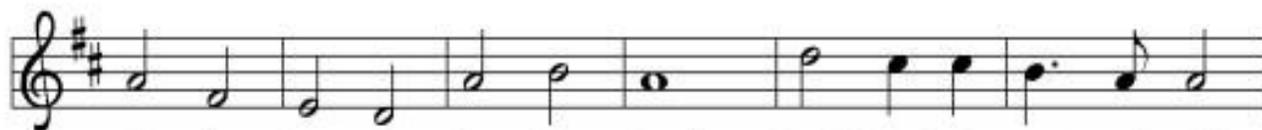
DIALOGUE (ELW p. 152)

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE (ELW p. 153)

Almighty God, you shape your very life
to create and restore and enjoy us for ever
We gather around your altar
like those who thronged your Son's manger,
longing for you to reassemble men and women,
kings and working people Jews and Gentiles, heaven and earth
at the place where our humanity and your divinity meet.
You had too much love to keep it to yourself;
and though we took up arms against you and one another,
you disarmed us in coming into our midst as a defenceless baby.
As his arms were tied in swaddling clothes,
so later his hands were nailed to the cross;
yet you made his birth the foretaste of our redemption
and his death the gateway to resurrection life.
You give us such joy and peace in your company
that our hearts join the angels in the Christmas sky
and around your eternal throne,
singing the hymn of your unending praise

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY ELW p. 153



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

God of new birth, as you laid your Son in Mary's arms,
you place these gifts of bread and wine in our hands.
Sanctify your church to be as fragile and tender and true
as the infant Saviour.
Send down your Holy Spirit,
that this bread of wheat gathered from the fields
and this cup of grapes gathered from the vineyards
may be for us the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Who, at supper with his disciples, took bread, gave you thanks,
broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying,
'Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.'
After supper he took the cup.

Again he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying,
'Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for may for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

Great is the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Shepherd king, as you drew the magi to the place of your epiphany,
call us to yourself and bring your creation to its consummation.

Lift your whole church, living and departed,
to the vision of your glory, once made flesh in a humble family,
now exalted and reigning with justice and mercy.

In this banquet restore us in your image,
surround us with your company and prepare us for your freedom,
after the pattern of your Son,
through whom and with whom and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours,
now and forever. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer (p. 154)

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come,
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the
kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever, amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Glory to God in the highest!

Come to the table of peace.

Distribution Hymns:

'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime ELW 284

1 'Twas in the moon of wintertime
when all the birds had fled,
that *God the Lord of all the earth
sent angel choirs instead;
before their light the stars grew dim,
and wond'ring hunters heard the hymn:

**Jesus, your King, is born;
Jesus is born!
In excelsis gloria!**

2 Within a lodge of broken bark,
The tender Babe was found
A ragged robe of rabbit skin
Enwrapped His beauty round;
And as the hunter braves drew nigh,
The angel song rang loud and high: **Refrain**

Text: Jean de Brébeuf, 1593-1649; tr. Jesse E. Middleton, 1872-1960, alt. Text: Public Domain

What Child is This ELW 296

1 What Child is this who, laid to rest,
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The Babe, the Son o

3 So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh,
Come peasant, king to own Him;
The King of kings salvation brings,
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.
Raise, raise a song on high,
The virgin sings her lullaby;
Joy, joy for Christ is born,
The Babe, the Son of Mary.

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898. Text: Public Domain.

3 The earliest moon of wintertime
is not so round and fair
as was the ring of glory on
the helpless infant there.
The chiefs from far before him knelt
with gifts of fox and beaver pelt.

Refrain

4 O children of the forest free,
the angel-song is true;
the holy child of earth and heav'n
is born today for you.
Come, kneel before the radiant boy,
who brings you beauty, peace, and
joy. **Refrain**

I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve ELW 271

1. I am so glad each Christmas Eve,
The night of Jesus' birth!
Then like the sun the Star shone forth,
And angels sang on earth.

2. The little Child in Bethlehem,
He was a King indeed!
For He came down from heaven above
To help a world in need.

3. He dwells again in heaven's realm,
The Son of God today;
And still He loves His little ones
And hears them when they pray.

4. I am so glad on Christmas Eve!
His praises then I sing;
He opens then for every child
The palace of the King.

5. And so I love each Christmas Eve,
and I love Jesus too;
and that he loves me ev'ry day
I know so well is true.

Text: Marie Wexelsen, 1832-1911; tr. Peter A. Sveeggen, 1881-1959. English text © 1932 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission. One License #A- 728050

Angels We Have Heard on High ELW 289

1 Angels we have heard on high,
sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply
echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain:
Gloria in excelsis Deo,
gloria in excelsis Deo.

2 Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
which inspire your heav'nly song?
[Refrain]

3 Come to Bethlehem and see
him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
[Refrain]

Text: French carol; tr. H.F. Hemy, The Crown of Jesus Music, 1864. Text: Public Domain

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God our redeemer, you have fed us at this table with gifts of grace, truth, and life. As you have gathered us in joy, send us forth as messengers of your peace. Make us shine with the good news of your glory, born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

BLESSING

God bless you and keep you,
✝ Jesus grant you grace and truth,
and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts,
now and forever.

Amen.

Sharing the Christ Light

Hymn #276 Infant Holy, Infant Lowly will be sung as the Sextons and Ushers help us light our candles. After all the candles are lit and the lights in the Place of Worship are dimmed, we will sing *Hymn #281 "Silent Night"*, starting with a verse in German, which should surprise and delight the angels.

Hymn: Infant Holy, Infant Lowly ELW 276

1. Infant holy, infant lowly,
for his bed a cattle stall;
oxen lowing, little knowing
Christ the babe is Lord of all.
Swift are winging angels singing,
nowells ringing, tidings bringing;
Christ the babe is Lord of all;
Christ the babe is Lord of all!
2. Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping
vigil till the morning new;
saw the glory, heard the story -
tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow,
praises voicing, greet the morrow:
Christ the babe was born for you;
Christ the babe was born for you!

Text: Polish carol; tr. Edith M.G. Reed, 1885-1933, alt. Text: Public Domain.

Carol: Silent Night, Holy Night! - Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht! ELW 281

GERMAN

1 Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht!
Alles schläft, einsam wacht
nur das traute, hochheilige Paar.
Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar,
schlaf in himmlischer Ruh,
schlaf in himmlischer Ruh.

ENGLISH

1 Silent night, holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace.

Text: Joseph Mohr, 1792-1849; tr. John F. Young, 1820-1885. Text: Public Domain.

As the candles are blown out we sing

Hymn: Joy to the World ELW 267

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her king;
let ev'ry heart prepare him room
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let all their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748. Text: Public Domain.

2 Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight;
glories stream from heaven afar,
heav'nly hosts sing, alleluia!
Christ, the Savior, is born!
Christ, the Savior, is born!

3 Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from your holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

3 No more let sin and sorrow grow
nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow
far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found.

4 He rules the world with truth and grace
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.

DISMISSAL

Christ the Savior is born!
Go in peace. Proclaim this good news.
Thanks be to God.

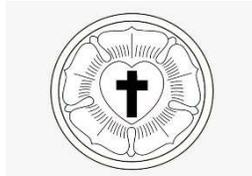
POSTLUDE

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TODAY'S SCHEDULED WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

Presiding Minister:		Rev. Scott Schellenberger
Music Director:		Blaine Sack
Worship Assistant:	3:00 pm:	Paul Merredew
	7:00 pm:	Pastor Sue Nevile
Sexton:	3:00 pm:	Koit Rull
	7:00 pm:	Don Boldt
Projector Operator:	3:00 pm:	Gerry Vandersleen
	7:00 pm:	Diane Hammel
Video Recorder:	3:00 pm:	Ellen Vandersleen
Sound Operator:	3:00 pm:	Gerry Vandersleen
Counters:	3:00 pm:	Doug Lehman, Cathy Hoffman
	7:00 pm:	Kevin Hoffman, Susan Dupuis, Lori Crigger, Wilmer Verch
Altar Care:	3:00 pm:	Sandra Graham
	7:00 pm:	Don & Carol Boldt
Ushers:	3:00 pm:	Cheryl Sack, Barry Gorr, Diane Rull, Peter Wegner
	7:00 pm:	Allen Rose, Cheryl Sack, Debbie & Stan Sitkiewicz

STARRY STARRY NIGHT - AN EPIPHANY CELEBRATION at Zion Lutheran Church on Sunday January 3rd 2025 at 4:00pm The Ottawa Valley Lutheran and Anglican churches are gathering for an epiphany worship service.



NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please pray for those who are ill, in hospital, or requested special prayers: Jason Godin, Martha Kodzynski, Rhonda Mau, Heather Miller, Joan Lehman, Larry Blais, Garnet Miller, Betty Kuehl, Karl Hausser, Elva Gagne, Clarence Gagne, Eva Hagenah, Barbara Schoof, Inge Latiok, Marcella Kuehl, Kirk Weichenthal, David Brumm, Gwen Burchart, Jeanette Nevile, James Dean, Brittany, Jean Kuehl, Jean Rutz, Delton Felske, June Popke, Katie, Viola Hill, Allan Godin.

Please pray for the family and friends of Judy Blais who passed away Thursday December 18 2025. Spring 2026 interment at Zion Lutheran Cemetery

Please Pray for all travellers that their homecomings will be safe and joyous.

Please Return your candles to the ushers at the doors on your way out. Thank you!

There will be no service on Christmas Day, Wednesday, December 25, but will be on Sunday December 28, 2025. The church office will be closed Thursday December 25th and will open for regular office hours on Monday January 5, 2026.

A WARM “THANK YOU!” to all who have prepared for this festive worship – those who decorated the chancel and nave, and those who worked in the office preparing bulletins, etc.; and all who assisted in worship leadership this evening – assistants, servers, sextons, ushers, greeters, altar guild, choirs, projector operators and counters of our gifts.

OFFERING ENVELOPES for 2026 are ready for pick up in the upper foyer.

REMINDER – If you or any of your loved ones are in need of pastoral care or are admitted to hospital, please let the church office know, so prayers can be arranged. Thank you!

THE STAFF OF ZION wish to thank all of you for your special gifts, words of encouragement, and prayers during this Christmas season. May you all feel the warmth and peace that is the true meaning of the season.



SPECIAL CHRISTMAS DONATIONS

CHRISTMAS TREES HAVE BEEN DONATED BY:

The Property Committee of Zion.

POINSETTIAS SPONSORED BY:

- ★ Leslie and Elaine Armstrong and family in memory of Ella Lehman.
- ★ Robbie Gorr in memory of his parents Ellen & Edward Gorr, and brother Brian Gorr.
- ★ Angie Hinks in honour of her parents Koit & Diane for their 54th Wedding Anniversary.
- ★ Debbie Sitkiewicz and family in memory of mom and dad, Ken and Vera Schizkoske and in thankfulness to God for such great parents.
- ★ Peter and Patricia Wegner in thankfulness to God for all their loved ones and their blessings.

DONATIONS MADE TO THE CLWR FUND BY:

- ★ Cheryl Sack in thankfulness to God for keeping my wonderful son-in-law Jason Godin healthy, and remembering friends and relatives who are spending Christmas in Heaven.

DONATIONS MADE TO GOOD SHEPHERDING FUND BY:

- ★ Angela Lubitz in memory of loved ones.



DONATIONS MADE TO LAKE CHAD / THE FRIENDS OF CREATION BY:

★ Rev. David and Elaine Metzger in thankfulness to God for our church musician, Blaine, the choirs, and special guests that enhance our worship with beautiful music.

DONATIONS MADE TO THE FOOD BANK FUND BY:

★ Cheryl Sack in thankfulness to God for keeping my wonderful son-in-law Jason Godin healthy, and remembering friends and relatives who are spending Christmas in Heaven.

DONATIONS MADE TO THE PROPERTY FUND BY:

★ Melanie, Sebastian, and Noah Carbone in memory of Margaret and Kerry Verch and in thankfulness to God for all his blessings.

★ Martha McKibbon in loving memory of her husband Merv McKibbon, parents William and Lydia Stalkie and sister Vera Hoffman.

John 3:16: "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life."

DONATIONS MADE TO THE GENERAL FUND BY:

★ Robert Brum and Shirley Tennant in loving memory of Lorna Brum and Leona Hein.

★ Nancy and Marcel Chaput & family in loving memory of Lorne, David and Lisa Scheuneman and other loved ones who have gone before us.



DONATIONS MADE TO THE GENERAL FUND BY:

★ Terry Felskie

★ The Gauthier family in memory of grandparents John and Hilda Klawitter, Victor and Marion Sell, Jack Stewart and Ruth Boyd, and mother Janis Annett in thankfulness to God for family and friends.

★ Stephen Goltz in loving memory of his parents Elmer & Serena Goltz, and grandparents Harry and Ida Baker, and Frank and Martha Goltz.

"We will be together again."

★ Marion Hubert

★ Ken and Carol Klawitter in loving memory of parents John and Hilda Klawitter, Victor and Marion Sell, brothers Grant Klawitter and Wayne Sell, and sister Nancy Rasewych.

"We will be together again."

★ Joan Lehman and Shane Lehman in memory of a dear husband and father Donald, son and brother Joel and many other loved ones.

★ Lorraine and Larry MacKenzie & family in loving memory of Aileen Roesler.

★ Bill MacKinnon in loving memory of his wife Ann MacKinnon and her parents Lorne & Anne Hubner.



DONATIONS MADE TO THE GENERAL FUND BY:

- ★ Colleen McKibbon, Donna Locke, Gregory McKibbon, and Leslie Stresman in loving memory of our father Mervin McKibbon.

John 14:27: "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."

- ★ Dorothy Scheuneman in loving memory of Lorne, David & Lisa Scheuneman and sisters Marilyn and Margaret Rutz.

- ★ Fred and Cindy Thrasher in loving memory of Elmer & Serena Goltz, Lindsay & Martha Thrasher, Doris Laferriere, Harry & Ida Baker, and Frank & Martha Goltz.

"Although our loved ones are out of sight, they are never out of mind. For they are cherished in the hearts of the ones left behind."

- ★ Dan and Pam Duplessis in loving memory of their parents, Phyllis and Karl Gust, Teresa and Maurice Duplessis, and brother Harvey Gust.

- ★ Kathy and Allan Godin in memory of their parents, Gerry Hubert, Herman and Elsie Godin, and Allan's sister, Sue.

- ★ Pastor Scott and Pastor Sue in remembrance of David Schellenberger and Donald Nevile and in thankfulness to God for their commitment and faithful service to God.

DONATIONS MADE TO THE ENDOWMENT FUND BY:

- ★ Diane Hammel in memory of Ingrid and Anneliese Trautrim and in thankfulness to God for his many blessings.