



FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

A SERVICE OF CAROLS AND SPIRITUAL SONGS

December 28, 2025

10:00 a.m.

* As you are able, please rise in body or spirit
The leader for today's worship is Clark Gaylord.

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CALL TO WORSHIP* – (*adapted from Psalm 148*)

Praise the Lord from the heavens;

Praise God in the heights!

Praise God, all his angels;

Praise God, all his host!

Praise God, sun and moon;

Praise God, all you shining stars!

Praise God, you highest heavens,

And you waters above the heavens!

*Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps,
fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling God's command!*

Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!

Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds!

*Let all praise the name of the Lord,
Praise the Lord!*

HYMN* "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" 119

PRAYER OF PRAISE*

CONFSSION OF SIN 121

**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!**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

PASSING OF THE PEACE

L: The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

P: And also with you.

[You are invited to exchange signs of peace with one another.]

RESPONSE TO PARDON* 143, v. 4

**All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son,
evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in One:
come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn king!**

NEW TESTAMENT – Revelation 21:1-6a

GOSPEL – Matthew 25:31-46

HYMN* "*The First Nowell*" 147

CAROL CALLOUT

*We will sing one verse each of the first five carols
from the hymnal that are chosen by members of the
congregation.*

SAYING WHAT WE BELIEVE* *(from Handel's "Messiah")*

*For unto us a Child is born,
unto us a Son is given,
And His name shall be called
Wonderful Counselor,
The Mighty God,
The Everlasting Father,
The Prince of Peace.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE / LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN* *Joy to the World!* 134

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION*

CHORAL RESPONSE* 136

Refrain:

**Go, tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born!**

**Down in a lowly manger
the humble Christ was born,
and God sent us salvation
that blessed Christmas morn. (Refrain)**

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 28-January 4 – Church Office closed

January 8, 2:00 pm – Women’s Bible Study at English Meadows (postponed from Jan. 1)

January 11, 11:00 – Annual Meeting of the Congregation

January 17 – Church Officers’ Retreat

January 18 – Ordination/Installation of new officers

February 18 – Ash Wednesday, Lent begins

January 19, 3:00 – Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday – church office closed

*To those who are weary and need rest;
To all who are lonely and need friends;
To all who mourn and need comfort;
To all who pray, and to all who do not,
but ought;
To all who sin and need a Savior,
And to whosoever comes –
The Church opens wide its doors, and says,
In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, "Welcome."*