



LORD'S DAY WORSHIP

December 14, 2025



*Welcome one another
as Christ has welcomed you,
for the glory of God.*

Romans 15:7

ANNOUNCEMENTS



THIS WEEKEND

- **MOVIE NIGHT**: Come enjoy a screening of “The Muppet Christmas Carol” this **Saturday** (December 13) at **6:00PM**. Pizza, Gatorade, and popcorn will be provided.

THIS SUNDAY

- **ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL**: Classes are on break for December. We will resume on Sunday, January 4.
- **POTLUCK FELLOWSHIP**: Everyone is invited to join us after the service downstairs in the fellowship hall.
- **EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE**: Join us this Sunday at **5:30PM** in the sanctuary. See service details on page 12 at the back of this bulletin (or the church calendar on our app or website).

NEXT WEEK

- **BIBLE STUDY**: Next **Tuesday** (Dec 16) at **7:00PM**. Everyone is invited to participate, either in person or online via Zoom (see the weekly Tuesday email for the Zoom link).
- **CHRISTMAS RIP-OFF**: Join us for a beloved annual tradition: the Craig Vick Memorial Christmas Rip-Off next **Saturday** (December 20) at **6:00PM**. There is a sign-up sheet on the dessert table for light refreshments.

THE FOLLOWING WEEK

- **BIBLE STUDY**: There will be **NO** Bible study on Tuesday, **December 23** or **December 30**.
- **CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE**: Please join us for our annual service of lessons and carols on **Wednesday, December 24** at **6:00PM**.

MORNING WORSHIP



SILENT PRAYER & INVOCATION

GREETING

PEOPLE: **Amen!**

CALL TO WORSHIP

from [*Psalm 68:2-4*](#)

SONGS OF PRAISE

[*"Gloria Patri"*](#)

#734

**Glory be to the Father,
and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:
As it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen. Amen.**

[*"O Come, All Ye Faithful"*](#)

#208

**O come, all ye faithful,
joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come and behold him
born the King of angels;
*O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord.***

**God of God, Light of Light;
lo, he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
very God, begotten, not created;**

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

**Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;
glory to God in the highest;**

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

**Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
born this happy morning:
Jesus, to thee be all glory giv'n;**

**Word of the Father,
late in flesh appearing;**

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

Latin hymn attr. to John Francis Wade (1751);
tr. by Frederick Oakeley (1841; alt.).

Music from John Francis Wade's *Cantus Diversi* (1751).
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SUMMONS TO REPENTANCE

[*Psalm 2:1-4, 11-12*](#)

CONFESSING OUR SIN

Our Sovereign and Triune God, we confess that in our sin we engage in rebellion against your holy and just rule over us. We want to set ourselves up as if we were the master, the king, ruling over our own selves, doing what is pleasing to us. In this we set ourselves against you. We admit it. Again, we confess this sinful attitude and the sinful actions that result from it. Your anger, derision, and judgment against sin is just. Our only hope is to take refuge in Jesus Christ our Savior whose saving work rescues us. We rejoice in your great love, rich mercy, and immeasurable grace, thanking you and praising you in the name of Jesus. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

IN THESE MOMENTS, WE SILENTLY CONFESS OUR PERSONAL SINS
TO GOD SO THAT WE MAY TAKE HOLD OF THE FORGIVENESS
WON FOR US BY CHRIST, OUR REDEEMER.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

[*Psalm 103:8, 10-12*](#)

SINGING GOD'S GRACE

[*"What Child Is This"*](#)

#213

**What child is this, who, laid to rest,
on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
haste, haste to bring him laud,
the babe, the son of Mary.**

**Why lies he in such mean estate,
where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here
the silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear, shall pierce him through;
the cross be borne for me, for you:
hail, hail the Word made flesh,
the babe, the son of Mary.**

**So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;
come, peasant, king, to own him;
the King of kings salvation brings,
let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high,
the virgin sings her lullaby:
joy, joy for Christ is born,
the babe, the son of Mary.**

Traditional English carol; adapted by William C. Dix (ca. 1865).
English melody (16th century).
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WE CONFESS OUR FAITH

*Westminster Confession of Faith III.1&2 –
Of God's Eternal Decree*

1. God, from all eternity, did, by the most wise and holy counsel of his own will, freely, and unchangeably ordain whatsoever comes to pass: yet so, as thereby neither is God the author of sin, nor is violence offered to the will of the creatures; nor is the liberty or contingency of second causes taken away, but rather established.

2. Although God knows whatsoever may or can come to pass upon all supposed conditions, yet he has not decreed anything because he foresaw it as future, or as that which would come to pass upon such conditions.

PRAYER

[Lebanon \(prayercast.com\)](http://prayercast.com): The rocky beaches and sandy bays of Lebanon stretch along the Mediterranean Sea. This coastal country is home to some of the world's oldest cities. Lebanon is also hemmed in by Syria across the northeast and Israel to the south. Because of its strategic location, the country has been caught in many conflicts between Syria and Israel. With almost six-million people, Lebanon is uniquely comprised of both Shia and Sunni Muslims, as well as Christians and Druze. The official language is Arabic, although French and English are also widely used. This diversity has made Lebanon a key place of refuge for minorities throughout the region.

Lebanon is a democratic republic, and each major religion is represented in the parliamentary system. A civil war had ravaged the nation from 1975–1990, and Israel and Syria became heavily involved. Hezbollah, a terrorist organization, was formed during this time and is credited with driving out the Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon in 2000. Hezbollah has ongoing conflicts with Israel, violently targeting and bombing parts of the country. More recently, Hezbollah has wielded great power and influence over both the military and political landscape of Lebanon, and Israel has increased its efforts in rooting out Hezbollah, creating a significant toll on the Lebanese people. Lebanon has taken in the largest number of refugees per capita in the world, with roughly 1.5 million Syrian refugees, almost 500,000 Palestinians, and thousands more from Iraq and Sudan. This refugee crisis has strained the economy. Combined with other factors, such as only a caretaker government leading up to and then following Michael Auon's contentious 6 years, Lebanon's financial crisis

is now considered one of the most severe in the world since the mid-19th century. By 2021, the Lebanese pound had lost 90% of its value, and 82% of the population struggled to meet even basic needs. Current shortages of fuel, food, electricity, and medicines are widespread and only exacerbate an already difficult daily struggle.

Lebanon is roughly 68% Muslim (evenly divided between Shia and Sunni) and 32% Christian. This nation is home to the highest concentration of believers in the Middle East. It is the only Arab nation that promotes religious freedom and legally allows for conversion, which provides an open door for the spread of the Gospel. By reaching out to provide for the physical needs of refugees, such as food, clothing, blankets, and education, the Church is embracing opportunities to meet the spiritual needs of hurting people. Both the size and influence of the Church in Lebanon have made it a unique and strategic center for Christian ministry throughout the entire Middle East.

- Pray for Lebanese to be drawn to the hope of Jesus amid economic and political turmoil.
- Pray for the love of Jesus to capture the hearts of Hezbollah members.
- Pray for Christ-centered renewal in the traditional and orthodox churches.

AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE MINISTER'S PRAYER,
THE CONGREGATION SHALL PRAY TOGETHER:

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

- 1 The LORD says to my Lord:
 “Sit at my right hand,
 until I make your enemies your footstool.”
- 2 The LORD sends forth from Zion
 your mighty scepter.
 Rule in the midst of your enemies!
- 3 Your people will offer themselves freely
 on the day of your power,
 in holy garments;
 from the womb of the morning,
 the dew of your youth will be yours.
- 4 The LORD has sworn
 and will not change his mind,
 “You are a priest forever
 after the order of Melchizedek.”
- 5 The Lord is at your right hand;
 he will shatter kings on the day of his wrath.
- 6 He will execute judgment among the nations,
 filling them with corpses;
 he will shatter chiefs
 over the wide earth.
- 7 He will drink from the brook by the way;
 therefore he will lift up his head.

Angels, from the realms of glory,
wing your flight o'er all the earth;
ye who sang creation's story,
now proclaim Messiah's birth;
*Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the new-born King.*

Shepherds in the fields abiding,
watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with man is now residing,
yonder shines the infant Light:
*Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the new-born King.*

Sages, leave your contemplations,
brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great Desire of nations;
ye have seen his natal star:
*Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the new-born King.*

Saints before the altar bending,
watching long in hope and fear,
suddenly the Lord, descending,
in his temple shall appear;
*Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the new-born King.*

All creation, join in praising
God the Father, Spirit, Son;
evermore your voices raising
to th'eternal Three in One:

***Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the new-born King.***

Words by James Montgomery (1816, 1825). Music by Henry Smart (1867).
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THE LORD'S SUPPER

PLEASE HOLD ELEMENTS UNTIL ALL ARE SERVED.

WHITE GRAPE JUICE IS IN THE TRAYS.

GLUTEN-FREE BREAD IS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST.

MINISTER: Lift up your hearts.

PEOPLE: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

GRATEFUL OFFERINGS

"Doxology"

#733

BENEDICTION

2 Thessalonians 3:5, 18

"Threefold Amen"

#740



EVENING WORSHIP



OPENING PRAYER

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 18:25–36
(TH page 789–790)

HYMN

“Children of the Heavenly Father”

TH #131

OT SCRIPTURE READING

Numbers 9

NT SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 8

PRAYERS

SERMON

Ezekiel 16:20–21

“The Church: Believers and Children”

(See WCF 25.12 — TH page 863)

SONGS BY REQUEST

CLOSING PRAYER



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