

**December 28, 2025**

**Welcome**

**The Hymn of Invocation**

**386 Now Sing We, Now Rejoice**

- |   |  |   |  |
|---|--|---|--|
| 1   | Now sing we, now rejoice,<br>Now raise to heav'n our voice;<br>He from whom joy streameth<br>Poor in a manger lies;<br>Not so brightly beameth<br>The sun in yonder skies.<br>Thou my Savior art!<br>Thou my Savior art! | 2 | Come from on high to me;<br>I cannot rise to Thee.<br>Cheer my wearied spirit,<br>O pure and holy Child;<br>Through Thy grace and merit,<br>Blest Jesus, Lord most mild,<br>Draw me unto Thee!<br>Draw me unto Thee! |
| 4   |  |   |  |
| Oh, where shall joy be found?<br>Where but on heav'nly ground?<br>Where the angels singing<br>With all His saints unite,<br>Sweetest praises bringing<br>In heav'nly joy and light.<br>Oh, that we were there!<br>Oh, that we were there! |  |   |  |

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In the name of the Father,  
**The Creator of all things seen and unseen.**

In the name of the Son,  
**The Redeemer of the world, Emmanuel, God with us.**

In the name of the Holy Spirit,  
**The One who calls us to faith and helps us live as God's children.**

When the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, He saved us,  
**Not because of righteous things we had done, but because of His mercy.**

He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by His grace,  
**We might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.**

Let us confess our sins to God our Father.  
**Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

**Hymn of Confession**.....sung to: *On Jordan's Bank*

Then cleansed be ev'ry life from sin;  
Make straight the way for God within,  
And let us all our hearts prepare For Christ to come and enter there.

Stretch forth your hand, our health restore,  
And make us rise to fall no more;  
Oh, let your face upon us shine And fill the world with love divine.

Our God saves us not because of things we have done, but because of what Jesus has done for us. Through His incarnation, holy life, sacrificial death and glorious resurrection God draws us to Himself. It is my joyful duty to announce the full forgiveness of all our sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

**Hymn of Praise**.....sung to: *On Jordan's Bank*

All praise to you, eternal Son, Whose advent has our freedom won,  
Whom with the Father we adore, And holy Spirit, evermore.

### **Prayer**

Enlighten our minds, we pray, O God, by the Spirit who proceeds from you that, as your Son has promised, we may be led into all truth and be trained by it, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **Old Testament**

### **Deuteronomy 8:10-14 (excerpts)**

When you have eaten and are satisfied, praise the Lord your God for the good land he has given you. Otherwise, when you build fine houses and settle down, and when your herds and flocks grow large and your silver and gold increase and all you have is multiplied, then your heart will become proud and you will forget the Lord your God.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Epistle**

### **Hebrews 12:7-11**

Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as his children. For what children are not disciplined by their father? If you are not disciplined—and everyone undergoes discipline—then you are not legitimate, not true sons and daughters at all. Moreover, we have all had human fathers who disciplined us and we respected them for it. How much more should we submit to the Father of spirits and live! They disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but God disciplines us for our good, in order that we may share in his holiness. No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Verse**.....sung to: *Hark the Herald Angels Sing*

Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
Late in time behold Him come, Offspring of a virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see! Hail, incarnate deity!  
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel!  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

### **The Gospel**

### **Luke 9:23-25**

Then he [Jesus] said to them all: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will save it. What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, and yet lose or forfeit their very self?"

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to You, O Christ.**

### **Object Lesson**

## Hymn of the Day

### 376 Once in Royal David's City

- 1 Once in royal David's city  
    Stood a lowly cattle shed,  
Where a mother laid her baby  
    In a manger for His bed:  
Mary was that mother mild,  
Jesus Christ her little child.
- 2 He came down to earth from heaven,  
    Who is God and Lord of all,  
And His shelter was a stable,  
    And His cradle was a stall;  
With the poor and mean and lowly  
Lived on earth our Savior holy.
- 4 And our eyes at last shall see Him,  
    Through His own redeeming love;  
For that child so dear and gentle  
    Is our Lord in heav'n above;  
And He leads His children on  
To the place where He is gone.

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## Sermon

### The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**The Prayers** *[If you need information to send a card or call to someone for whom we prayed, please contact Pastor John.]*

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus  
**And for all people according to their needs.**

*After each portion of the prayer:*

Lord in Your mercy.  
**Hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray:

### The Lord's Prayer

**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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

**Our offerings help to support:**  
Habitat for Humanity

**Offertory**.....sung to: *What Child is This* vs 3  
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!

**Preface**.....sung to: *O Come, All You Faithful*  
The Lord be with you.  
**And with you, His servant.**

Oh, come, let us lift our hearts unto the Lord.  
**With hearts uplifted**  
**Thanks to Him we render:**  
**With joy we come before Him,**  
**In gratefulness implore Him,**  
**With thankful hearts adore Him evermore!**

Thanks and praise be to You, our Father, almighty Creator, merciful Lord, God of promise and fulfillment. Of old Your faithful people waited for the day of Your appearing, manifest when the time had fully come and You sent Jesus, Your Son. Having seen His glory, we now wait for the day of consummation when He will come again as King. And so, with the church on earth and all the hosts of heaven, we praise Your name and join their unending hymn:

**Sanctus**.....sung to: *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*  
Holy, holy, holy Lord! God of hosts, by all adored!  
Heaven and earth cannot contain All the glory of Your name!  
Hail, hosanna, God most high! Blest is He who now draws nigh  
In the name of God the King! Hallelujahs glad we sing:  
Hail, hosanna! Praises due Be forever, Lord, to You!

Through Jesus Christ, your beloved we give you thanks, heavenly Father for the love with which you loved the world, for the salvation you prepared for us through Jesus Christ, for the Holy Spirit sent into our hearts and into our midst, that we may receive and share our living Lord with living faith.

**Amen.**

### **Jesus' Directions for Communion**

#### **The Peace**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

**Agnus Dei**.....sung to: *From Heaven Above*  
O Lamb of God, You take away The sin of all; now hear us pray.  
And grant us from our sins release: Have mercy on us.  
Grant us peace!

#### **Distribution of Communion**

*[If your body does not tolerate alcohol,  
the back row of the individual cups are grape juice.]*

#### **The Distribution Hymns**

### 361 O Little Town of Bethlehem

- |   |  |   |   |
|---|--|---|---|
| 1 | O little town of Bethlehem,<br>How still we see thee lie!<br>Above thy deep and dreamless sleep<br>The silent stars go by;<br>Yet in thy dark streets shineth<br>The everlasting light.<br>The hopes and fears of all the years<br>Are met in thee tonight.  | 3 | How silently, how silently<br>The wondrous gift is giv'n!<br>So God imparts to human hearts<br>The blessings of His heav'n.<br>No ear may hear His coming;<br>But in this world of sin,<br>Where meek souls will receive Him, still<br>The dear Christ enters in. |
| 2 | For Christ is born of Mary,<br>And, gathered all above<br>While mortals sleep, the angels keep<br>Their watch of wond'ring love.<br>O morning stars, together<br>Proclaim the holy birth,<br>And praises sing to God the king<br>And peace to all the earth! | 4 | O holy Child of Bethlehem,<br>Descend to us, we pray;<br>Cast out our sin, and enter in,<br>Be born in us today.<br>We hear the Christmas angels<br>The great glad tidings tell;<br>O come to us, abide with us,<br>Our Lord Immanuel!                            |

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### 388 Go Tell It on the Mountain

- |     |  |   |   |
|-----|--|---|---|
| ref | Go tell it on the mountain,<br>Over the hills and ev'rywhere;<br>Go tell it on the mountain<br>That Jesus Christ is born!                  | 2 | The shepherds feared and trembled<br>When lo, above the earth<br>Rang out the angel chorus<br>That hailed our Savior's birth. Refrain |
| 1   | While shepherds kept their watching<br>O'er silent flocks by night,<br>Behold, throughout the heavens<br>There shone a holy light. Refrain | 3 | Down in a lonely manger<br>The humble Christ was born;<br>And God sent us salvation<br>That blessèd Christmas morn. Refrain           |

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### 392 God Loves Me Dearly

- |     |  |   |   |
|-----|--|---|---|
| 1   | God loves me dearly,<br>Grants me salvation,<br>God loves me dearly,<br>Loves even me. Refrain       | 3 | He sent forth Jesus,<br>My dear Redeemer,<br>He sent forth Jesus<br>And set me free. Refrain    |
| ref | Therefore I'll say again:<br>God loves me dearly,<br>God loves me dearly,<br>Loves even me.          | 4 | Jesus, my Savior,<br>Himself did offer;<br>Jesus, my Savior,<br>Paid all I owed. Refrain        |
| 2   | I was in slav'ry,<br>Sin, death, and darkness;<br>God's love was working<br>To make me free. Refrain | 5 | Now I will praise You,<br>O Love Eternal;<br>Now I will praise You<br>All my life long. Refrain |

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The body and blood of our Lord strengthen and preserve you steadfast in the faith to life everlasting. Go in peace.

**Amen.**

**Thanksgiving & Nunc Dimitis**.....sung to: *From Heaven Above*

Oh, thank the Lord, whose goodness sure  
And steadfast love fore'er endure!  
Our eyes have seen, our ears have heard,  
And we have tasted of His word.

As His own servants we depart  
With His salvation in our heart.  
His saving power He has made known;  
His love through all the earth is shown.

Let us pray. We give thanks to you, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through this good gift and we ask that, by your mercy, you would strengthen us through the same in faith toward you and in a fervent love for one another; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**Benediction**.....sung to: *O Come, All You Faithful*

The Lord bless and keep you,  
Look with love upon you,  
Be gracious, and cause His face to shine with peace!

**Glory to Father, Son and Holy Spirit!**  
**The Savior close beside us,**  
**God's love from harm to hide us,**  
**The Spirit's power to guide us evermore!**

**The Final Hymn**

**390 Let Us All with Gladsome Voice**

- |   |   |   |  |
|---|---|---|--|
| 1 | Let us all with gladsome voice<br>Praise the God of heaven,<br>Who, to bid our hearts rejoice,<br>His own Son hath given.         | 3 | We are rich, for He was poor;<br>Is not this a wonder?<br>Therefore praise God evermore<br>Here on earth and yonder. |
| 2 | To this vale of tears He comes,<br>Here to serve in sadness,<br>That with Him in heav'n's fair homes<br>We may reign in gladness. | 4 | Christ, our Lord and Savior dear,<br>Be Thou ever near us.<br>Grant us now a glad new year.<br>Amen, Jesus, hear us. |

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## Server Schedule

	12/28	1/4	1/11
	8:30	8:30	8:30
Elder	Edwin	Herold	Bill
Reader	Bob	Amy	Nanette
PowerPoint	Dan	Shirley	Gordon
Organ	Linda	Linda	Linda
Audio	Steve	Steve	Steve
Visuals	Greg	Benjamin	Greg
	10:30	10:30	10:30
Elder	Erik	Gordon	Mike
Reader	Christi	Kathy	Christi
PowerPoint	Cole	Lisa	Vicki
Audio/Visuals	Conor/Logan	Hayden/Donovan	Conor/Logan
Counters	John Da/Vicki	John Di/Wayne	Adria/Michelle
	Both	Both	Both
Altar Guild	Williams/Koob	Dan/Amy	Royce/Paula
Altar Flowers	Boehrs	Inge Reitz	Bergs

Altar flowers today are donated by Royce and Paula Boehrs, in honor of our Lord Jesus Christ, and in celebration of their 51<sup>st</sup> anniversary today, the 28<sup>th</sup>.

### Birthdays this Week

12/30 Cindy Krafft  
12/31 Abigail Dart  
12/31 Jean Hogness  
01/02 Linda Meixel

### Anniversaries this Week

12/28 Royce & Paula Boehrs