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Christmas Eve: The Nativity of Our Lord

Christmas Compline + Messiah Lutheran Church + December 24th, 2025 + 7:00 p.m.

# Welcome to Messiah Lutheran Church!

Peace be with you in this Christmas Season. It is good to be together.

We are a community committed to the fostering of faith for young participants. Children are encouraged to participate fully in worship and are encouraged to grow through Sunday School. Classes for all ages take place on Sundays at 9:00am.

Discover more about the congregation at our website [messiahlyndhurst.org](http://messiahlyndhurst.org) or on social media at [facebook.com/MLC44124](https://facebook.com/MLC44124).

Prayer Concerns can be shared via email ([pastor@messiahlyndhurst.org](mailto:pastor@messiahlyndhurst.org)) or phone (440-442-6941). Please indicate if you would like your request to be considered for inclusion in worship or with our Prayer Partners prayer chain ministry.

**The Sacrament of Holy Communion** is celebrated weekly. Worshippers of all ages are welcome at Christ's Table. If Communion is new for you or a young one in your family, we invite you to have a conversation with Pastor Paul.

## Serving in Worship Today:

<b>Minister</b>	The Rev. Paul Moody
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Tom Griffith
<b>Organist</b>	Adam Dellinger
<b>Reader</b>	Tom Griffith

# OPENING

## NATIVITY PRELUDE

**Adam Dellinger**

*Pre-Service Music*

*\*Select Christmas Carols\**

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, by Charles Callahan

The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came, Basque Carol, setting by Paul Manz

Nativity Song by Johann Kuhnau, arr. Van Denman Thompson

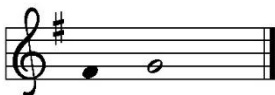
Away in a Manger, arr. James R. Murray

Still, Still, Still, setting by Paul Manz

*(Please rise and turn towards the entrance of the sanctuary)*



Almighty God grant us a qui - et night and peace at the last.



**A - men.**



It is good to give thanks to the Lord, **to sing praise to your name, O Most High;**



to herald your love in the morning, **your truth at the close of the day.**

## NIGHT HYMN

*Joyous Light of Heavenly Glory*

ELW #561

## **NATIVITY LITANY**

Jesus, Son of the living God, eternal light:

**We thank you!**

Jesus, glorious monarch, sun of justice:

**We thank you!**

Jesus, everlasting Lord, Prince of Peace:

**We thank you!**

Jesus, gentle and humble of heart, our help and our refuge:

**We thank you!**

Jesus, friend of all, source of life:

**We thank you!**

Jesus, good shepherd, our way and our truth:

**We thank you for arriving among us!**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*(Please be seated)*

# PSALMODY

## PSALM

Isaiah 96



<sup>1</sup>Sing to the LORD | a new song;  
sing to the LORD, | all the earth.

<sup>2</sup>**Sing to the LORD, bless the name | of the LORD;  
proclaim God's salvation from | day to day.**

<sup>3</sup>Declare God's glory a- | mong the nations  
and God's wonders a- | mong all peoples.

<sup>4</sup>**For great is the LORD and greatly | to be praised,  
more to be feared | than all gods.**

<sup>5</sup>As for all the gods of the nations, they | are but idols;  
but you, O LORD, have | made the heavens.

<sup>6</sup>**Majesty and magnificence are | in your presence;  
power and splendor are in your | sanctuary.**

<sup>7</sup>Ascribe to the LORD, you families | of the peoples,  
ascribe to the LORD hon- | or and power.

<sup>8</sup>**Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the | holy name;  
bring offerings and enter the courts | of the LORD.**

<sup>9</sup>Worship the LORD in the beau- | ty of holiness;  
tremble before the LORD, | all the earth.

<sup>10</sup>**Tell it out among the nations: "The | LORD is king!  
The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will  
judge the peo- | ples with equity."**

<sup>11</sup>Let the heavens rejoice, and let the | earth be glad;  
let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that | is  
therein.

<sup>12</sup>**Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your com- | ing,  
O LORD,  
for you come to | judge the earth.**

<sup>13</sup>You will judge the | world with righteousness  
and the peoples | with your truth.

## WORD

**GOSPEL READING****Luke 2:1-20**

*God's greatest gift comes as a baby in a manger. Angels announce the "good news of great joy" and proclaim God's blessing of peace.*

<sup>1</sup>In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>All went to their own towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup>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. <sup>5</sup>He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup>While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup>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.

<sup>8</sup>In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup>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: <sup>11</sup>to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup>This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

<sup>14</sup>"Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

<sup>15</sup>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." <sup>16</sup>So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup>When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; <sup>18</sup>and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup>But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup>The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks Be to God.**

*(Please reflect quietly before standing to sing)*

## CHRISTMAS HYMN

*Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*  
ELW #272

# PRAYERS

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Filled with thankfulness for God's presence among us, let us offer our prayers for the church, the earth, and all people.

*(A brief silence)*

Angels sing with praise, and shepherds run with haste. As we glorify and praise you in this place, send us into the world, proclaiming the salvation you have revealed this night. God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**

The seas roar, and the trees of the forest sing for joy. As creation resounds with praise, inspire us with awe, reverence, and a renewed care for all that fills the fields, skies, and seas. God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**

The nations declare your glory. Uphold the leaders of the earth with your justice and righteousness. Break the rod of the oppressor in every land, and bring peace where there is conflict (*places experiencing war or violence may be named*). God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**

The holy family finds shelter around the animals' manger. Draw near to persons experiencing homelessness, those who are alone this holiday season, and all for whom this world makes no room. Wrap all your children in bands of love and mercy (*especially*). God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**

A child is born for us and light shines on the weary. Watch over those who give birth this night and attend to those who are dying. Be present in our joys and in our sorrows (*local joys and concerns may be named*). God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**

*(Here other intercessions may be offered)*

The heavenly host praises you. With thanksgiving for Mary, Joseph, and all your saints, sustain us in the blessed hope revealed this night. Fashion us by their example into a people zealous for good deeds, sharing your love and mercy with all. God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**

O Lord, support us all the day long till the shadows lengthen and the evening comes and the busy world is hushed and the fever of life is over and our work is done. Then in your mercy, grant us a safe lodging and a holy rest and peace at the last.

**Amen.**

## **CHRISTMAS HYMN**

*Of the Father's Love Begotten*  
ELW #295

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray.

**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.**



## CANDLELIGHT HYMN

*Silent Night*  
ELW #281

- 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.
- 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.

## BLESSING

The triune God,  
glorious Mystery,  
holy Incarnate One,  
abiding Comforter,  
✠ bless you with endless grace, peace, and joy.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## DISMISSAL

Glory to God in the highest!  
**And peace to God's people on earth!**  
Go in joy. Embody God's redeeming grace.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*(Please observe a moment of silence before the postlude)*

## POSTLUDE

### **Messiah Staff Members**

Choir Director: Vicki Lester

Office Administrator: Steven Liss

Organist: Adam Dellinger

Social Media & Website: Kristy Bohinc

### **Attributions**

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## **Prayers**

**Prayer Team & Partners:** Our Prayer Team will pray with/for you. Please complete a blue Prayer Request Card, available in the sanctuary, which offers these options: (1) request a Pastoral follow-up, (2) include in the intercessory prayers to be read aloud in worship, (3) add to the ongoing list in the Bulletin and Grace Note, or (4) add to the Prayer Partner Email Chain.

PLEASE SEND NEW PRAYER REQUESTS TO: [pastor@messiahlyndhurst.org](mailto:pastor@messiahlyndhurst.org)

**Please pray for our siblings in Christ:** Antwan Azekens, the family and friends of Lila Boehler, the family and friends of Frank Buttari, Mehri Davis, Mark Ganley, the family and friends of Bennie Gilmore, Tonyia Greanoff, Rev. Barbara Holzhauser, William Jaros, the family and friends of Jill King, Pat and Robin Koenig, Diane Kosovich, Ingeborg Krestel, Grace Loudenstein, Morrey Nuss, Lisa Perry, Karen Zak, and all who are in need of comfort and healing.

*(Prayer requests included in the bulletin will remain active for four weeks.  
If you wish to have the prayer renewed, please resubmit it accordingly.)*

## **Announcement**

**Lessons & Carols – Dec 28:** Please join us at 10:00am for a festive service of music and readings as we celebrate the twelve days of Christmas.

# ***Christmas Poinsettia Tribute***

## **Purchased By:**

The Butler Family  
Helga Camilly  
Barb and Dan Decker  
  
Kate Funkner  
Louise Katlen  
Kathy Kidd  
Sam and Carol Lapin  
Bob Lucas  
Susan Sering  
Connie Tittl  
Mike and Karen Zak

## **In Memory Of:**

Loved Ones  
Roger Camilly  
Howard & Adele Decker and Reuben &  
LouAnn Johnson  
My families  
John Katlen  
Jim & Edna Cooper  
Esther & Robert Booster  
Loved Ones  
Richard Sering  
Husband Rudy  
Loved Ones