

Christmas Eve — December 24, 2025

Prelude **Good People All, This Christmas Time (Wexford Carol), arr. by Richard Lind c. 2009 by Augsburg Fortress in "Fum! Fum! Fum!: Christmas Carols for Organ"**

Welcome & Announcements

Children's Sermon

Hymn **"Come All Ye Faithful"** **ELW 283**

Greeting

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
C And also with you.

Hymn **Angels we Have Heard on High** **ELW 289**

Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you. **C** And also with you.

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. **C** Amen.

Isaiah 9: 2-7

² The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness — on them light has shined. ³You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. ⁴For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. ⁵For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶For 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.

⁷His 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. Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. **C** Thanks be to God

Hymn **Joy to the World** **ELW 267**



Titus 2: 11-14

¹¹For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, ¹²training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, ¹³while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. ¹⁴He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds. Holy Wisdom, Holy Word

C Thanks Be to God

Gospel Acclamation Let All Together Praise Our God **ELW 287 vs. 1**

The Holy Gospel according to Luke in the 2nd Chapter **C Glory to you, O Lord.**

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. 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. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. 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. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 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: To you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!” 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. So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them. This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn

O Little Town of Bethlehem

ELW 279



Hymn 245 vs. 1 *Marcia plays a brief intro, then we sing once.*

Creator of the stars of night, your people's everlasting light, O Christ, redeemer of us all, we pray you hear us when we call.

Prayers of the Church

P In the quiet of this holy time, we reverently raise our voices in prayer.

AM For all who see in the Child of Bethlehem the incarnate Lord of the universe, that we may, with awe and wonder, bear witness to God's grace for all the world, Lord in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

AM For the peoples and nations of the world, that they may hear of this birth and find in it new hope for themselves and their neighbors, Lord in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

AM For the animals around the manger, the roof and walls that sheltered them and Baby Jesus, and the warm, soft straw that held his body, and for any today who need shelter and peace, Lord in your mercy, **C Hear our prayer.**

AM For the joy-filled shepherds, and for all who carry a joyful faith to their daily labors, Lord in your mercy, **C Hear our prayer.**

AM For the poor, the ill, the sorrowful, and the lonely, Lord in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

AM For ourselves, that our grateful hearts may overflow in generosity. Lord in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

AM For any needs you now lift in silence or out loud.... Lord in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P For all these and any other needs, we offer our prayers in the name of Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

Sharing the Peace

P The peace of Christ be with you always. **C And also with you.**

The Offering is received and the table is prepared.

Offertory Music

Morning In the Bleak Midwinter by Marcia Newcomb

Evening Anthem – Contemporary Choir– Christmas Must Be Tonight
Song by The Band Songwriters: Robbie Robertson© Medicine Hat Music

Lyrics on the next page

Christmas Must Be Tonight

Come down to the manger, see the little stranger
Wrapped in swaddling clothes, the prince of peace
The wheels start turning, torches start burning
And the whole wise men journey from the east

How a little baby boy bring the people so much joy
Son of a carpenter, Mary carried the light
This must be Christmas, must be tonight

A shepherd on the hillside, went over my flock I bide
On a cold winter night, a band of Angels sing
In a dream I heard a voice say, "Fear not, come rejoice
It's the end of the beginning, praise the new born King"

How a little baby boy bring the people so much joy
Son of a carpenter, Mary carried the light
This must be Christmas, must be tonight

I saw it with my own eyes, written up in the skies
But why a simple herdsman such as I?
And then it came to pass, He was born at last
Right below the star that shines on high

How a little baby boy bring the people so much joy
Son of a carpenter, Mary carried the light
This must be Christmas, must be tonight

Son of a carpenter, Mary carried the light
This must be Christmas, must be tonight

Be tonight, be tonight
Be tonight, be tonight
Be tonight, be tonight
Be tonight

*Sung as the plates come forward
The Leader speaks an Offertory Prayer*

Great Thanksgiving – page 152

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

The Proper Preface is chanted.

L It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus Pg. 152

C Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

The Great Thanksgiving

LORD'S PRAYER

C 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

Agnus Dei Pg. 154

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; Have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Communion Music

Away in a manger

ELW 277

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

ELW 276

If needed: Lo! How a Rose E'er Blooming, arr. by Thomas Keesecker c. 2017 by Birnamwood Publications, a division of MorningStar Music Publishers in "The Quiet Center: Piano Music for Advent and Christmas"

Post Communion Prayer

Candle lighting (evening service only)

Hymn

Silent Night

ELW 281

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. C Amen.

Hymn

Hark the Herald Angel Sing

ELW 270

Dismissal

AM Go now in peace, to love and serve the Lord and your neighbors.

C **Thanks be to God**

Postlude Sicilian Mariners' Hymn, arr. by Clifford Kincaid c. 1948 by Lorenz Publishing Co. in the December 1948 issue of "The Organ Portfolio"

Please maintain a respectful quiet during the Prelude.



IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

The following is a listing of those who need your prayers. Our hope is that you will take this listing home with you and in your daily prayers remember those listed below.

Ben, Sheryl & Nik Ahrens
Connie Aparo
Phil Bascetta
Charlie Blakeslee

Kathleen Bowler
Cherie Brown
Sharon Cable
Kathy Ann Campbell
Angelo & Nicole Capasso

Carol Cianciolo
Leif Dallaire
Emily Decker
Linda Dellano
Carla Derrickson

Winifried Diorio
Irene Douglas
J.J. Eby
Judy Elliott
Walt Esker

Jan Eucalitto
Jennifer Ezzo
Weston Faith
Bruce & Liz Falls
Tommy Fitzpatrick

Bob Frantz
Ashley Friday
John Fox
Joan Gerard
Danise Hall

Jack & Barbara Heintz
Brayden Herzberg
Renate Higgins
Charles Hilton
Kathleen Hilton

Shannon Hilton
Jake Hoadley
Sven Holmgren
Erma Horn
Eunice Jones

Rusty Judd
Colin Keeley
Marilyn Killingbeck
Jason Lashbrook
Gail Lavoie

John Lewis
David Little
Rebecca Little
Amy & Dave Louen
Kari Machowski

Mary Ellen Mackinnon
Jerry MacManus
Irene Madore
Audrey Marquard
Abigail Marine

Richard Marine
Janis Martin
Gil & Marilyn Martin
Gladys Medina
Michael Meyers

Kate Merrow
Colin Moore
Brigitte Mueller
Bob Murphy
Barbara Nalette

Karen Ness
Tom O'Brien
Lea Orriola & family
Karen Pagano
Russell Palmer

Maria Payne
Lisa & Dennis Polzun
Caroline Quintal
Ed & Susan Regner
Jonathan Richard

Louise Roche
Baerbel Roehl
Patricia & Richard Sawitzke
Holly Schaff
Rosemary & Otto Schibi

Denae Seelye
Sara Seelye
Matt Simpson
Lori Sola
Dana Steele
Sigrid Smitley

Paul Smith
John Sproat
Dana & George Steele
Jennifer Stella

Deb & Jon Sterling
Tom Sterling Sr.
RuthAnn Stone
Patricia Switzer
Gloria Thibault

Andy Thomas
Julia Thompson Carroll
Susan Tycienski
Lucille Videlto
Carol Vrlik

Evelyn Walters
Steve Warner
Sue Watkins
Kim Weissman
Renee Woodard
Bruce Yauney

Clayton Young
Clarence & Priscilla
Ed
Jen O.
Jaiden

Steve
Lou W.
Steve
Todd
Robert K.

Diane A.
Terry
Joe
Carol G.
Kristen & Jared

Vinny
Hagbard
Carolina
Robert P.
Peanut

Colleen
Ken
Kathy
Jaxson
Gail

F.C.H.
Stephan
Jason R
Diane L.

Holly L.
Al & Mary

Our Nursing Home Members

Dee Gammon
Midge Rosenbeck
Judy Schaller
Ernest Marquard
Mae Fay
Francine Ahrens
Betty Hilton
Walter Joray

Our Military Friends

Lord Jesus, Savior of the World and King of Peace, watch over our sons and daughters in the service of their Country. Protect them from the physical and moral dangers. Keep them close to you and help them live the commandments. Lord, Jesus give them courage to serve their country with honor and dignity. Be with them when they are in danger; strengthen them when they face hardship. Above all Lord, grant that when their service is finished that they may return to us, sound in mind, body and soul. Amen.

Tyler Quinn
Eric Beyus
Major Zachary Fulton
Brandan Holbrook
Jonathan Connell
Tom Gregg, Jr.
Eric Bremer
Peter Hutchinson
SPC Dominic Boscarino
PVT Noah Braatz
PVT 2 Christian Braatz
Aiden Avenia USCG
2nd Lt. Ben Speaker
Pvt. Noah Roy

Around the Church

Event	Date	Time
Christmas Eve	12/24	10 am 4 pm
Lessons & Carols	12/28	10 am
Evangelism Meeting All are welcome	1/03/26	9:30 am

**The office will be closed from
December 24, 2025 through
January 5, 2026**

Bible Study

No Bible studies Dec 30 or 31

Tuesday via Zoom 6:00 pm

In person Bible Study Wednesdays
10:00 am

Wednesdays

Tai Chi 11:00 am

Quilting Group 1:00 pm

Offerings Summary:

Needed Weekly	\$4,561
Received	\$2,251
Shortfall	(\$2,310)
YTD shortfall	(\$67,875)

Minimalist bulletin

- Prelude
- Announcements
- Confession
- Children's Sermon
- Opening Hymn
- Apostolic Greeting
- Glory to God Pg. 167
- Prayer of the Day
- First Reading
- Psalm
- Second Reading
- Gospel Acclamation Pg. 171
- Reading of the Holy Gospel
- Sermon
- Hymn of the Day
- Creed
- Prayers of the People
- Peace
- A Capella Choir Anthem
- The Offering is received
- Offertory Hymn ELW 184
- Offertory Prayer
- Great Thanksgiving
- Sanctus pg. 173
- Lord's Prayer
- Agnus Dei (Lamb of God) pg. 174
- Communion is Distributed
- Post-communion prayer
- Benediction
- Closing Hymn
- Dismissal
- Postlude

In other news...

Please fill out commitment sheets if you have not done so already.

If you can share food for those in need, we would be grateful. The food will be distributed between the social service agencies in our area.

Those interested in becoming official members please fill out a form found in the Narthex. We will find a convenient date early next year to welcome you during worship.

Our new website is up. Please check it out. It should help you stay informed. If you have suggestions for any improvements, please let us know. We are working on adding a calendar with all the meeting dates of committees, groups and other events that are happening.

Bulletins - The full text bulletin is intended for those who have trouble following the service with only the monitors. The abbreviated bulletin is sufficient for most members. Also, there is a milk carton under the desk near the right hand exit door. Please recycle either bulletin there unless you are taking it to someone who would like it. The prayer list, for example, is on both the full and abbreviated bulletin.

Don't forget Name Tags are in the Narthex!

