

Welcome to Worship!

Sunday, December 28, 2025

1st Sunday of Christmas

*Altar flowers have been given by
Mike & Dorie Werner in celebration of their
25th anniversary.*

*Altar flowers have been given by Glenn &
Louanne Isernhagen in celebration of their
60th anniversary and Louanne's 83rd birthday.*



MERRY

Christmas

& HAPPY NEW YEAR



**Take
the child
and his
mother,
and flee**

MATTHEW 2:13





Prelude

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Brian Counterman, saxophone

Chappell Kingsland, piano



WELCOME

TO OUR CHURCH

Opening Hymn



*God Rest You Merry,
Gentlemen*

Verse 1

***God rest you merry, gentlemen,
let nothing you dismay;
Remember Christ our Savior
was born on Christmas Day
to save us all from Satan's pow'r
when we were gone astray.***

Refrain

***O tidings of comfort and joy,
Comfort and joy;
O tidings of comfort and joy.***

Verse 2

***From God our heav'nly Father
a blessed angel came,
and unto certain shepherds
brought tidings of the same,
how that in Bethlehem was born
the Son of God by name.***

Refrain

***O tidings of comfort and joy,
Comfort and joy;
O tidings of comfort and joy.***

Verse 3

***“Fear not, then,” said the angel,
“Let nothing you affright;
this day is born a Savior
of Virgin pure and bright,
to free all those who trust in him
from Satan’s pow’r and might.”***

Refrain

***O tidings of comfort and joy,
Comfort and joy;
O tidings of comfort and joy.***

Verse 4

***Now to the Lord sing praises,
all you within this place,
and with true love and charity
each other now embrace;
this holy tide of Christmas
is filled with heav'nly grace.***

Refrain

***O tidings of comfort and joy,
Comfort and joy;
O tidings of comfort and joy.***

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, Wonderful Counselor, Mighty Savior, Prince of Peace.

C: Amen.

P: Trusting in God's steadfast love
and faithfulness, let us confess
our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection and
self-examination.*

P: Reconciling God,

C: we yearn for your presence to transform our grief, pain, and despair. We confess that we have not always prepared room in our hearts for your love; we have not always recognized your presence among us; we have not always embraced your message of peace.

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We cry out, weary with the burden of violence, oppression, and fear. We confess our failure to make room for those seeking refuge; our participation in violent systems that harm your innocent ones; our reluctance to embody your good news. Be born in us today and teach us to sing the joyful song of your salvation. Amen.

P: God's grace upon grace flows
over you. ✠ Christ's presence
redeems the whole creation.
Your sins are forgiven. Let the
earth rejoice and be glad!

C: Amen.

Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

Hymn of Praise

ELW #269, Verse 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.***

ELW #269, Verse 3

***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.***

Prayer of the Day

A: Let us pray.

C: O Lord God, you know that we cannot place our trust in our own powers. As you protected the infant Jesus, so defend us and all the needy from harm and adversity, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.



First Reading

Isaiah 63:7-9

⁷I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord, the praiseworthy acts of the Lord, because of all that the Lord has done for us and the great favor to the house of Israel that he has shown them according to his mercy, according to the abundance of his steadfast love.

⁸For he said, “Surely they are my people, children who will not act deceitfully,” and he became their savior ⁹in all their distress. It was no messenger or angel but his presence that saved them; in his love and pity it was he who redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.



L: Word of God,
word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.



Second Reading

Hebrews 2:10-18

¹⁰It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. ¹¹For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, ¹²saying,

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“I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.”

¹³And again, “I will put my trust in him.” And again, “Here am I and the children whom God has given me.” ¹⁴Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things,

so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. ¹⁶For it is clear that he did not come to help angels but the descendants of Abraham. ¹⁷Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect,

so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.



**L: Word of God,
word of life.**

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

ELW #268, Verse 1

***“From heav’n above to earth I come
to bear good news to ev’ry home!
Glad tidings of great joy I bring
to all the world, and gladly sing:”***

ELW #268, Verse 12

***Ah, dearest Jesus, holy child,
prepare a bed, soft, undefiled,
a quiet chamber in my heart,
That you and I may never part.***



P: The Holy Gospel
according to Matthew.
C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Matthew 2:13-23

¹³Now after [the magi] had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” ¹⁴Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt

¹⁵and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, “Out of Egypt I have called my son.” ¹⁶When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the magi, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the magi.

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¹⁷Then what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled:

¹⁸“A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.” ¹⁹When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said,

²⁰“Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child’s life are dead.” ²¹Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. ²²But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there.

And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. ²³There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, “He will be called a Nazarene.”



P: The Gospel of the Lord.
C: Praise to you,
O Christ.

**Take
the child
and his
mother,
and flee**

MATTHEW 2:13



Children's Conversation

**Take
the child
and his
mother,
and flee**

MATTHEW 2:13



Sermon - Pastor Brad

Hymn of the Day



*Angels From the
Realms of Glory*
ELW #275

Angels from the Realms of Glory, ELW #275, Verse 1

***Angels, from the realms of glory,
wing your flight o'er all the earth;
once you sang creation's story,
now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn king.***

Angels from the Realms of Glory, ELW #275, Verse 2

***Shepherds, in the fields abiding,
watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing,
yonder shines the infant light.
Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn king.***

Angels from the Realms of Glory, ELW #275, Verse 3

***Sages, leave your contemplations,
brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great desire of nations,
you have seen his natal star.
Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn king.***

Angels from the Realms of Glory, ELW #275, Verse 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.***

Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father,
the Almighty, maker of heaven
and earth, of all that is, seen and
unseen. We believe in one Lord,
Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,**

begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

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**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is
seated at the right hand of the
Father. He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

>>>

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life, who
proceeds from the Father and
the Son. With the Father and
the Son he is worshiped and
glorified. He has spoken
through the prophets.**

>>>

**We believe in one holy catholic
and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one Baptism
for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection
of the dead, and the life of
the world to come. Amen.**



Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father
almighty, creator of heaven and
earth. I believe in Jesus Christ,
God's only Son, our Lord, who
was conceived by the power of
the Holy Spirit, born of the
virgin Mary, suffered under
Pontius Pilate,**

was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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



Prayers of Intercession

A: Empowered by the news of Christ's birth, let us pray boldly for the church, creation, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

After each portion of the prayers:

A: Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

The prayers conclude:

A: With the joy of Christ's birth in our hearts, we commend our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your boundless mercy and eternal love; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.



Presentation of Tithes and Gifts

Scan the QR code or go to *stphilip-co.org/giving/* to make a donation today. Children may come forward and place their offering in the basket.



Anthem

Christmastime is Here

(by Vince Guaraldi)

**Brian Counterman, saxophone; Ben Husted, bass;
Chappell Kingsland, piano**

Offertory

ELW #294, vs. 3

***What can I give him,
poor as I am?***

***If I were a shepherd
I would bring a lamb;***

if I were a wise man

I would do my part;

***yet what I can I give him –
give my heart.***

Offering Prayer

A: God of glory, great are your wonders among us and many are the blessings you bestow. Use us and these your gifts for the needs of the world, that all the ends of the earth may rejoice in your saving grace, through Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**Take
the child
and his
mother,
and flee**

MATTHEW 2:13



Preface

Holy Holy

ELW #283, Verse 1

***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:***

>>>

ELW #283, Refrain

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

>>>

ELW #283, Verse 2

***The highest, most holy,
light of light eternal,
born of a virgin,
a mortal he comes;
Son of the Father
now in flesh appearing!***

>>>

ELW #283, Refrain

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



**Take
the child
and his
mother,
and flee**

MATTHEW 2:13



Words of Institution

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.**

Communion

You are welcome to move to the aisle as indicated by the ushers. Take an empty cup from the tray or a cup of grape juice.

Gluten-free wafers are available.

Children who are not receiving communion are encouraged to come forward and receive a blessing.

**All are welcome,
for it is the Lord's Table.**



Lamb of God

ELW #277, vs. 1

*Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus
laid down his sweet head;
the stars in the bright sky
looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.*

>>>

ELW #277, vs. 2

***The cattle are lowing; the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus;
look down from the sky
and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.***

>>>

ELW #277, vs. 3

***Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay
close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children
in your tender care
and fit us for heaven,
to live with you there.***

Communion Hymn



What Child is This
ELW #296

What Child is This, ELW #296, Verse 1

***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!***

What Child is This, ELW #296, Verse 2

***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!***

>>>

What Child is This, ELW #296, Verse 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!**

Communion Hymn



*It Came Upon the
Midnight Clear*
ELW #282

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear, ELW #282, Verse 1

***It came upon the midnight clear,
that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth
to touch their harps of gold:
“Peace on the earth, good will to all,
from heav’n’s all-gracious king.”
The world in solemn stillness lay
to hear the angels sing.***

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear, ELW #282, Verse 2

***Still through the cloven skies they come
with peaceful wings unfurled,
and still their heav'nly music floats
o'er all the weary world.***

***Above its sad and lowly plains
they bend on hov'ring wing,
and ever o'er its babel sounds
the blessed angels sing.***

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear, ELW #282, Verse 3

***And you, beneath life's crushing load,
whose forms are bending low,
who toil along the climbing way
with painful steps and slow:
look now, for glad and golden hours
come swiftly on the wing;
oh, rest beside the weary road
and hear the angels sing!***

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear, ELW #282, Verse 4

***For lo! The days are hast'ning on,
by prophets seen of old,
when with the ever-circling years
shall come the time foretold,
when peace shall over all the earth
its ancient splendors fling,
and all the world give back the song
which now the angels sing.***

†

Communion Hymn



*Do You Hear What I
Hear?*

Verse 1

***Said the night wind to the little lamb
Do you see what I see?
Way up in the sky, little lamb
Do you see what I see?
A star, a star, dancing in the night
With a tail as big as a kite
With a tail as big as a kite.***

Verse 2

***Said the little lamb to the shepherd boy
Do you hear what I hear?
Ringing through the sky, shepherd boy
Do you hear what I hear?
A song, a song high above the trees
With a voice as big as the sea
With a voice as big as the sea.***

Verse 3

***Said the shepherd boy to the mighty king
Do you know what I know?
In your palace warm, mighty king
Do you know what I know?
A Child, a Child shivers in the cold
Let us bring him silver and gold.
Let us bring him silver and gold.***

Verse 4

***Said the king to the people everywhere
Listen to what I say!***

***Pray for peace, people, everywhere
Listen to what I say!***

***The Child, the Child sleeping in the night
He will bring us goodness and light.
He will bring us goodness and light.***

**Take
the child
and his
mother,
and flee**

MATTHEW 2:13



Post-Communion Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

Post-Communion Prayer

A: Incarnate God, you are among us at this table. May we treasure this gift and ponder in our hearts the mystery of your presence. Move us to discover the wonders of your love in the everyday moments of our lives, through Christ born in us.

C: Amen.

Blessing

P: The triune God, glorious Mystery,
holy Incarnate One, abiding
Comforter, ✠ bless you with
endless grace, peace, and joy.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn



*Go Tell It on the
Mountain*
ELW #290

Go Tell it on the Mountain, ELW #290, Refrain

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

>>>

Go Tell it on the Mountain, ELW #290, Verse 1

***While shepherds kept their watching
o'er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens
there shone a holy light.***

>>>

Go Tell it on the Mountain, ELW #290, Refrain

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

>>>

Go Tell it on the Mountain, ELW #290, Verse 2

***The shepherds feared and trembled
when, lo, above the earth
rang out the angel chorus
that hailed our Savior's birth.***

>>>

Go Tell it on the Mountain, ELW #290, Refrain

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

>>>

Go Tell it on the Mountain, ELW #290, Verse 3

***Down in a lonely manger
the humble Christ was born;
and God sent us salvation
that blessed Christmas morn.***

>>>

Go Tell it on the Mountain, ELW #290, Refrain

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



Dismissal



P: Go in joy.
Embody God's
redeeming grace.

C: **Thanks be to God.**



GOD FLESS

THANK YOU FOR
COMING



Postlude

Go Tell It on the Mountain

Brian Counterman, saxophone;

Chappell Kingsland, piano

Sources

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