

Order of Worship Service – December 28, 2025
Christmas Sunday

PRELUDES Silent Night! Holy Night! – arr. Tedd Smith/Don Hustad
Christmas Medley – Albin Whitworth

WELCOME

CHRISTMAS SUNDAY RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP AND CANDLELIGHTING

OUR RESPONSE HYMN #126 O Come, Let Us Adore Him (ADESTE FIDELES)

OPENING PRAYER

HYMN #155 O Little Town of Bethlehem (ST. LOUIS)

SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 9:6-7 (NLT)
Reader: *The Word of the Lord.*
Congregation response: *Thanks be to God.*

SOLO The Birthday of a King – William Neidlinger

PRAYER OF BLESSING

HYMN #151 Go, Tell It On the Mountain (GO TELL IT)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Wilma Wiens
Leader: *Lord, in your mercy.*
Congregational Response: *Hear our prayer.*

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 2:1-20 (NLT)
Reader: *The Word of the Lord.*
Congregation response: *Thanks be to God.*

SOLO Welcome to Our World – Chris Rice

MESSAGE Shouldering On – Kerry Flemington

HYMN #167 Joy to the World! (ANTIOCH)

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Angels We Have Heard on High – arr. Tedd Smith/Don Hustad

Worship Leader	Wilma Wiens
Minister of Pastoral & Spiritual Care	Wilma Wiens
Minister of Music	Margot Sim
Piano/Organ Duets	Madeleine Flemington, Margot Sim
Soloist	Ken Penner
Candlelighters	The Flemington Family

NEXT SUNDAY – JANUARY 4 (Epiphany Sunday/Communion Sunday): Tony Harwood-Jones will be speaking on “Nations Shall Come To Your Light” with scriptures Isaiah 60:1-6 and Matthew 2:1-12

CHRISTMAS SUNDAY RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: Christmas has come!

CONGREGATION: Christ has come!

LEADER: We gather to celebrate His birth. This morning we re-light the Advent candles: Hope, Peace, Joy and Love to remind us of the gifts of our Saviour. We light the Christ candle in the centre because Jesus is the Light of the World.

(the 5 wreath candles are lit)

CONGREGATION: We have explored what it is to wait expectantly for the best Christmas gift the world has ever seen. We acknowledge that the world needs the hope, peace, joy and love of Jesus Christ now more than ever.

LEADER: Christ is our hope and our salvation. May every knee bow before the newborn Saviour. May every tongue sing.

CONGREGATION: The Prince of Peace has come! His name is Jesus, Emmanuel, God with us. Our waiting is over.

LEADER: Jesus Christ is born!

CONGREGATION: O come, let us adore him!

O COME LET US ADORE HIM (John Wade)

O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

We'll praise his name forever, we'll praise his name forever,
We'll praise his name forever, Christ the Lord.

We'll give him all the glory; we'll give him all the glory,
We'll give him all the glory, Christ the Lord.

For he alone is worthy, for he alone is worthy,
For he alone is worthy, Christ the Lord.

O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM (Phillips Brooks)

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary and gathered all above
While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars, together proclaim thy holy birth.
And praises sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.

How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is given.
So, God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heaven!
No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him still the dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem descend to us, we pray.
Cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell.
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.

ISAIAH 9:6-7 (NLT)

For a child is born to us, a son is given to us.
The government will rest on his shoulders.
And he will be called:
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
His government and its peace will never end.
He will rule with fairness and justice from the throne
of his ancestor David for all eternity.
The passionate commitment of the Lord
of Heaven's Armies will make this happen!

THE BIRTHDAY OF A KING (William Neidlinger)

In the little village of Bethlehem there lay a Child one day,
And the sky was bright with a holy light o'er the place where Jesus lay.
Alleluia, O how the angels sang! Alleluia, how it rang!
And the sky was bright with a holy light; 'twas the birthday of a King!

'Twas a humble birthplace, but O how much God gave to us that day!
From the manger bed what a path has led, what a perfect holy way!
Alleluia, O how the angels sang! Alleluia, how it rang!
And the sky was bright with a holy light; 'twas the birthday of a King!

GO, TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN (John Work)

Chorus: Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere.
Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks at night
Behold throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. **Chorus**

The shepherds feared and trembled when, lo! Above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth. **Chorus**

Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,
And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. **Chorus**

LUKE 2:1-20 (NLT)

¹ At that time the Roman emperor, Augustus, decreed that a census should be taken throughout the Roman Empire. ² (This was the first census taken when Quirinius was governor of Syria.) ³ All returned to their own ancestral towns to register for this census.

⁴ And because Joseph was a descendant of King David, he had to go to Bethlehem in Judea, David's ancient home. He traveled there from the village of Nazareth in Galilee. ⁵ He took with him Mary, to whom he was engaged, who was now expecting a child. ⁶ And while they were there, the time came for her baby to be born. ⁷ She gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him snugly in strips of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no lodging available for them.

⁸ That night there were shepherds staying in the fields nearby, guarding their flocks of sheep.

⁹ Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared among them, and the radiance of the Lord's glory surrounded them. They were terrified, ¹⁰ but the angel reassured them. "Don't be afraid!" he said. "I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people. ¹¹ The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David! ¹² And you will recognize him by this sign: You will find a baby wrapped snugly in strips of cloth, lying in a manger."

¹³ Suddenly, the angel was joined by a vast host of others—the armies of heaven—praising God and saying, ¹⁴ "Glory to God in highest heaven, and peace on earth to those with whom God is pleased."

¹⁵ When the angels had returned to heaven, the shepherds said to each other, "Let's go to Bethlehem! Let's see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." ¹⁶ They hurried to the village and found Mary and Joseph. And there was the baby, lying in the manger.

¹⁷ After seeing him, the shepherds told everyone what had happened and what the angel had said to them about this child. ¹⁸ All who heard the shepherds' story were astonished, ¹⁹ but Mary kept all these things in her heart and thought about them often. ²⁰ The shepherds went back to their flocks, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen. It was just as the angel had told them.

WELCOME TO OUR WORLD (Chris Rice)

Tears are falling, hearts are breaking; how we need to hear from God.
You've been promised, we've been waiting, welcome, holy Child.

Hope that You don't mind our manger, how I wish we would have known.
But, long-awaited holy Stranger, make Yourself at home,
Please make Yourself at home.

Bring your peace into our violence, bid our hungry souls be filled.
Word now breaking heaven's silence, welcome to our world.

Fragile finger sent to heal us, tender brow prepared for thorn,
Tiny heart whose blood will save us, unto us is born.

So, wrap our injured flesh around You, breathe our air and walk our sod.
Rob our sin and make us holy, perfect Son of God.
Welcome to our world.

JOY TO THE WORLD! THE LORD IS COME (Isaac Watts)

Joy to the world! The Lord is come; let earth receive her King.
Let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! The Saviour reigns; let all their songs employ.
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground.
He comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love.