



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*

CONFESSION 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."*