



Festival Communion & Candlelight Service

Christmas Eve 2025 – 10:30 p.m.

St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Waukesha, WI

www.stlukeslutheran.org office@stlukeslutheran.org (262) 542-2545

**Helping people make life-changing connections with God
through Jesus Christ.**

Wednesday, December 24, 2025 – 10:30 p.m.
Christmas Eve

Notes for Worship

- Hymns: ELW – cranberry; ACS – purple.
- Individually wrapped gluten-free communion wafers are available upon request.
- We invite children of all ages to be in worship with us. Children are welcome to use the Pray-Ground in front of the church on the piano side as a comfortable space to experience worship. If you feel your child(ren) are being too disruptive, you are welcome to move into the Chapel.

GATHERING

PRELUDE *The First Noel*

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

Solemn Prelude on “Cranham”

arr. Steve Mac, David Arch
Megan Wesenberg, vocalist
arr. Cathy Moglebust
Godsbells
Larry Visser

CHRISTMAS PROCLAMATION

PROCESSIONAL HYMN *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

ELW 283

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:

Refrain

O come, let us adore him, O come let us adore him,

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

The highest, most holy, light of light eternal,

Born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;

Son of the Father now in flesh appearing! *Refrain*

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,

Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!

Glory to God...in the highest: *Refrain*

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;

Jesus, to thee be glory giv'n!

Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing: *Refrain*

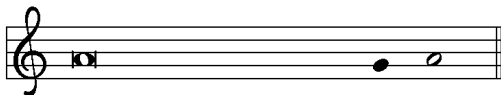
GREETING

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

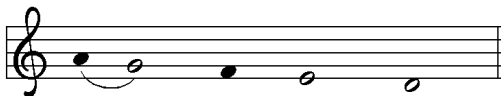
And also with you.

KYRIE

ELW pg. 147



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



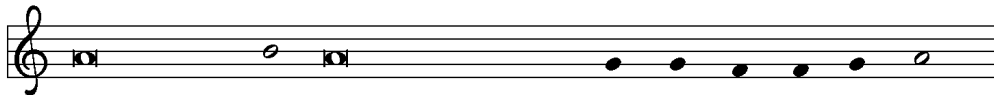
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE *Glory to God in the Highest*

ELW pg. 148

Assisting minister



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, ... lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

ANTHEM *Cradle Song*

Gerald Near
Voices of Faith

WORD

READING

Isaiah 9:2-7

² The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.

⁴ For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders,

the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

⁵ For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶ For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named

Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷ His authority shall grow continually,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.

He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time onward and forevermore.
The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM *I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve*

arr. Cathy Moglebust
Godsbells

READING

Titus 2:11-14

¹¹ The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, ¹² training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, ¹³ while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. ¹⁴ He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the Gospel procession and face the processional cross as it moves.

GOSPEL PROCESSION *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

ELW 270

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful, all you nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies;
With angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

GOSPEL

Luke 2:1-20

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The Gospel is read.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please face the processional cross as it moves.

GOSPEL RECESSION *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

ELW 270

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."

Hail the heav'n born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
Born to raise each child of earth, born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king."

MEDITATION

Pastor Jordan

HYMN OF THE DAY *Angels We Have Heard on High*

ELW 289

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains.
Glo-ria, in excelsis Deo; Glo-ria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heavenly song?
Glo-ria, in excelsis Deo; Glo-ria in excelsis Deo.

Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn king.
Glo-ria, in excelsis Deo; Glo-ria in excelsis Deo.

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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Each petition ends: Hear us, O God.

Response: Your mercy is great.

MEAL

OFFERING *O Magnum Mysterium*

Morten Lauridsen
Jill Larson, soprano

O magnum mysterium,
et admirabile sacramentum
ut animalia viderent Dominum
natum, jacentem in praesepe!
Beata Virgo, cujus viscera
Meruerunt portare
Dominum Christum. Alleluia!

*O great mystery,
and wondrous sacrament,
that animals should see the newborn
Lord, lying in their manger!
Blessed is the Virgin whose womb
Was worthy to bear the
Lord Jesus Christ. Alleluia!*

DECEMBER MISSION: St. Luke's Endowment Fund: The Endowment Committee Distributes money from the fund to local and global charities and provides scholarships to St. Luke's members who are attending college or seminary.

Two Options to Use Your Phone to Give



Point your QR reader at the left QR graphic where you can login and track your giving. Or visit stlukeslutheran.org and click the Online Giving tab on the right side of the page. 2. Point your QR reader at the right QR graphic to make an **online one-time** gift. Or visit omella.com/o/izfds.



OFFERING PRAYER

God of glory, ... of the earth may rejoice in your saving grace, through Christ our Savior.
Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

ELW pg. 152

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The musical score consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The first staff has two measures, the second and third have two measures each, and the fourth has two measures.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, ... join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS *Holy, Holy, Holy*

ELW pg. 153

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san-na in the high - est.

The musical score consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The first staff has two measures, the second and third have two measures each, and the fourth has two measures.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.

Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed, ... Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, ... Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us,
full of grace and truth.

We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.

We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.

Come among us.

Bless this meal.

May your Word take flesh in us.

Awaken your people.

Fill us with your light.

Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel,
Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High,
one God, now and forever.

Amen.

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

All who are baptized are welcome to receive Holy Communion, regardless of church affiliation. Receive our Lord in the bread and wine of this meal. Juice and individually wrapped, gluten-free wafers are available from the server by request.

DISTRIBUTION ANTHEM *Ding Dong! Merrily on High*

Daniel E. Schwandt
Voices of Faith

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS *Once in Royal David's City*

ELW 269

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.

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 meek and lowly, lived on earth our Savior holy.

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.

Not in that poor lowly stable, with the oxen standing by,
we shall see him; but in heaven, set at God's right hand on high;
there his children gather round, bright like stars, with glory crowned.

HYMN *Away in a Manger*

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.

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.

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.

TABLE BLESSING**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Incarnate God, ... your love in the everyday moments of our lives, through Christ born in us.
Amen.

SENDING**THE CANDLELIGHTING**

Please tip your unlit candle over one that is already lit, so as not to drip wax. We raise the candles during the third stanza of Silent Night to honor the “Son of God, love’s pure light.”

HYMN *Silent Night, Holy Night!*

Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright
 Round yon virgin mother and child. Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
 Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight;
 Glories stream from heaven afar, heav’nly hosts sing, alleluia!
 Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!

Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love’s pure light
 Radiant beams from your holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,
 Jesus, Lord, at your birth, Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

BLESSING

May the Word that Mary brought to birth carry you into new and abundant life.

Amen.

May the Word that Joseph cradled in his arms enfold you with love and strength.

Amen.

May the Word that angels proclaimed in song bring harmony to our world.

Amen.

May almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Please extinguish your candles.

CHRISTMAS HYMN *Joy to the World*

ELW 267

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King.
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room, and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ.
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sin and sorrow grow nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness and wonders of His love,
and wonders of His love, and wonders, wonders of His love.

DISMISSAL

Glory to God in the highest!

And peace to God's people on earth!

Go in joy. Embody God's redeeming grace.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *Carillon for Christmas*

Brenda Portman

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IN OUR PRAYERS

Our Sympathy: For the family of Kathie Whettam.

For needs to be met: For peace among nations, for our country, for those impacted by natural disasters, teachers, students, and parents, first responders, for all who struggle with uncertainty, caregivers, Hope Center, Bishop Curry, Patsy H, April, Sarah E, James, Shane R, Karen R, Anthony Y, Jose G, David M, Debby B, Isabella, Steve, Karen R, Judy W, Pat H, Harold B, Joan B, Donna L, Sai R, Baby W, Joan B, Brad S, Kenzie D, John K, Tim M, Rusty B, Sway S, Dakota, Ian L, Dale R, Sally, Paul M, Linda M, Chris R, Mike M, Kathi, Joyce, Jan C, Annette E, Dan D, Kayla, Kevin, Dawn TW, Mary M, Dave, Jamie F, Pat H, Shelby H, Alexis M, Kim GM, Kristen, John F, Jan N, Annette W, Anna and Don F, Bunnie, Dave M, Chris B, Katie L, Chuck, Andy S, Kathy J, Michael B, Bob, Kathy, Barb C, Carey, Dave, Betty, Lisa S, Isabella, Connor W, Liz S, Terri I, Judy, Janet J, Mark, Lisa E, Dave S and Vi E.

For our partner churches in the Meru Diocese in Tanzania: For the challenges they face. For God's continued blessings on our partnership

For those serving in the military: Gary Bjerke, Owen Hager, Jim Kieso Jr, Daniel Krueger, and Dmitriy Lando.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Friendship Pads

Please be sure to sign in on the friendship pads located in each pew.

2025 Tax and Giving Information

Thank you for your contributions to St. Luke's. Your gifts to God fund a variety of ministries that change lives. According to IRS regulations, all contributions for the 2025 tax year must be in the church office by 12/31 (or mailed and postmarked by 12/31) to qualify as deductions for the 2025 tax year. Contributions for 2026 should be turned in starting in January. Please update us with all your current information so that your giving and tax statements are sent to the correct address.

Hospitality Thank You

The December Coffee Hour is sponsored by Art and Marilyn Olson in honor of all the Mt. Meru Coffee Customers.

Special thanks to:

Godsbells

Voices of Faith

Joshua Boos, trumpet

Steve Jenson, trumpet

Ruth Gulotta, horn

John Remmers, euphonium

Justin Gonzales Jr, trombone

Serving Tonight

Presiding and preaching

Music

Assistant Minister

Lector

Bread Baker

Crucifer

Torch Bearer

Altar Care

Acolyte

Communion Assistants

Ushers

Rev. Jordan
Michael Schaner
Steve Wiley
Lori Chandler
John Christiansen
Presley Lopez
Finley Lopez
Jay & Kathy Fontaine
Colin Larson
Lori Chandler
Jim Kieso
Theo Lopez
Amy Lopez
Jim Kieso
Jay Fontaine

Christmas Day ~ Thursday, December 25

Communion Service – 9:15 a.m.

Church Office is closed Friday, December 26.

First Sunday of Christmas

No Saturday Service

Sunday, December 28 – 9:15 a.m.