

GATHERING
WELCOME TO WORSHIP THIS MORNING

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY
Presiding Minister (Pastor): Rev. David E. Miller
Assisting Minister (*Assistant*): Neil Nordquist
Lector (*L*): Marian Caldwell
Choir Director/ Pianist: Alice Kubo



**A SERVICE OF
LESSONS & CAROLS**

CHRISTMAS I
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2021
9:30AM WORSHIP

The Birth of Christ is more than a sweet story.
It is the story of God choosing to come into this real world
with its joys and sorrows, its peace and its pain.

The story tells us of angels announcing peace on earth,
Herod ordering the death of innocents, a family being led to safety.

The birth of Christ does not remove the power of evil from our world,
but its light gives us hope as we walk with all who sorrow and all who rejoice.

In our gathering around word and water and meal, God continues
to redeem us, lift us up, and carry us as in days of old.

The Light of Christ shines, and the darkness shall not overcome it.

Invitation to Worship

Please be seated, silence your cell phones and prepare your hearts.

WELCOME

PRELUDE

ALICE KUBO

*Before the Prelude, speak to one another. During the Prelude, speak to God.
During the service, let God speak to you. During the week, let God speak through you.*

DIALOGUE

Pastor Jesus, the bright Morning Star, shines light in the world.
 All **By day and night he shines for all to see.**

Pastor Jesus was born in the midst of injustice and poverty
 All **that the world may see the justice and richness of God.**

Pastor God so loved the world that God sent Jesus,
 All **so that all who believe in him may not perish but have eternal life.**

Pastor Jesus is the light of the world.
 All **Jesus is the light of our lives.**

Pastor Sing to God a new song!
 All **A song of hope, joy, and peace around the world.**

GATHERING CAROL

Joy to the World


1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
 3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the

ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -

room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
 plains re - peat the sound-ing joy, re - peat the sound-ing
 flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Music: ANTIOCH, English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

OPENING PRAYER

Pastor The Lord be with you.

All And also with you

Pastor Let us pray together.

Gracious God of heaven and earth, you have thrown a lifeline to us in our darkness—a beam of light that shines through Jesus. Though born in a manger, he is the firstborn of all creation. Though crucified on a cross, he is the Lord of life. Fill us with the wonder and joy of his presence in the world and in our hearts. Amen.

You may be seated.

WORD

GOD SPEAKS TO US IN SCRIPTURE READING, PREACHING, AND SONG.

FIRST READING

GENESIS 1:1-5, 14-18

A savior is promised

FIRST CAROL

I WONDER AS I WANDER

1 I won-der as I wan-der, out un-der the sky, how
2 When Mar-y birthed . . Je-sus, all in a cow's stall, came
3 If Je-sus had . . want-ed for an-y wee thing, a
4 I won-der as I wan-der, out un-der the sky, how

Je-sus the Sav-ior did come for to die for poor ord'-n'ry peo-ple like
wise men and farm-ers and shep-herds and all, and high from the heav-ens a
star in the sky or a bird on the wing, or all of God's an-gels in
Je-sus the Sav-ior did come for to die for poor ord'-n'ry peo-ple like

you and like I. I won-der as I wan-der, out un-der the sky.
star's light did fall; the prom-ise of the a-ges it then did re-call.
heav'n for to sing, he sure-ly could have had it, 'cause he was the king.
you and like I. I won-der as I wan-der, out un-der the sky.

SECOND READING*The king will come from Bethlehem***MICAH 5:2-5a****SECOND CAROL****O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM**

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

THIRD READING**LUKE 1:26-35, 38***The annunciation to Mary.***THIRD CAROL****THE ANGEL GABRIEL FROM HEAVEN CAME**

1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came,
 2 "For know a bless - ed moth - er thou shalt be,
 3 Then gen - tle Mar - y meek - ly bowed her head;
 4 Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born



with wings as drift - ed snow, with eyes as flame:
 all gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee;
 "To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said.
 in Beth - le - hem all on a Christ - mas morn,



"All hail to thee, O low - ly maid - en Mar - y,
 thy son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,
 "My soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy God's ho - ly name."
 and Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say:



most high - ly fa - vored la - dy."
 most high - ly fa - vored la - dy." Glo - ri - a!
 Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy,
 "Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy."

Text: Basque carol; para. Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834–1924

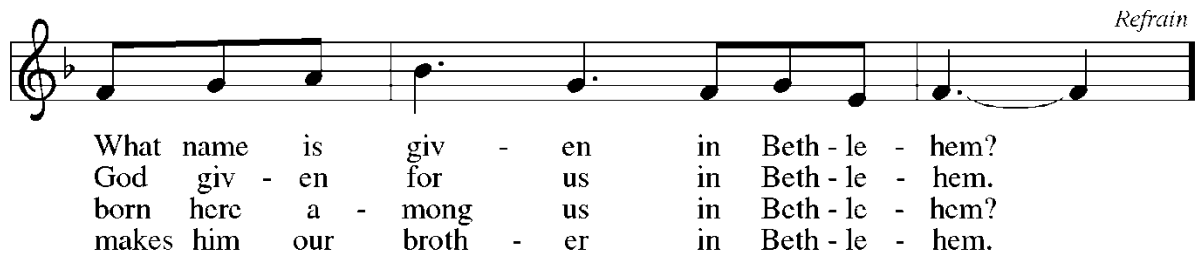
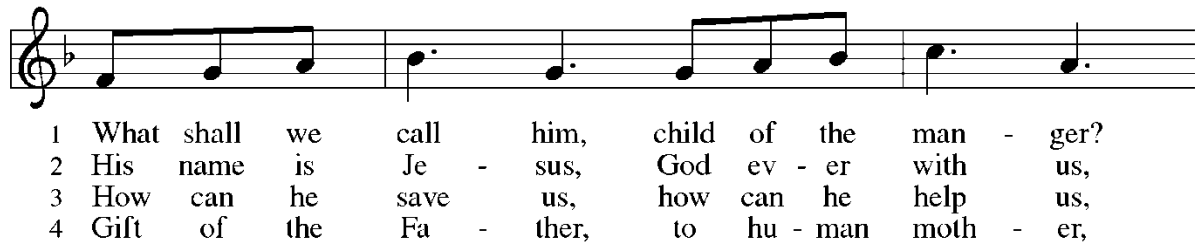
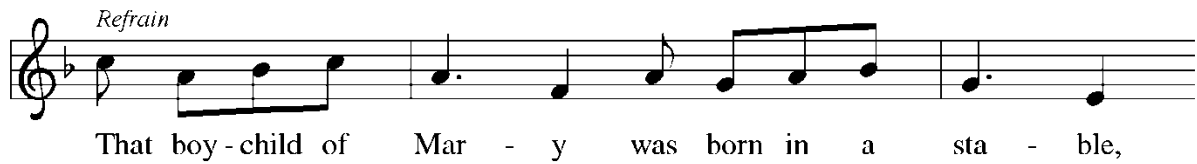
Music: GABRIEL'S MESSAGE, Basque carol

FOURTH READING

LUKE 2:1-7

The birth of Jesus.

FOURTH CAROL

THAT BOY CHILD OF MARY

5 One with the Father,
he is our Savior,
heaven-sent helper
in Bethlehem.

6 Gladly we praise him,
love and adore him,
give ourselves to him
in Bethlehem.

Text: Tom Colvin, 1925–2000

Music: BLANTYRI, Malawi traditional; adapt. Tom Colvin

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FIFTH READING*The birth of Jesus.***LUKE 2:8-16****FIFTH CAROL****ANGELS, FROM THE REALMS OF GLORY**

- 1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
- 2 Shep-herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch-ing o'er your flocks by night,
- 3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem-pla-tions, bright-er vi - sions beam a - far;
- 4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais-ing God, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son,



once you sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
 God with us is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant light.
 seek the great de - sire of na - tions, you have seen his na - tal star.
 ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing to the e - ter - nal Three in One.

Refrain

Come and wor-ship, come and wor-ship, wor-ship Christ, the new-born king.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt., sts. 1–3; *Salisbury Hymn Book*, 1857, st. 4
 Music: REGENT SQUARE, Henry T. Smart, 1813–1879

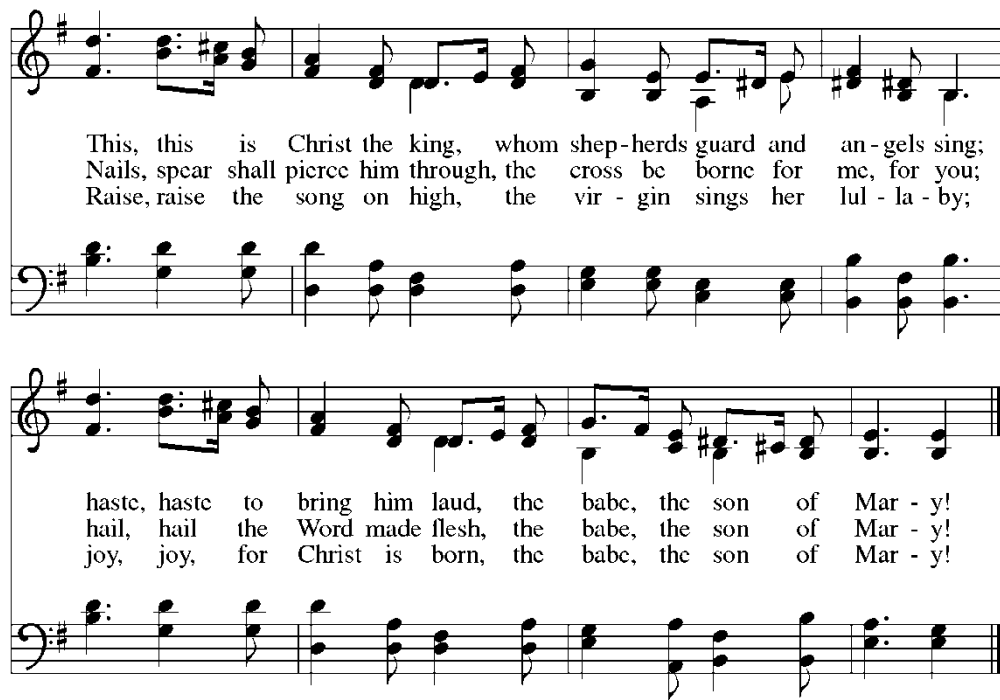
SIXTH READING*Jesus receives his name.***Matthew 2:1-11****SIXTH CAROL****WHAT CHILD IS THIS**

- 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.

SEVENTH READING

The magi follow the star.

Robert L. May: A Reading

SEVENTH CAROL

RUDOLPH THE RED NOSED REINDEER

Rudolph, the red-nosed reindeer
 had a very shiny nose
 and if you ever saw it
 you would even say it glows.

All of the other reindeer
 used to laugh and call him names
 They never let poor Rudolph
 play in any reindeer games.

Then one foggy Christmas eve
 Santa came to say:
 "Rudolph with your nose so bright,
 won't you guide my sleigh tonight?"

Then all the reindeer loved him
 as they shouted out with glee,
 Rudolph the red-nosed reindeer,
 you'll go down in history!

EIGHTH READING*The mystery of the incarnation.***JOHN 1:1-14****EIGHTH CAROL****HE CAME DOWN**

1 He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;
2 He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light;
3 He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace;
4 He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy;

he came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have light; hal-le-lu-jah for-ev-er-more.
he came down that we may have peace;
he came down that we may have joy;

Text: Cameroon traditional

Music: HE CAME DOWN, Cameroon traditional; arr. John L. Bell, b. 1949

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RESPONSIVE PRAYER*Please stand as you are able.*

Pastor It is you, loving God, who lights our path with truth.
All **Your Word, Jesus, is truth.**

Pastor In his light, draw all to the manger
All **to gather in wonder with the shepherds.**

Pastor In his light, draw all to the manger
All **to kneel in reverence with the wise ones.**

Pastor In his light, draw all to the manger
All **to sing for joy with the angels.**

Pastor In the brightness of his life
All **cast away the darkness of injustice, poverty, and hunger in the world.**

Pastor It is you, loving God, who meets us on our way.
All **In the light of Jesus, show the world the way of life. Amen.**

THE PEACE

We exchange the Peace of Christ, greeting each other with words of peace, aware that Christ is in our midst in the faces of those around us. Please be seated after sharing the Peace of Christ.

THE OFFERING

You may also leave your offering in the church office during the week, mail it in to the church or give online from our website, or through your bank.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Assisting Minister: God with us: You came as a baby to a manger. You slept on straw and greeted shepherds. You come again in bread and wine. Remind us how good you are at blessing ordinary things. And then, through these gifts, help us to bless the lives of others in the strength of your holy name.

All Amen.

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be
your name, your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in
heaven. Give us today our daily
bread. Forgive us our sins as we
forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and
deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the
glory are yours, now and forever.
Amen.**

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be
your name, your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in
heaven. Give us today our daily
bread. Forgive us our sins as we
forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and
deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the
glory are yours, now and forever.
Amen.**

SENDING

GOD BLESSES US AND SENDS US IN MISSION TO THE WORLD.

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

Pastor Praise God, from whom all blessings flow!
All Praise God, all creatures here below!

Pastor You are the shepherds telling the story.
All We tell it in the streets and across the land.

Pastor You are the wise ones worshipping with thanksgiving.
All We worship with gifts of song and service, talents and treasures.

Pastor You are the angels announcing peace.
All We live with joy and go now in peace.

Pastor Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
All Amen

SENDING SONG

ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH

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

L Glory to God in the highest!
 C **Peace to God's people on earth!**
 L Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus.
 C **Thanks be to God.**

LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICES

Our Second Mile Giving ministry partner for December is Lutheran Social Services of Northern California. This organization helps provide assistance and support to over 3,000 clients in Northern California. Please join in supporting this vital outreach in Northern California.

SAVE THOSE STAMPS

Be sure to clip the stamps from your mail this month especially and leave them in the container on the end table in the Fireside room. Thanks!

2019 FLOWER CHART

The new flower chart will be posted next Sunday. Sign up for Altar flowers for the coming year in honor or memory of loved ones. Cost remains at \$25.

ANNUAL CONGREGATION MEETING

The Annual meeting is set for January 30, 2022. The deadline for annual reports from ministry teams is January 9, 2022.

POINSETTIAS

Many thanks again to those who donated plants for our Christmas celebration.
You may take home your poinsettias today.

FROM THE STAFF

*Thank you for your gifts of appreciation at Christmas time.
It is a blessing to be able to serve in our various ways throughout the year.
May you all have a blessed New Year!*

THIS WEEK AT ALL SAINTS DECEMBER 26, 2021-JANUARY 2, 2022

TODAY:

CHRISTMAS I

*Hybrid Worship – 9:30 a.m.
Cross Church – 1:00 p.m.
Al Anon – 7:15 p.m.
AA – 8:30 p.m.*

MONDAY:

TUESDAY:

*Church Office 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
WW – 8:30 a.m.
Cross Church – 7:00 p.m.*

WEDNESDAY:

*Church Office 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Choir – 7:00 p.m.*

THURSDAY:

THURSDAY:

FRIDAY:

*Church Office 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Cross Church Prayer – 7:00 p.m.*

SATURDAY:

*Cross Church, Prayer – 6:30 a.m.
AA – 8:00 p.m.*

SUNDAY:

CHRISTMAS II

*Hybrid Worship – 9:30 a.m.
Cross Church – 1:00 p.m.
Al Anon – 7:15 p.m.
AA – 8:30 p.m.*