

(Congregational participation in **BOLD**)

1st Sunday after Christmas December 28, 2025

We're so pleased that you've come to worship with us this morning. While this bulletin is a guide to the service, if you are unfamiliar with the ritual customs of the Anglican Church, simply relax with the liturgy and let the rest of the congregation carry you in worship. After the service please join us downstairs for coffee, tea, and juice.

(Congregational participation in **BOLD**)

Welcome and Land Acknowledgement

Opening Hymn # 153 Good Christians All, Rejoice
(Blue Book)

We gather together in this place:
prophets and dreamers, singers and poets,
we who dare to imagine a world renewed;
we who dare to dream God's dream.
We witness with Anna.
Jesus is our hope!
We hold fast to our faith,
trusting God's promises.
Young and old, declare it together:
love is born and salvation is here!

Come and worship, all you who dream and imagine.
We have come to wonder and praise.

Collect
God of hopefulness,
give us lives of holy anticipation,
that we remain fervent in faith, and persistent in love,
as we await the revelation of your redemption.
Bless us, in every stage of life, with your unfailing presence,
promised through the birth of Jesus, our Savior.
Amen.

Christ Candle Lighting
Jesus is born!

Immanuel! God is with us!
So what is different? … … our community and world.
silence
Naming what is wrong … … Struggles, however, are not the only reality…
… As we approach a new year, we invite you to share aloud blessings that have taken place over the past year and ones you anticipate for the coming year.
(pause for a time of people speaking out loud)

Immanuel, God-with-us, thank you for being present when life unravels and giving us the strength to keep going toward your blessings.
Light the Christ candle.

First Reading: Isaiah 63: 7-9
Reader: Susan Himann
Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church
Thanks be to God

Second Reading: Psalm 148
Reader: Susan Himann
Hallelujah! Praise GOD from the heavens;
praise GOD in the heights.
Praise GOD, all you angels of GOD;
praise GOD, all GOD's host.
Praise GOD, sun and moon;
praise GOD, all you shining stars.
Praise GOD, heaven of heavens,
and you waters above the heavens.
Let them praise the Name of GOD;
for GOD commanded, and they were created.
GOD made them stand fast for ever and ever;
GOD gave them a law which shall not pass away.
Praise GOD from the earth,
you sea-monsters and all deeps;
Fire and hail, snow and fog,
tempestuous wind, doing GOD's will;
Mountains and all hills,
fruit trees and all cedars;
Wild beasts and all cattle,
creeping things and wingèd birds;
Rulers of the earth and all peoples,
governors and all judges of the world;
People of all genders,
old and young together.
Let them praise the Name of GOD,
for GOD's Name only is exalted,
GOD's splendor is over earth and heaven.
GOD has raised up strength for their people
and praise for all their loyal servants,
the children of Israel, a people who are near GOD.
Hallelujah!

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church
Thanks be to God

PSALM HYMN # 139 The First Noel
Vs 1,2,3& 6 (Blue Book)

The Gospel Reading: (*standing*)
God be with you
And also with you
The Good News of Jesus Christ according to Luke
The Gospel Reading: Luke 2: 22-40
Reader: Deacon Lynne Smith
The Gospel of Christ
People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Lectio Divina, led by Rev. Carolyn Herold

Prayers of the People
Holy One,
we pray in gratitude for deep faith, courageous wisdom, and enduring hope.

Confession
Longing to see God's promised salvation, we confess our sins
and pray for peace in our hearts.
God of the covenant,
you inspire all people to sing your praises
and to proclaim your justice.
We confess that we make judgments
about which voices are worthy.
We ignore the witness of those whose narratives
make us uncomfortable or skeptical.
We favor the voices of majority populations.
We privilege ideas that reinforce our own opinions
and validate our own experiences.
Make us better listeners,
ready to encounter your messages
and your presence in all people.
We pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

The Peace

Offertory Hymn # 140 It Came Upon a Midnight Clear
Vs 1,2,3&5 (Blue Book)

Prayer Over the Gifts

Invitation to the Table

Eucharistic Prayer
God be with you
And also with you
Lift up your hearts
We lift them to the Holy One
Let us give thanks to our loving God.
It is right to offer thanks and praise

Celebrant: Creator God, our ancient of Days, ….
… join their unending hymn.

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord; God of pow'r and might;
Heav'n and earth of your glory are full.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest x2

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord
Blessed is he who comes in the names of the Lord.

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord; God of pow'r and might;
Heav'n and earth of your glory are full.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest

Celebrant: Holy are you, …
…mystery of our faith.

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

Celebrant: Send your Spriit upon us, …
…now and forever.

Amen, Amen, Amen.

Meditation on the Lord's Prayer
In awe we come to You again,
You, whose name remains
beyond all naming.
May your will be our will,
Your peace be peace on earth,
and what is broken in our lives
be forgiven and made right.
Grant us today the bread of Your fields.
From the labour of our days
may Your love be the yield
For You are, have been, and
always will be, our source,
our end, our soul's delight. *Juleta Severson-Baker*

The gifts of God for the people of God
Thanks be to God

Chant # 402 Confitemini Domino
(Blue Book)

The Communion

Hymn # 146 'Twas in the moon of Wintertime
(Blue Book)

The Prayer after Communion

Affirmation of Faith
Let us affirm God's gifts of faithful presence and persistent prayer.
We believe the true life, the good life,
is "a long obedience in the same direction."

We look to the example of Anna,
who modeled faithfulness founded in slow, persistent,
daily presence.
We believe close connection to God
often comes not through what's flashy or visible,
but through holy attentiveness, daily prayer,
and the commitment to keep showing up.
We believe in countering a world
that pushes elders and women to the margins
and instead celebrate generational wisdom
and the voice of all people.
We believe in speaking up in a world
that claims only the productive and young have worth,
and instead bless how quiet presence
and spiritual wisdom grow stronger with time.
We believe eyes to see and a heart to sense
the subtle miracle of God's love
are the richest gifts we could receive.
And so with gratitude for these gifts
and those who have modeled persistence for us,
we will sit at the feet of our elders,
believing we, too, can carry on the legacy of
faithfulness,
one day at a time.

Announcements

Hymn # 154 Joy to the World *(Blue Book)*

Dismissal
As we go forth from this place,
may we be grateful for the wisdom of those
who have been faithful over decades of their lifetime.
May we hear the testimony of our elders
as we long for and dream about what is to come with our youth.
May we value all people, at every step of life and faith,
as God does.
Go out into the world, embracing the will to dream,
and unable to remain quiet about all that is good and hopeful
in the Christian faith we share.
Thanks be to God
Alleluiah