

## WEEKLY CALENDAR

<b>SUNDAY, 1/4</b>	8:15AM WORSHIP 9:30AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:45AM WORSHIP WITH ASL INTERPRETER NOON - TAKE DOWN CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS 6:00PM DINNER CHURCH	
<b>MONDAY, 1/5</b>		Pastor
<b>TUESDAY, 1/6</b>	7:00PM PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING	Sarah
<b>WEDNESDAY, 1/7</b>		on
<b>THURSDAY, 1/8</b>	NOON BIBLE STUDY 7:00PM CHOIR	Vacation
<b>FRIDAY, 1/9</b>		Jan. 5–
<b>SATURDAY, 1/10</b>		Jan 11
<b>SUNDAY, 1/11</b>	8:15AM WORSHIP 9:30AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:45AM WORSHIP	

Please join us to UN Decorate the church after the second service today. All help is appreciated!!

Holy Trinity now accepts donations thru the Venmo app.

**HolyTrinityLutheranInIrwin**

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

@HolyTrinityLutheranInIrwin



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Welcome Members and Visitors today!

### **Bible Studies.....**

Monday night Bible Study will not meet in January,

Thursday Noon Bible Study will be looking at the readings for the coming Sunday. How do we study them for sermons? What are the great passages of scripture that weren't central in the sermon? All are welcome.

Please pick up your **Offering Envelopes for 2026.**

### **YOUNG AT HEART Sunday, January 18 -**

9:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Join us for a light breakfast, conversation, learning, and community building. Questions, please contact Pastor John at 724-863-7350.

**Dinner Church...**Join us TODAY at 5:30 for Worship; dinner is at 6:00PM

**January Community Meal...** Monday, Jan. 19<sup>th</sup>  
Doors open at 5:00 PM. Dinner is served at 6:00 PM.  
See Pastor John if you can help!

### **Annual Congregational Meeting...**

Join us on **January 25<sup>th</sup> for ONE service at 10:00am and the annual meeting to follow.**

There will be a taco bar luncheon following the meeting in the Fellowship Hall. Please sign up in the Narthex if you will attend the luncheon.

**The Endowment committee is now accepting requests** for the distribution of funds for the year ending 2025.

The Congregation Bylaws provide that the funds are to be distributed **as follows**:

**-Capital Improvements 30 to 50%**  
(capital improvements, debt reduction of building projects)

**-Scholarships up to 33%**  
(members of Holy Trinity for the purpose of attending college, seminary, nursing or medical school, church related camps and conferences)

**-Community Outreach up to 33%**  
(grants to ELCA colleges, camps, social services and agencies for those persons in our parish area)

**-ELCA Missions up to 33%**  
(ELCA missions at home and overseas, new mission development in the USA, professional leadership, educational ministries, world mission and TV evangelism)

All requests for funds must be **in writing** and mailed/ emailed to the church office no later than **January 11, 2026**. Please call the office with any questions.

**Women's Faith and Fellowship** meets January 21<sup>st</sup> at 7 pm in the fellowship hall. Have you ever wanted to make pasta? Andrea smith will be teaching us how AND we will be eating it! All women of the church are welcome to join us.



The **Altar Flowers** are presented to the Glory of God and in loving memory of my mother, Emma Siegel Schenone by Pat Walt.

## ASSISTING IN TODAY'S WORSHIP

	8:15	10:00
Assisting Minister	Maria Clark	Jodi Waugaman
Communion Assistants	Doug and Vicki Hillier	Kira Zyvith Jeffrey Horvath
Lector	Tracy McNelly	Susan Kramer
Acolyte	Delany Hillier	Will Little
Greeters		Susan Richardson Marcia Kramer
Altar Guild		

Set-up Saturday, Jan. 3		Debbie Kunkle and Mimi Wielobob
Sunday, Jan. 4	8:15	Julie Kuhn and Glenda Wendling
	10:45	Debbie Kunkle and Mimi Wielobob
Set-up Saturday, Jan 10		Cindy McCune and Mauritta Moyer
Sunday, Jan. 11	8:15	Cindy McCune and Mauritta Moyer
	10:45	Diane Kowalski, Sandy Tomko, Cookie Nee

**Food Pantry** 2026 Dates: February 21 (Easter), April 18, June 13, August 15, October 17 (Thanksgiving), December 12 (Christmas)

Items needed currently, special requests:

Instant coffee/teabags	Hot chocolate mix	Olive oil/vegetable oil
Valentine candy	Paper towels	Deodorant
Shampoo and conditioner		

Items always requested:

Mac & cheese/pasta	Applesauce	Baked beans	Canned fruit
Canned tuna	Cereal	Granola bars	Pasta Sauce
Oatmeal	Paper Towels	Peanut butter & Jelly	
Potato/rice mix	Pudding Cups	Toilet Paper	
Peanut Butter and Cheese Crackers	Cake/muffin/brownie mix		
Chef Boyardee	Canned Vegetables		

Many thanks for the generous donations to date! If you would like to donate money, please mark "food pantry" in the subject line on your check or you may use one of the pew envelopes. Food pantry contact: Jodi Waugaman at 724-516-9680 or [waugawoman86@comcast.net](mailto:waugawoman86@comcast.net)

## **Worship Plan for Sunday, January 4, 2026**

2 Christmas

Second Sunday of Christmas

ELW Holy Communion Setting Two

Sunday, January 4, 2026

### **Introduction to the day**

*Within the gospel reading's profound words lies the simple message that God is revealed in a human person. Though we may try to understand how the Word existed with God from the beginning of time, the wonder we celebrate at Christmas is that the Word continues to dwell among us. Christ comes among us in the gathered assembly, the scriptures, the waters of new birth, and the bread and the wine. Through these ordinary gifts we receive the fullness of God's grace and truth.*

### **\*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

O God, you search us out and know us, and all that we are is open to you.  
We confess that we have sinned.

When we make no room for Christ, and fail to welcome him into our lives,  
**In your mercy, Lord, forgive us and heal us.**

When we follow shooting stars and squander our gifts in Herod's court,  
**In your mercy, Lord, forgive us and heal us.**

When we seek to cut down those who might rise above us,  
**In your mercy, Lord, forgive us and heal us.**

When we sanitize your birth place and erase from memory the poor and displaced,  
**In your mercy, Lord, forgive us and heal us.**

When we sing sweet sentiments over Christ's birth, and fail to rejoice over his everyday presence,  
**In your mercy, Lord, forgive us and heal us.**

### **\*Assurance of Pardon**

God's light is present in this world. Present in the Christ child, born to lead us out of darkness. Present in the star, in all that guides us to love.  
God's light is in the world, and the darkness did not overcome it.  
God's grace is in the world, and our mis-steps will not overcome it.  
We are loved, we are forgiven.

**Alleluia! Amen.**

**\*GATHERING SONG *As with Gladness Men of Old* #302**

*As with Gladness Men of Old*



1 As with glad - ness men of old did the guid - ing star be - hold;  
2 As with joy - ful steps they sped, Sav - ior, to thy low - ly bed,  
3 As they of - fered gifts most rare at thy cra - dle, rude and bare,  
4 Ho - ly Je - sus, ev - 'ry day keep us in the nar - row way;  
5 In the heav'n - ly coun - try bright need they no cre - a - ted light;



as with joy they hailed its light, lead - ing on - ward, beam - ing bright;  
there to bend the knee be - fore thee, whom heav'n and earth a - dore;  
so may we with ho - ly joy, pure and free from sin's al - loy,  
and when earth - ly things are past, bring our ran - somed souls at last  
thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down;



so, most gra - cious Lord, may we ev - er - more be led by thee.  
so may we with will - ing feet ev - er seek thy mer - cy seat.  
all our cost - liest trea - sures bring, Christ, to thee, our heav'n - ly king.  
where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glo - ry hide.  
there for - ev - er may we sing al - le - lu - ias to our king.

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898, alt.  
Music: DIX, Conrad Kocher, 1786–1872

**\*GREETING**

*During this time, the presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.*  
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God sent from heaven above,  
be with you all. **And also with you.**

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY** Pastor

Let us pray.

*A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

**FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:7-14**

*God promises to bring Israel back to its land from the most remote parts of exile. In Zion Israel will rejoice over God's gift of food and livestock. Young women will express their joy in dancing; God will give gladness instead of sorrow.*

<sup>7</sup> Thus says the LORD:

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O LORD, your people, the remnant of Israel." <sup>8</sup> See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor together; a great company, they shall return here.

<sup>9</sup> With weeping they shall come,

and with consolations I will lead them back;

I will let them walk by brooks of water,

in a straight path where they shall not stumble,

for I have become a father to Israel,

and Ephraim is my firstborn.

<sup>10</sup> Hear the word of the LORD, O nations,

and declare it in the coastlands far away;

say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him

and will keep him as a shepherd does a flock."

<sup>11</sup> For the LORD has ransomed Jacob and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. <sup>12</sup> They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion,

and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD,

over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. <sup>13</sup> Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance,

and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy; I will comfort them and give them gladness for sorrow.

<sup>14</sup> I will give the priests their fill of fatness,

and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty,

says the LORD.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM: Psalm 147:12-20**

- <sup>12</sup> Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem;  
praise your God, O Zion,  
<sup>13</sup> **who has strengthened the bars of your gates  
and has blessed your children within you.**  
<sup>14</sup> God has established peace on your borders  
and satisfies you with the finest wheat.  
<sup>15</sup> **God sends out a command to the earth,  
a word that runs very swiftly.**  
<sup>16</sup> God gives snow like wool,  
scattering frost like ashes.  
<sup>17</sup> **God scatters hail like bread crumbs.  
Who can stand against God's cold?**  
<sup>18</sup> The LORD sends forth the word and melts them;  
the wind blows, and the waters flow.  
<sup>19</sup> **God declares the word to Jacob,  
statutes and judgments to Israel.**  
<sup>20</sup> The LORD has not done so to any other nation;  
they do not know God's judgments. Hallelujah!

## **SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:3-14**

*In Jesus, all of God's plans and purposes have been made known as heaven and earth are united in Christ. Through Jesus, we have been chosen as God's children and have been promised eternal salvation.*

<sup>3</sup> Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, <sup>4</sup> just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. <sup>5</sup> He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, <sup>6</sup> to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. <sup>7</sup> In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace <sup>8</sup> that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight <sup>9</sup> he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, <sup>10</sup> as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. <sup>11</sup> In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, <sup>12</sup> so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup> In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; <sup>14</sup> this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.  
The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Based on VENI EMMANUEL  
Stephen Pishner

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

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## \*GOSPEL: John 1:[1-9] 10-18 Pastor

The holy gospel according to John.

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

*John begins his gospel with this prologue: a hymn to the Word through whom all things were created. This Word became flesh and brought grace and truth to the world.*

[<sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being <sup>4</sup>in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

<sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it.

<sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. <sup>9</sup>The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.]

<sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and the world came into being through him, yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup>He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. <sup>12</sup>But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, <sup>13</sup>who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

<sup>14</sup>And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. <sup>15</sup>(John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes

after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' ") <sup>16</sup> From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup> The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup> No one has ever seen God. It is the only Son, himself God, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

The gospel of the Lord.



## Children's Sermon

### SERMON

### \*HYMN OF THE DAY WE THREE KINGS INSERT



# WE THREE KINGS

KINGS OF ORIENT

Verses



1. We three kings of O - ri - ent are; Bear - ing gifts we
2. Born a King on Beth - le - hem's plain, Gold I bring to
3. Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I: In - cense owns a
4. Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume Breathes a life of
5. Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and God and



1. tra - verse a - far Field and foun - tain, Moor and moun - tain,
2. crown him a - gain, King for - ev - er, Ceas - ing nev - er
3. De - i - ty nigh; Prayer and prais - ing Glad - ly rais - ing,
4. gath - er - ing gloom; Sor - rowing, sigh - ing, Bleed - ing, dy - ing,
5. Sac - ri - fice; "Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!"

Refrain



1. Fol - low - ing yon - der star. O star of won - der,
2. O - ver us all to reign.
3. Wor - ship him, God on high.
4. Sealed in the stone - cold tomb.
5. Sounds through the earth and skies.



star of night, Star with roy - al beau - ty bright; West - ward



lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, Guide us to thy per - fect light.

Text: 88 44 6 with refrain; based on Matthew 2:1-11.  
Text and music: *Carols, Hymns and Songs*, 1863; John H. Hopkins, Jr., 1820-1891, alt.

***\*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,  
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 INTERCESSION ASST MINISTER**

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.*

O God, you reveal yourself wherever two or three are gathered in your name. Be with us now, not only in the infant Jesus and resurrected Christ, but in the beloved people of this assembly. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You reveal yourself in the waters of baptism. Grant us wisdom to tenderly care for the earth as a garden watered by your grace. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You reveal yourself in new life. Support those beginning a new job, a new relationship, or a new living situation. Be with all others who need your life-giving touch this day (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You reveal yourself in holy communion. Sustain all who provide food and fellowship in this congregation and in the wider community. Make our tables signs of your welcoming presence among us. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

You promise to turn mourning into joy and to comfort those who weep. We remember those who have died and look to being united with them in your glory. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

**Pastor**

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. **Amen.**

**\*PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**OFFERING**

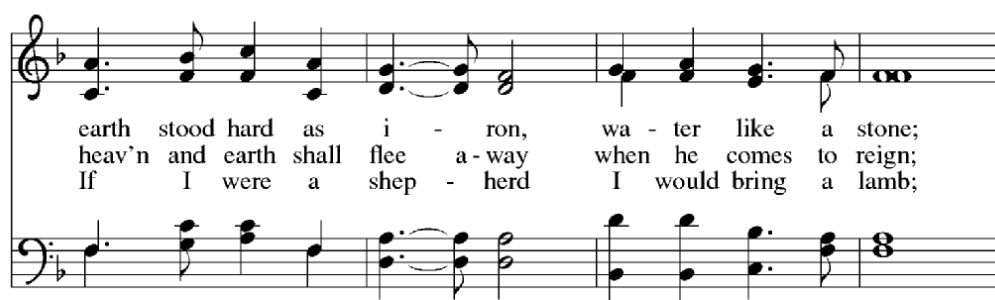
**Choir Anthem:** *Follow that Star*

**\*Offertory Response VERSE #3**

# In the Bleak Midwinter



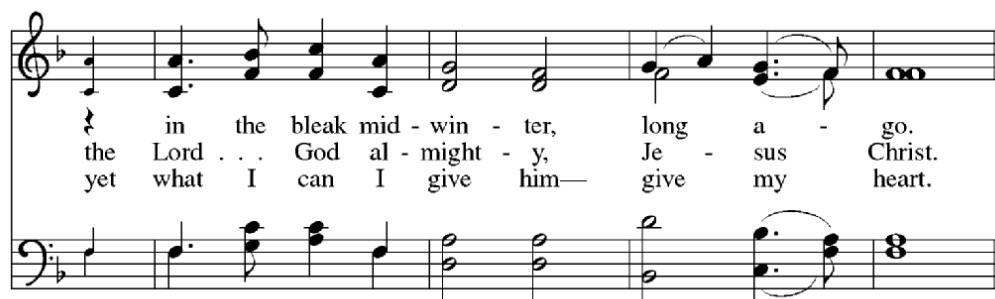
1 In the bleak mid - win - ter, frost - y wind made moan,  
 2 Heav - en can - not hold him, nor . . . earth sus - tain;  
 3 What . . . can I give him, poor . . . as I am?



earth stood hard as i - ron, wa - ter like a stone;  
 heav'n and earth shall flee a - way when he comes to reign;  
 If I were a shep - herd I would bring a lamb;



snow had fall - en, snow on snow, snow on snow,  
 in the bleak mid - win - ter a sta - ble place suf - ficed  
 if I were a wise . . . man I would do my part;



in the bleak mid - win - ter, long a - go.  
 the Lord . . . God al - might - y, Je - sus Christ.  
 yet what I can I give him— give my heart.

## **\*OFFERTORY PRAYER** ASST MIN

Let us pray.

God of wonder,

we offer you these humble gifts, signs of your goodness and mercy. Receive them with our gratitude, that through us, all people may know the riches of your love in the Word-made-flesh. **Amen.**

## **\*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

### Great Thanksgiving

~O Come, All Ye Faithful~

ADESTE FIDELIS  
attr. John Francis Wade

PASTOR: ALL:



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

PASTOR: ALL:



Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

## **\*PREFACE**

~O Come All Ye Faithful~

It is our right, our du - ty and our joy, that we should in

all pla - ces and times give praise to you, Al - mighty mer - ci - ful

God, through Je - sus Christ our Sav - ior, who born of Vir - gin Ma - ry and

by the Ho - ly Spir - it be - came man. In the won - der and my - st'ry

of the Word made flesh you've op - ened the eyes of faith to your glo - rious sight.

We may be drawn to God whom we can - not see. And

so, with choirs of an - gels with the church and hosts of hea - ven we

praise your name and join the un - end - ing hymn of praise:

**\*Holy, Holy**

# Holy, Holy, Holy

~Angels We Have Heard on High~

French Carol

The musical score is written for a single voice part in treble clef, with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The score is divided into five systems, each starting with a measure number (1, 5, 9, 13, 18). The lyrics are in English and French, with the French text appearing in parentheses. The melody is written in a single staff, and the lyrics are written below the notes. The score is divided into five systems, each starting with a measure number (1, 5, 9, 13, 18). The lyrics are in English and French, with the French text appearing in parentheses. The melody is written in a single staff, and the lyrics are written below the notes.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er, God of might,

5 Hea - ven and earth \_\_\_\_\_ are full \_\_\_\_\_ of your glo - ry. Ho -

9 san - na, \_ ho - san - na, \_ ho - san - na \_ in the high - est.

13 Blessed is he who comes \_\_\_\_\_ in the name of \_ the Lord, of \_ the Lord, of \_ the

18 Lord \_\_\_\_\_ Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## \*The Words of Institution

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth, for you have had mercy on us and given your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for the salvation you have granted to us through Jesus, the Word made flesh, the child of Mary; the Light of the world, our Immanuel. Send the Spirit of your Son into our hearts, that as your beloved children we may welcome our Savior who comes to us in his body and blood.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

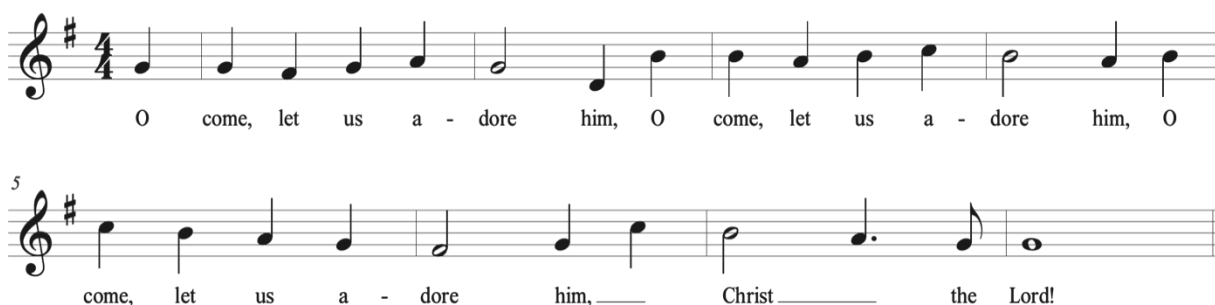
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

## O Come Let Us Adore Him

~O Come, All Ye Faithful~

attr. John Francis Wade





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

~Hark the Herald Angels Sing~ Felix Mendelssohn, 1809-1847

William H. Cummings, 1831-1915



**\*THE LORD'S PRAYER** Pastor

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

**\*INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Glory to God in the highest! Come to the table of peace.

## AGNUS DEI

### Lamb of God

~The First Nowell~

THE FIRST NOWELL  
arr. John Stainer 1840-1901

Lamb of God you take a - way the \_\_\_ sins of the world; have

5 mer - cy, have mer - cy, have mer - cy on us. Lamb of

9 God you take a - way the \_\_\_ sins of the world; have

13 mer - cy, have mer - cy, have mer - cy on us. Lamb of

17 God, you take a - way the \_\_\_ sins of the world;

21 Grant \_\_\_ us peace, \_\_\_ Grant \_\_\_ us peace.

## COMMUNION

HYMNS DURING COMMUNION:

***I WANT TO WALK AS A CHILD OF THE LIGHT #815***

**\*COMMUNION BLESSING** Pastor

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

**\*SONG AFTER COMMUNION**



Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful -  
filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre -  
pared in the sight of ev-'ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the  
na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

**\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION** assisting minister

Let us pray.

God our host, at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness. Send us forth, eager to share the feast, welcome the stranger, and bear good fruit in the name of Jesus. **Amen.**

**\*BENEDICTION** Pastor

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

**Amen.**

**\*SENDING SONG** *The First Noel* (ELW 300)

## The First Noel



1 The first No - el the an - gel did say was to  
 2 They look - ed up and saw . . a star shin - ing  
 3 And by the light of that . . same star three . .  
 4 This star drew near to the . . north - west, o'er . .  
 5 Then en - tered in those wise . . men three, full . .



cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay; in fields where  
 in . . the east . . be - yond . . them far; and to the  
 wise . . men came . . from coun - try far; to seek for a  
 Beth - le - hem . . it took . . its rest; and there it  
 rev - 'rent - ly . . . up - on . . . their knee, and of - fered



they lay, keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's  
 earth it gave . . . great light, and . . so it con -  
 king was their . . . in - tent, and to fol - low the  
 did both stop . . . and stay right . . o - ver the  
 there in his . . . pres - ence their . . gold, . . . and



night that was so deep.  
 tin-ued both day and night.  
 star wher - ev - er it went. No - el, No - el, No -  
 place where Je - sus lay.  
 myrrh, and frank - in - cense.



el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

Text: English traditional

Music: THE FIRST NOWELL, English traditional

**\*DISMISSAL**

Christ the Savior is born!

Go in peace. Proclaim this good news.

**Thanks be to God.**

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