



LESSONS AND CAROLS  
**THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER  
CHRISTMAS**

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2025  
10:15 AM

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WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH!

*The **Bold Print** indicates responses spoken by all.  
The ELW hymns are also found in the red hymnal located in the pew.*

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**THE GATHERING**

The Prelude

The Welcome and Announcements

*Please stand as you are able.*

**THE CALL TO WORSHIP**

P "Arise, shine; for your light has come."

Lift up your eyes for the grace of God is near.

**C Holy One, we open our eyes; We lift our voices to you.**

P "Arise, shine; for your light has come."

Open your hearts, for the Prince of Peace is near.

**C Holy One, we open our hearts; We lift our voices to you.**

P "Arise, shine; for your light has come."

Rejoice, for the Word made flesh dwells among us.

**C Holy One, we rejoice; We lift our voices to you.**

**THE OPENING PRAYER**

P People of God, feel the presence of God right now, in this place, warming your hearts, calming your fears and your strife, and preparing you for a life of joyful service. In the name of Jesus Christ, know you are God's beloved child, always and forever.

**C Amen.**

P Now, let us sing for joy at the birth of our savior!

C **Alleluia! Thanks be to God!**

## THE GATHERING HYMN

*O Little Town of Bethlehem*

ELW 279



O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!  
For Christ is born of Mar - y, and, gath - ered all a - bove  
How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly the won - drous gift is giv'n!  
O ho - ly child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;



A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by;  
while mor-tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won-d'ring love.  
So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heav'n.  
cast out our sin, and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.



yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing light.  
O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth,  
No ear may hear his com - ing; but, in this world of sin,  
We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;



The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.  
and prais - es sing to God the king, and peace to all the earth!  
where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.  
oh, come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Im - man - u - el!

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835–1893

Music: ST. LOUIS, Lewis H. Redner, 1831–1908

## THE APOSTOLIC 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.**

## THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

**C O Lord God, you know that we cannot place our trust in our own powers. As you protected the infant Jesus, so defend us and all the needy from harm and adversity, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## THE WORD

### THE FIRST LESSON—GENESIS 1:1-5, 14-18

<sup>1</sup> In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, <sup>2</sup> the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. <sup>3</sup> Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. <sup>4</sup> And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup> God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day. <sup>14</sup> And God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, <sup>15</sup> and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth." And it was so. <sup>16</sup> God made the two great lights – the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night – and the stars. <sup>17</sup> God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, <sup>18</sup> to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good.

P The Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

verses 1, 2, 4, 5



1 Bright-est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,  
 2 Cold on his cra - dle the dew - drops are shin - ing;  
 4 Vain - ly we of - fer each am - ple ob - la - tion,  
 5 Bright-est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,



dawn on our dark - ness and lend us your aid.  
 low lies his head with the beasts of the stall;  
 vain - ly with gifts would his fa - vor se - cure;  
 dawn on our dark - ness and lend us your aid.



Star of the east, the ho - ri - zon a - dorn - ing,  
 an - gels a - dore him in slum - ber re - clin - ing,  
 rich - er by far is the heart's ad - o - ra - tion,  
 Star of the east, the ho - ri - zon a - dorn - ing,



guide where our in - fant re - deem - er is laid.  
 mak - er and mon - arch and sav - ior of all.  
 dear - er to God are the prayers of the poor.  
 guide where our in - fant re - deem - er is laid.

Text: Reginald Heber, 1783–1826, alt.

Music: MORNING STAR, James P. Harding, 1850–1911, adapt.

**THE SECOND LESSON— MICAH 5:2-5a**

<sup>2</sup> But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. <sup>3</sup> Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. <sup>4</sup> And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth, <sup>5</sup> and he shall be the one of peace.

P The Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**



1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly cat - tle shed,  
 2 He came down to earth from heav - en who is God and Lord of all,  
 3 And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own re - deem - ing love;  
 4 Not in that poor low - ly sta - ble, with the ox - en stand - ing by,



where a moth - er laid her ba - by in a man - ger for his bed:  
 and his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his cra - dle was a stall;  
 for that child so dear and gen - tle is our Lord in heav'n a - bove;  
 we shall see him; but in heav - en, set at God's right hand on high;



Mar - y was that moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ, her lit - tle child.  
 with the poor and meek and low - ly, lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.  
 and he leads his chil - dren on to the place where he is gone.  
 there his chil - dren gath - er round, bright like stars, with glo - ry crowned.

Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818–1895  
 Music: IRBY, Henry J. Gauntlett, 1805–1876

### THE THIRD LESSON—LUKE 1:26-35, 38

<sup>26</sup> In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, <sup>27</sup> to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary.

<sup>28</sup> And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." <sup>29</sup> But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup> The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup> And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. <sup>32</sup> He 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.

<sup>33</sup> He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." <sup>34</sup> Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" <sup>35</sup> The 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.

<sup>38</sup> Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

P The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## THE HYMN

## *No Wind at the Window*

ACS 906



1 No wind at the win - dow, no knock on the door;  
2 "O Mar - y, O Mar - y, don't hide from my face.  
3 This child must be born that the king - dom might come;  
4 No pay - ment was prom - ised, no prom - is - es made;



no light from the lamp - stand, no foot on the floor;  
Be glad that you're fa - vored and filled with God's grace.  
sal - va - tion for man - y, de - struc - tion for some;  
no wed - ding was dat - ed, no blue - print dis - played.



no dream born of tired - ness, no ghost raised by fear:  
The time for re - deem - ing the world has be - gun,  
both end and be - gin - ning, both mes - sage and sign;  
Yet Mar - y, con - sent - ing to what none could guess,



just an an - gel and a wom - an and a voice in her ear.  
and . . . you are re - quest - ed to . . . moth - er God's Son."  
both . . vic - tor and . . vic - tim, both . . yours and di - vine."  
re - plied with con - vic - tion, "Tell . . God I say yes."

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

Music: COLUMCILLE, Irish melody

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## THE FOURTH LESSON—MATTHEW 1:18-25

<sup>18</sup> Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be pregnant from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup> Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to divorce her quietly. <sup>20</sup> But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup> She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." <sup>22</sup> All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

*<sup>23</sup> "Look, the virgin shall become pregnant and give birth to a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,"*

which means, "God is with us." <sup>24</sup> When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife <sup>25</sup> but had no marital relations with her until she had given birth to a son, and he named him Jesus.

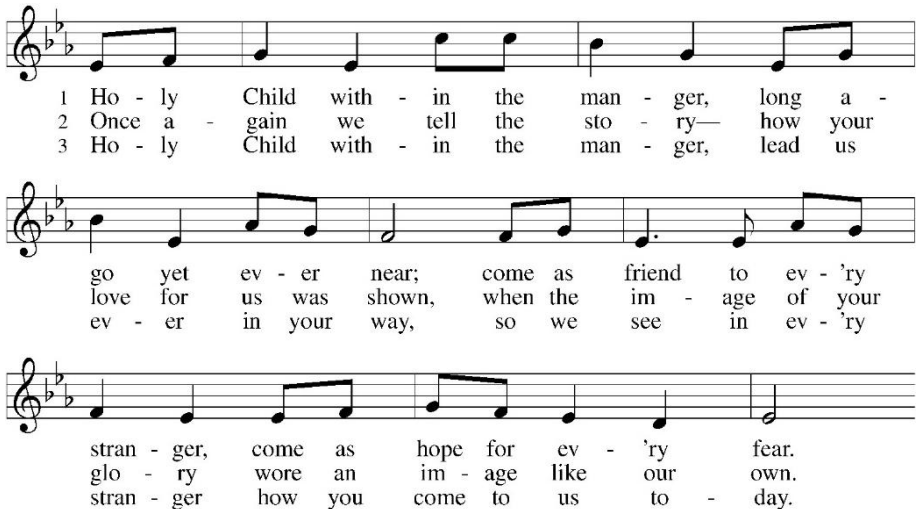
P The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## THE HYMN

*Holy Child within the Manger*

WOV 638



1 Ho - ly Child with - in the man - ger, long a -  
2 Once a - gain we tell the sto - ry— how your  
3 Ho - ly Child with - in the man - ger, lead us

go yet ev - er near; come as friend to ev - 'ry  
love for us was shown, when the im - age of your  
ev - er in your way, so we see in ev - 'ry

stran - ger, come as hope for ev - 'ry fear.  
glo - ry wore an im - age like our own.  
stran - ger how you come to us to - day.

As you lived to heal the bro - ken, greet the  
 Come, en - light - en with your wis - dom, come and  
 In our lives and in our liv - ing give us

out - cast, free the bound, as you taught us love un -  
 fill us with your grace. May the fire of your com -  
 strength to live as you, that our hearts might be for -

spo - ken, teach us now where you are found.  
 pas - sion kin - dle ev - 'ry land and race.  
 giv - ing and our spir - its strong and true.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950  
 Music: JOYOUS LIGHT, Marty Haugen, b. 1950

## THE FIFTH LESSON—LUKE 2:8-20

<sup>8</sup> Now in that same 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> and 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, just as it had been told them.

P The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## THE HYMN

*Angels We Have Heard on High*

ELW 289



1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,  
2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?  
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;

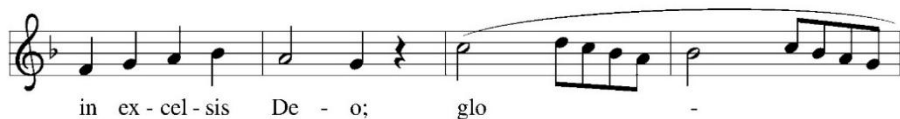


and the moun-tains in re-ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.  
What the glad-some tid - ings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?  
Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.

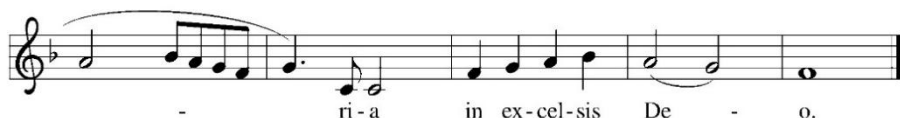


Glo

ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo



ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

TEXT: French carol; tr. H. F. Hemy, *The Crown of Jesus Music*, 1864  
MUSIC: GLORIA, French carol

## THE SIXTH LESSON—MATTHEW 2:1-11

<sup>1</sup> In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi from the east came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup> asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star in the east and have come to pay him homage." <sup>3</sup> When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him, <sup>4</sup> and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup> They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it has been written by the prophet:

<sup>6</sup> *'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah, for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'*"

<sup>7</sup> Then Herod secretly called for the magi and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup> Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." <sup>9</sup> When they had heard the king, they set out, and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen in the east, until it stopped over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup> When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. <sup>11</sup> On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

P The Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

## THE HYMN

## What Child Is This

ELW 296



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar - y's lap is sleep - ing?  
 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?  
 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas - ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?  
 Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.  
 The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;  
 Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;  
 Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!  
 hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!  
 joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898

Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

## THE SEVENTH LESSON—JOHN 1:1-14

<sup>1</sup> In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup> All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being <sup>4</sup> in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it.

<sup>6</sup> There was a man sent from God whose name was John. <sup>7</sup> He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup> He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. <sup>9</sup> The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and the world came into being through him, yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup> He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. <sup>12</sup> But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, <sup>13</sup> who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. <sup>14</sup> And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

P The Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

### THE HYMN

### *Love Has Come*

ELW 292

1 Love has come— a light in the dark - ness! Love shines forth in the  
 2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der. Love is God now a -  
 3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us! Love is life ev - er -

Beth - le - hem skies. See, all heav - en has come to pro - claim it;  
 sleep in the hay. See the glow in the eyes of his moth - er;  
 last - ing and free. Love is Je - sus with - in and a - mong us.

hear how their song of joy a - ris - es; Love! Love! Born un - to  
 what is the name her heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the  
 Love is the peace our hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the

you, a Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.  
 name she whis - pers; Love! Love! Je - sus, Im - man - u - el.  
 gift of Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

Text: Ken Bible, b. 1950  
 Music: UN FLAMBEAU, F. Seguin, *Recueil de noëls composés en langue provençale*, 1856  
 Text © 1996 Integrity's Hosanna! Music (ASCAP), c/o Integrity Media, Inc., 1000 Cody Road, Mobile, AL 36695.

*Please stand as you are able.*

## **THE NICENE CREED**

**P** With the whole church, let us confess our faith:

**C** **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 became 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 is worshiped and glorified,  
who 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.**

## THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P Empowered by the news of Christ's birth, let us pray boldly for the church, creation, and all who are in need.

*After each petition, please respond:*

P ...Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

P With the joy of Christ's birth in our hearts, we commend our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your boundless mercy and eternal love; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

**C Amen.**

## THE PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you all.

**C And also with you.**

*Please be seated.*

## THE THANKSGIVING

### THE ORGAN OFFERTORY

*Please stand as you are able.*

### THE OFFERTORY HYMN

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*  
verses 1, 2, 3

ELW 283



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O  
2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,  
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,



come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;  
born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;  
sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!



come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:  
Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!  
Glo - ry to God . . . . in . . . the . . . high - est:

*Refrain*



O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,



O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

Text: attr. John Francis Wade, 1711–1786; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802–1880, sts. 1, 3–4; tr. unknown, st. 2  
Music: ADESTE FIDELES, attr. John Francis Wade

## THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

P It is you, loving God, who lights our path with truth.

**C Your Word, Jesus, is truth.**

P In his light, draw all to the manger

**C to gather in wonder with the shepherds.**

P In his light, draw all to the manger

**C to kneel in reverence with the magi.**

P In his light, draw all to the manger

**C to sing for joy with the angels.**

P In the brightness of his life

**C cast away the darkness of injustice, poverty,  
and hunger in the world.**

P It is you, loving God, who meets us on our way.

**C In the light of Jesus, show the world the way of life.  
Amen.**

## THE THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

P Holy God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace, Wonderful Counselor, at the birth of time your Word brought light into the world, and throughout the ages, you proclaim newness of life. For your wondrous Word, we thank you, O God.

**C We thank you, O God.**

P In the fullness of time, your Word became flesh, to shine in our world's darkness, to speak peace to all people, and to welcome us as members of your family. For your loving Word, we thank you, O God.

**C We thank you, O God.**

P Grant us now the gift of your Spirit, that held, nourished, and protected by your Word, we may live as your children, bearing your goodness throughout the world. For your powerful Word, we thank you, O God.

**C We thank you, O God.**

P All glory to you, holy God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught:

**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, the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

## **THE SENDING**

### **THE BENEDICTION**

P May the celebration of the birth of Jesus make you sing with joy like the angels, seek him out in faith like the shepherds, and, like the magi, offer him the worship and loyalty of your hearts.

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, + the Son,  
and the Holy Spirit, be with you always.

**C (SUNG) Amen. Amen. Amen.**

*Refrain*

Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;



go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!



- 1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
- 2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when, lo, a - bove the earth
- 3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum-ble Christ was born;

*Refrain*

be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.  
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.  
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless-ed Christ-mas morn.

Text: African American spiritual, refrain; John W. Work Jr., 1872–1925, stanzas, alt.  
Music: GO TELL IT, African American spiritual

**THE DISMISSAL**

**P** Glory to God in the highest!

**C** **Peace to God's people on earth!**

**P** As heralds of God's peace,  
go forth in joy to love and serve the Lord!

**C** **Thanks be to God!**

The Postlude

**SERVING OUR PARISH THIS MORNING**

<b>Presiding</b>	Ruthann Mantz
<b>Guest Organist</b>	Benjamin Becker
<b>Acolyte</b>	Stella Scanlon
<b>Ushers</b>	Cheryl Burke (DIC), Dennis Rehrig, & Ken Staller
<b>Camera Operator</b>	
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Sharon Stehly

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**COMMEMORATIONS TO THE GLORY OF GOD**

The chancel flowers are given to the glory of God.

The bulletins are presented in memory of Ray & Debbie Bainbridge  
by Joe & April Krempasky.

**KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:** Burlene Balliet, Scott Barhight, Janice Beck, Dolly Cunfer, Kathleen Deibert, Janice Dormida, Linda Durback, Gloria Hausman, Cheryl Hower, Dawson Kunz, Paul L., Carol MacCrindle, Gloria Martin, Maria Mitchell, Bartine Mummey, Preston Raber, Betsy Rauch, Veronica Redline, Ashley Remaly, Hope Roberts, Christine Sigley, Doris Snyder, Ed Stephen, Colson Tkach, Lydia Weaver, Kathy Williams, and Bill Yelland.

**ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY:** Church (10:15 A.M.)—81  
Sunday School (9:00 A.M.)—33

**Christmas Eve:** 7:00 P.M. — 148

**OFFERING LAST WEEK:** \$8,429.00. **Christmas Eve** – \$5,574.00

**THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES:**

Today	10:15 AM—Service of Lessons & Carols 8:00 PM—A.A.
Wednesday	1:00 PM—2025 Giving Deadline <b>NEW YEAR'S EVE</b>
Thursday	<b>CHURCH BUILDING CLOSED—NEW YEAR'S DAY</b> 8:00 PM—A.A.
Friday	9:30 AM—Sewing Group

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY THIS WEEK TO:** Allison Chruscial, Nathan Cunfer, Maria Farrell, Barbara Fox, Brandon Humanick, Doug Keichel, Garrett Kreglow, Joe Krempasky, Karen Parks, Megan Pascoe, Randy Press, Carson Rex, Jessica Sellers, and Stephanie Stein.

**HAPPY BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARY THIS WEEK TO:** Mollie Charles, Michael Mantz, and Florence Smith.

**THANK YOU** to Ruthann Mantz for leading worship today and to Benjamin Becker for being our organist this morning while Fawn is on vacation.

**POINSETTIAS** may be picked up through *next* Sunday, January 4 (excluding New Years Day when the building will be closed). A listing of what poinsettia(s) you ordered is available so you can take the poinsettia(s) you purchased.

**CHRISTMAS BAG HELP NEEDED** – The children of the Sunday School and Youth Fellowship class prepared Christmas gift bags for the shut-in/special concerns members of our congregation. We are looking for help delivering the bags. The bags can be picked up in the Fellowship Hall. The list of shut-ins/special concerns members and the sign-up sheets are by the bags.

**2025 GIVING** – All monies that you want credited to your 2025 offering must be received in the church office **before 1:00 P.M. on Wednesday, (December 31)**. To receive credit for your 2025 giving under IRS guidelines, we must receive the offering before the end of the year. We have no way of crediting your 2025 giving account after the December 31, 2025 deadline.

**2026 ENVELOPES** are in the Fellowship Hall on tables near the front steps for pick-up. The offering envelopes are expensive to mail so please go to the Fellowship Hall after church to pick up your envelopes or those of a friend, neighbor, or relative.

**SPONSORS NEEDED** – The 2026 sponsor charts are posted on the bulletin board outside the church office. Cost to sponsor flowers is \$35.00 per date. Bulletins are \$25.00 per date. Sign up for any open dates on the sponsor charts or call the church office at 610-767-6361. Sponsors are needed for most dates in January.

**COMMUNITY LUNCHEON** – Our next FREE luncheon will be *next* Sunday, January 4, from 11:30 A.M to 1:00 P.M., as either an eat-in or take-out meal. We will be serving meatloaf, mashed potatoes, gravy, vegetable, salad, rolls, and dessert. Baked good donations would be appreciated.

**ROCK-A-THON** is Sunday, January 18, from 11:30 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. Snow date is January 25. Everyone is invited to attend. Sign-up sheets are on the rear radiator covers in church. You can sign-up to rock in one of the four rocking chairs for a 15-minute shift, donate baked goods for the bake sale, sponsor a rocking chair, volunteer to work at the bake sale, kitchen, or craft area, and stop by for lunch, dessert, and to cheer on the rockers. Donations of money and non-perishable foods and will go to the Northern Lehigh Food Bank.

**JANUARY FOOD SALE** – The Catering Committee is sponsoring a soup, sandwich, and PA Dutch corn pie sale for January. The order forms are blue and due back by Sunday, January 18. Pick-up is on Saturday, January 24, from 9:00 to 11:00 A.M. The sandwich choice is a cold Reuben sandwich. Soup choices are: chicken tortellini soup, chili con carne, and old-fashion chicken noodle soup. You can also order PA Dutch corn pies (ready-to-bake, frozen). Return order forms to either the church office or to Harrison Williams. You can call your order into the church office at 610-767-6361, Harrison at 610-216-4284, or e-mail Harrison at [williamshj2514@msn.com](mailto:williamshj2514@msn.com).

**A PORK & SAUERKRAUT SUPPER** will be held on Saturday, February 7, from 3:30 to 6:00 P.M. You can eat in or take-out. Menu is: pork & sauerkraut, mashed potatoes, buttered lima beans, bread & butter, and homemade desserts. Tickets are \$14.00 per meal and can be purchased from any member of the Catering Committee, Sundays after the service, or from the church office during the week. You can also reserve tickets by calling the church office at 610-767-6361 or Harrison Williams at 610-216-4284. Donations of baked goods are needed and would be greatly appreciated.

**LIVESTREAM NOTICE** — Our services this morning are streamed live online on Facebook. The front of the sanctuary, which includes the space for holy communion and children’s messages are included in the video. By being in this space, you may be included in the livestream and/or the recorded video posted on our website.



# ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

40 2nd Street, Slatington, Pennsylvania 18080

*St. John's Lutheran Church is located in the heart of Slatington, Pennsylvania and has served the Lehigh Valley since 1868.*

## CHURCH STAFF

Sharon Stehly, *Church Administrator*  
Fawn Albert, *Organist and Choir Director*  
Harrison Williams, *Sexton*

## CONTACT

Phone (610)767-6361  
Email [stjohnslatington@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnslatington@gmail.com)

## SUNDAY WORSHIP

10:15 AM

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:00 AM

## BUILDING HOURS

Weekdays	9 AM to 3 PM
Saturday	9 AM to 3 PM
Sunday	7 AM to 12 PM

Visit us online at [stjohnslatington.org](http://stjohnslatington.org)  
and follow us on **Facebook**

## ONLINE GIVING

For your convenience, St. John's Lutheran Church accepts online offerings through Vanco, an online payment processing service.

With Vanco, you can choose to give a one-time offering, or you can create an account to schedule weekly or monthly tithes.

To give today, scan the QR Code above by opening your cell phone's camera. This will direct you to the church's online giving website.



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