



St. Andrew's Lutheran Church
Committed to Christ and Community

209 Colorado Avenue

Ames, IA 50014

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THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS~ December 26, 2021

Pastor Sonja Gerstenberger

No Matter Where You Are on Life's Journey, You Are Welcome Here!

We are a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. In keeping with the life and teaching of Jesus Christ, we joyfully and unconditionally welcome all people of any age, gender identity, race, culture, ability, or sexual orientation into our community of faith and affirm the worth of all people as unique individuals made in God's image. We are open to the special gifts that each person brings and invite each to participate in the life of our church.

PRELUDE MUSIC

Jesus, Jesus, Rest Your Head

arr. John Jacob Niles

WELCOME

- ❖ **Welcome to worship. We are SO glad you are here.** If this is your first time worshipping with us, please reach out and let us know, either introduce yourself in the YouTube Livestream, to an usher, to Pastor Sonja or by contacting the church office so we can answer any questions and connect with you. There is a place for you here.
- ❖ **Pass the Welcome Folder and Submit your Prayer Requests.** Our Welcome Folders are back! Please take the folder on the end of our pew, fill out your information and pass them down the pew. There are prayer slips in the back of the folder you may fill out and drop in the basket in front of the altar during communion for anything you wish the community to pray for. *Prayers will be read aloud at the end of the service.*
- ❖ **This Week at St. Andrew's:**
 - ❖ Sunday, **Worship, 10:30 am**, Sanctuary and Livestream
 - ❖ Sunday, **Fellowship Time, 11:30 am** in Fellowship Hall with coffee, snacks, & conversation.
- ❖ **Bathrooms** – Down the hall, turn left toward the offices and then take your first right. An all-gender/family bathroom is available on the east side of Fellowship Hall (to the right as you enter from the main door).
- ❖ **We LOVE kids in worship!** Should you need to step away, a **Nursery with a changing table is available** down the hall from the bathrooms.
- ❖ **Covid Precautions** – Masks and social distancing are required during worship.
- ❖ **Bulletins can be recycled** in the bins in the narthex with the Green Recycle Labels.

Helpful Hints for worship today:

- *The instructions to sit or stand are invitations to do so as you are physically able.*
- *In the worship liturgy P = Presider, A = Assisting Minister, R = Reader, and C = Congregation. The congregation respond/sings any time words are in **bold** print. The congregation is invited to sing all Hymns.*

P: As we gather to celebrate the birth of Christ, we remember Jesus comes as: a promise fulfilled, God with us, the word made flesh.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Amid the troubles and fears of this world, let us confess our sin and welcome God's forgiveness, grace, and love.

Silence is kept for reflection

P: Mary accepted your call to be the mother of Jesus.

C: Forgive our lack of faith and trust.

P: Your Son was born in the poverty of a stable.

C: Forgive our neglect of the poor.

P: The shepherds left their flocks and went to Bethlehem.

C: Forgive our selfishness and complacency.

P: With great joy the angels proclaimed, "Do not fear. For I bring you good news of great joy. Today is born a Savior, who is Christ the Lord."

In † Jesus, who is Savior, Christ, and Lord, our sins are forgiven. May you know the peace which the angels sang from the heavens. Indeed, God's forgiveness is good news of great joy!

C: Amen.

'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime



1 'Twas in the moon of win - ter - time when all the birds had fled, that
 2 With - in a lodge of bro - ken bark the ten - der babe was found; a
 3 The ear - liest moon of win - ter - time is not so round and fair as
 4 O chil - dren of the for - est free, the an - gel - song is true; the



*God the Lord of all the earth sent an - gel choirs in - stead; be -
 rag - ged robe of rab - bit skin en - wrapped his beau - ty round; but
 was the ring of glo - ry on the help - less in - fant there. The
 ho - ly child of earth and heav'n is born to - day for you. Come,



fore their light the stars grew dim, and wan - d'ring hunt - ers heard the hymn:
 as the hunt - er braves drew nigh, the an - gel song rang loud and high:
 chiefs from far be - fore him knelt with gifts of fox and bea - ver pelt.
 kneel be - fore the ra - diant boy, who brings you beau - ty, peace, and joy.



Je - sus your king is born! Je - sus is born, in ex - cel - sis glo - ri - a!

* original: "mighty Gitchi Manitou"

Text: Jean de Brébeuf, 1593-1649; tr. Jesse E. Middleton, 1872-1960, alt.
 Music: UNE JEUNE PUCELLE, French folk tune, c. 16th cent.
 Text © 1927 The Frederick Harris Music Company. All rights reserved.

GREETING

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

C: And also with you.

Angels We Have Heard on High

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
 2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;

and the moun - tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
 What the glad - some tid - ings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
 come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.

Refrain

Glo - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo -

ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Text: French carol; tr. H. F. Hemy, *The Crown of Jesus Music*, 1864
 Music: GLORIA, French carol; arr. Edward S. Barnes, 1887-1958

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Shine into our hearts the light of your wisdom, O God, and open our minds to the knowledge of your word, that in all things we may think and act according to your good will and may live continually in the light of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

PSALM 98 (*Read responsively, congregation – **bold** verses.*)

¹O sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done marvelous things.
His right hand and his holy arm
have gotten him victory.

²**The LORD has made known his victory;
he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.**

³He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness
to the house of Israel.
All the ends of the earth have seen
the victory of our God.

⁴**Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises.**

⁵Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre,
with the lyre and the sound of melody.

⁶**With trumpets and the sound of the horn
make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD.**

⁷Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
the world and those who live in it.

⁸**Let the floods clap their hands;
let the hills sing together for joy**

⁹at the presence of the LORD, for he is coming
to judge the earth.
He will judge the world with righteousness,
and the peoples with equity.

THE PROMISE

Lesson: Genesis 22: 15–18

¹⁵The angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven, ¹⁶and said, “By myself I have sworn, says the Lord: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, ¹⁷I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies, ¹⁸and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice.”

Response:

O Come, All Ye Faithful (refrain only)

ELW 283

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

Lesson: Isaiah 11: 1–3a; 4a; 6–9

¹A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
²The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.
³His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.
He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide by what his ears hear;
⁴but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
⁶The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.
⁷The cow and the bear shall graze,
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.
⁹They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain;
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD
as the waters cover the sea.

Let Our Gladness Have No End



1 Let our glad - ness have no end, Hal - le - lu - jah!
 2 Proph - e - sies in days of old, Hal - le - lu - jah!
 3 See the love - liest bloom - ing rose, Hal - le - lu - jah!
 4 In - to flesh is made the Word, Hal - le - lu - jah!



for to earth did Christ de - scend. Hal - le - lu - jah!
 God has sent the one fore - told. Hal - le - lu - jah!
 from the branch of Jes - se grows. Hal - le - lu - jah!
 our true ref - uge and our Lord. Hal - le - lu - jah!

Refrain

On this day God gave us Christ, the Son, to



save us; Christ, the Son, to save us.

Text: Bohemian carol, 15th cent.; tr. unknown
 Music: NARODIL SE KRISTUS PÁN, Bohemian carol, 15th cent.

PROMISE FULFILLED. AN ANGEL APPEARS TO MARY**Lesson: Isaiah 9:6**

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.

Response: **O Come, All Ye Faithful (refrain only)**

ELW 283

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

Lesson: Luke 1:26-38

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you."

²⁹But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³²He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

³⁴Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" ³⁵The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁶And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

CAROL

In a Lowly Manger Born

ELW 718

In a Lowly Manger Born



1 In a low - ly man - ger born, hum - ble life be - gun in scorn;
2 Vis - it - ing the lone and lost, stead - y - ing the tem - pest - tossed,
3 Then, to res - cue you and me, Je - sus died up - on the tree.



un - der Jo - seph's watch - ful eye, Je - sus grew as you and I;
giv - ing of him - self in love, call - ing minds to things a - bove.
See in him God's love re - vealed; by his pas - sion we are healed.



knew the suf - f'ring's of the weak, knew the pa - tience of the meek,
Sin - ners glad - ly hear his call; pub - li - cans be - fore him fall,
Now he lives in glo - ry bright, lives a - gain in pow'r and might;



hun - gered as but poor folk can; this is he. Be - hold the man!
for in him new life be - gan; this is he. Be - hold the man!
come and take the path he trod, son of Mar - y, Son of God.

Text: Kō Yūki, 1896–1985; tr. composite
Music: MABUNE, Seigi Abe, 1891–1974
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.
Music © Seigi Abe, admin. Christian Conference of Asia.

GOD WITH US. AN ANGEL APPEARS TO JOSEPH

Lesson: Isaiah 7:14

¹⁴Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel.

Response:

O Come, All Ye Faithful (refrain only)

ELW 283

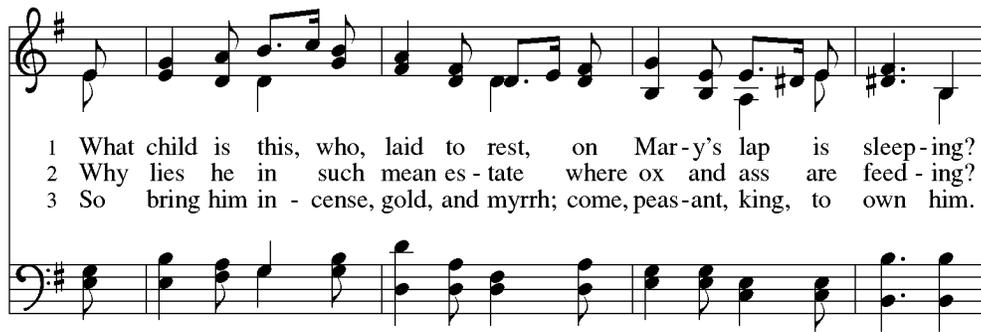
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!

Lesson: Matthew 1:18-23

¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” ²²All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

²³“Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel,”

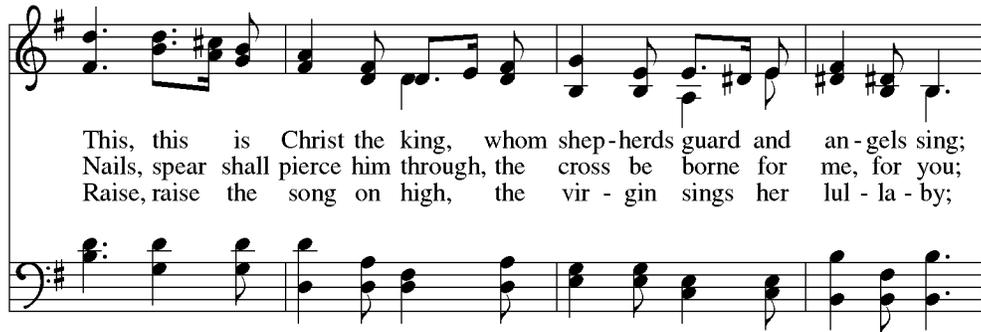
What Child Is This



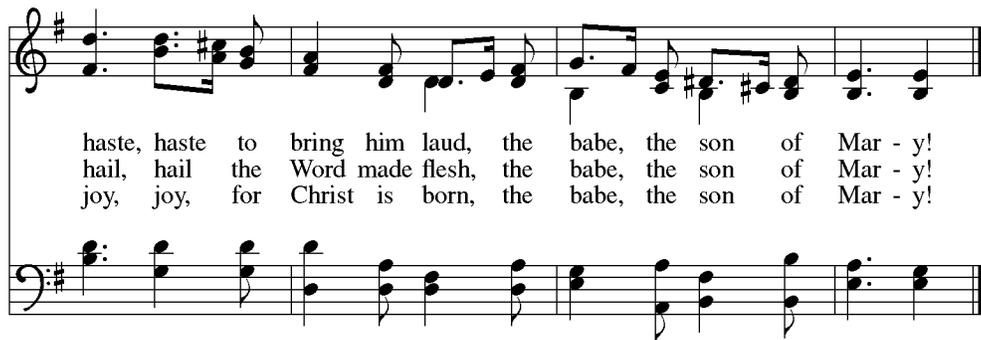
1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?
 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?
 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas-ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep - ing?
 Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
 The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an - gels sing;
 Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
 Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
 hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
 joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898
 Music: GREENSLEEVES. English ballad. 16th cent.

THE WORD MADE FLESH

Lesson: Genesis 1:1-2

¹In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. ²The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

Response: O come, all ye faithful (refrain only) ELW 283

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

Lesson: John 1: 1-5; 10-14

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

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

¹⁴And 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.

Joy to the World

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
 3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the

ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -

room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
 plains re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

and heav'n and na - ture sing, and

sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heav'n and na - ture sing,

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748
 Music: ANTIOCH, English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

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 INTERCESSION

A: Merciful God, C: receive our prayer.

WE SHARE GOD'S PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

Sit

OFFERING

At this time, we offer a portion of what God has first given us for God's work in the world through the ministries of St. Andrew's and its national and global partners through the ELCA. You can give online at www.standrewsames.org by selecting Give Online (also QR code). Thank you for your continued generous support of the ministries in and through St. Andrew's Lutheran Church.



Scan to Give

OFFERTORY

Baloo Loo, Lammy

arr. Ruth Heller

OFFERING CAROL

Cold December Flies Away

ELW 299

Cold December Flies Away



1 Cold De - cem - ber flies a - way at the rose - red splen - dor.
2 In the hope - less time of sin shad - ows deep had fall - en.
3 Now the bud has come to bloom, and the world a - wak - ens.



A - pril's crown - ing glo - ry breaks while the whole world won - ders
All the world lay un - der death. Eyes were closed in sleep - ing.
In the lil - y's pur - est flow'r dwells a won - drous fra - grance.



at the ho - ly un - seen pow'r of the tree which bears the
But, when all seemed lost in night, came the sun whose gold - en
And it spreads to all the earth from the mo - ment of its



flow'r. On the bless - ed tree blooms the red - dest flow'r. On the tree blooms the
light brings un - end - ing joy, brings the end - less joy of our hope, high - est
birth; and its beau - ty lives. In the flow'r it lives, in the flow'r, and it



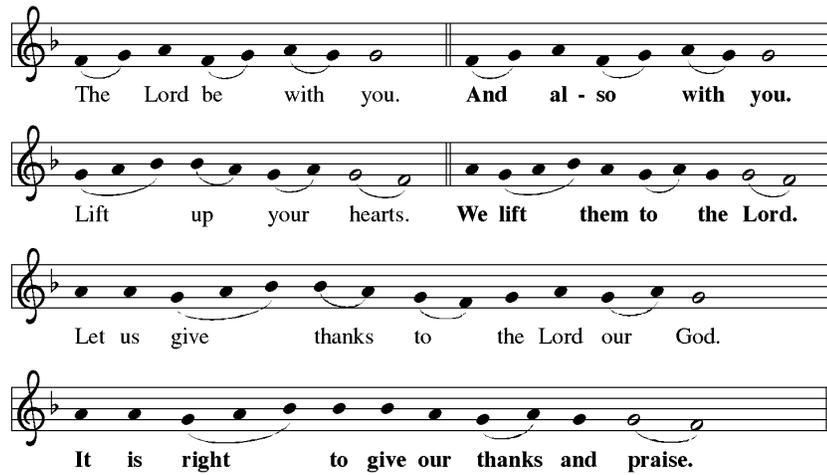
rose here in love's own gar - den, full and strong in glo - ry.
hope, of our hope's bright dawn - ing, Son be - lov'd of heav - en.
spreads in its heav'n - ly bright - ness sweet per - fume de - light - ful.

Text: Catalanian carol; tr. Howard Hawhee, b. 1953
Music: EL DESEMBRE CONGELAT, Catalanian carol
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

MEAL

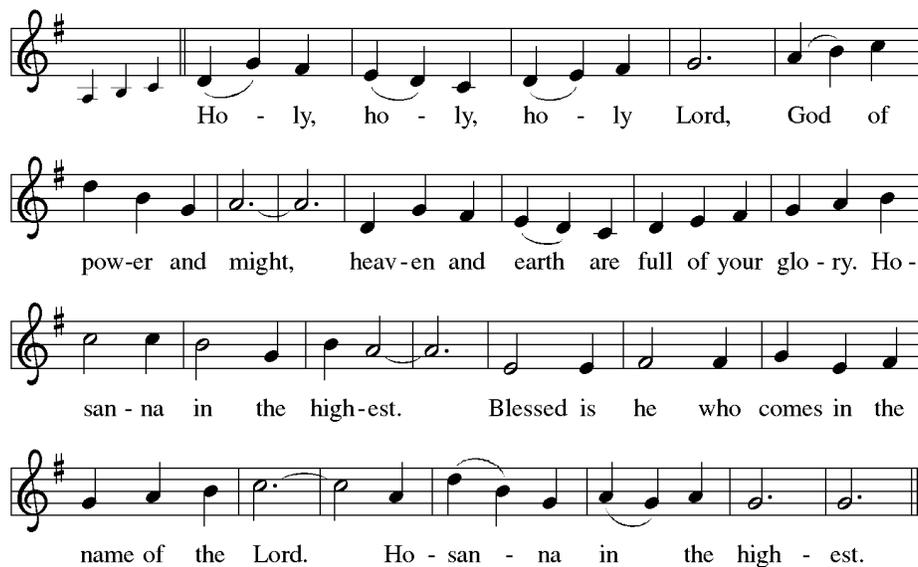
GREAT THANKSGIVING

Presiding Minister (Congregation sings the lines in bold):



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.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.
In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh
you have opened the eyes of faith
to a new and radiant vision of your glory,
that, beholding the God made visible,
we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: 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,
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:
C: **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.

C: **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.

C: **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.

C: **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

C: **Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen**

Sit

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Livestream: At this time for those who choose, you may commune yourself or those worshipping with you by saying the words, “the body of Christ, given for you.” And, “the blood of Christ, shed for you.”

All are welcome at the Lord's table. Those worshipping in person are invited to come down the center aisle, to the front, receive the bread and step to the side to receive red wine or white grape juice from the assistants. Gluten-free wafers are available in the glass bowl on the table in the front. Please take one and bring it with you. If you prefer not to come forward, prepackaged communion elements are available from the ushers.

P: In Christ's manger, at Christ's table, come, see what God makes known for you.

COMMUNION MUSIC

Medley of Carols

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

C: **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: We thank you, wondrous God, for Jesus, God with us, in these gifts of bread and wine.
As we have shared this feast of love, strengthen us to share your love with all the world.
In Jesus' name we pray.

C: **Amen.**

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

There are prayer slips in the seats you may fill out and drop in the basket during communion for anything you wish to ask for prayers from the community here during this time.

Stand

BLESSING

P: May you be filled with the wonder of Mary,
the obedience of Joseph,
the joy of the angels,
the eagerness of the shepherds,
and the everlasting peace of Jesus
who is Savior, Christ, and Lord.
Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you and keep you now and forever.

C: Amen.

SENDING CAROL

Go Tell It on the Mountain Go Tell It on the Mountain

ELW 290

Refrain



Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;



go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!



1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when, lo, a - bove the earth
3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum-ble Christ was born;

Refrain



be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless-ed Christ-mas morn.

Text: African American spiritual, refrain; John W. Work Jr., 1872–1925, stanzas, alt.
Music: GO TELL IT, African American spiritual

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve our Savior, Christ, and Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Let Our Gladness Know No End

arr. Eduardo Marza

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Sonja's Winter Office Schedule

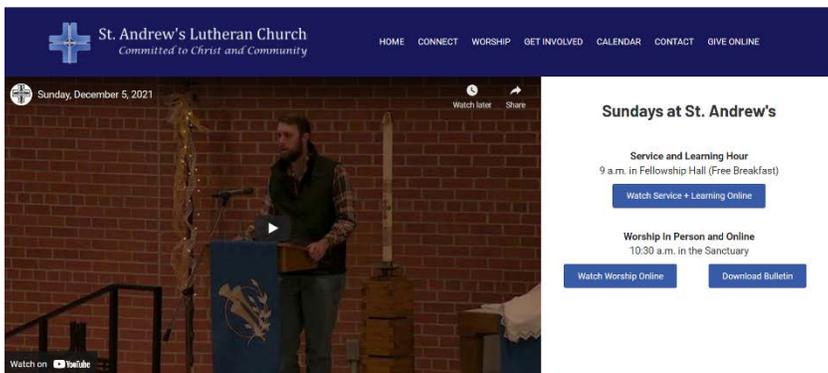
Pastor Sonja will be taking time off December 27-January 2. If you have urgent needs during this time, please contact the office directly at 515-292-2131 or office@standrewsames.org. Pastor Nicole Woodley will preside in worship January 2.

To provide more flexibility for visitation, connecting with the community, clergy text study, and other out of office work, please contact Pastor Sonja directly at pastorsonja@standrewsames.org or 515-292-2131 to schedule an appointment so she can set aside time to meet with you. When not attending to needs outside the office, Pastor Sonja is generally in the office Mondays-Thursday, available via email, Saturdays by mobile phone, and any time via mobile phone for urgent needs at 515-554-4348.

Website Refresh Will Go Live December 28

The newly established Technology Team has approved a refresh to the St. Andrew's website, designed by Kaitlyn Schultz. The refresh utilizes the tool created by DL Church Websites when the website was redesigned recently. By adapting the content and giving the design a "fresh" look, the refresh does a fantastic job of highlighting the many amazing ministries of St. Andrew's Lutheran Church. The site maintains the basic design elements, including the blue navigation bar, while pulling the most pertinent information to the forefront.

Check out the homepage design here: <https://standrewsames.org/option-2/> (This is a mock up. The buttons and links will not take you to redesigned pages at this time) or, view the attached screen shot of the redesigned page.



Thank you to the Technology Team for their work to review and provide feedback and Kaitlyn Schultz for her work and expertise! We are very excited about the new "digital front door" of St. Andrew's people in the community will use to find out why this is the place to be for worship, service, and community!

End of the Year Contributions & Pledge Prepayments

St. Andrew's Policy on End of the Year Contributions. St. Andrew's will adhere to the IRS rules in Publication 526, "Charitable Contributions." Briefly, contributions are deductible in the year made. Thus, donations must be postmarked on or before Dec. 31 OR brought to the church office by noon on Dec. 31. Simply Giving or online donations made and processed by Dec. 31 apply to the current year.

2022 pledges prepaid in 2021. If you would like to prepay all or part of your 2021 pledge in 2020, this must be indicated on the memo line of your check so it is assigned correctly. If you pay online, let me know so it is assigned correctly. The donation will appear on your 2021 Contribution Statement. Questions to: the office or Linda Seaverson, seaverson.linda@gmail.com, 515-451-2883

~NOTEABLES~

Happy Anniversary to

Milton & Marjorie Allison (December 27th), Daniel & Kristine Andersen (December 27th)

Happy December Birthday to

Norma Elwick (4th), Sonja Paulson (4th), Janeen Christy (9th), Makenzie Putz (12th), Alice Thompson (12th), Christopher Parsons (18th), Susan Teas (20th), Charlotte Kemp (21st), Peter Meyer (23rd), Gene Pollmann (23rd), Marilyn Engen (27th), Pastor Sonja Gerstenberger (29th)

Worship Assistants This Week (12/24/2021) Christmas Eve, 7pm

Assisting Minister – **Mary Johnson**

Reader – **Margaret Sherve**

Greeter –

Ushers – **Al Jergens, Don Boyle, Randy Sacco**

Communion Setup – **Paul & Cheryl White**

Communion Servers- **John Kovar, Al Jergens**

Tech – **Kris Parsons**

Worship Assistants This Week (12/26/2021)

Assisting Minister – **Janeen Christy**

Reader – **Jon Christy**

Greeter –

Ushers – **Al Jergens, John Kovar**

Communion Setup – **Kris Miles**

Communion Servers- **Al Jergens**

Tech – **Kris Parsons**

Fellowship – **Property Committee**

Worship Assistants Next Week (1/2/2022)

Assisting Minister – **Laurie Evans**

Reader – **Jennie LeGates**

Greeter – **Nora Nelson**

Ushers – **Don Boyle**
Communion Setup –
Communion Servers- **Margaret Sherve**
Tech – **Kris Parsons**
Fellowship – **Fellowship Committee**

~PRAYERS~

Troy Eagen (Sharon Anderson’s son-in-law), **John Litzel, Libby Litzel Gull, Mark Ekeren** (brother of Sarah Buck), **Jane Ellis, Wayne Thompson** (brain tumor), **Marilyn Saunders** (Gene Pollmann’s sister), **Alice Becher** (Stephen Loucks’ mother), **Marjorie Allison, Gene Takle, Lou Jordan** (Dagmar Frank’s cousin), **Nancy Owen** (Carol Putz’s cousin, battling cancer), **Roxanne Labandz** (niece of Alice Thompson), **Pat Fawcett, Kolleen Tweed Sogard** (daughter of Violet & Maynard Tweed), **Robert Pollmann** (Gene Pollmann’s brother), **Stuart** (cousin of Dagmar Frank), **Forrest & Joan Dubberke, Diane** (Carol Putz’s sister w/long COVID), **Mary Martens** (going through chemo), **Lester & Alycia Carlsborg, Ben Buck.**

For all those suffering from loneliness and grief, addiction and illness-both mental and physical, poverty and need, war and strife; we pray to the Lord to bless them and give them peace.

We continue to pray for the health and needs of the people in the Ames Community, the Pine Ridge Reservation, and the Hedaru Parish in Tanzania, and all communities throughout the world.

Please send any announcements, prayers, or updates to the office at office@standrewsames.org or call 515-292-2131.

~LOCAL~

Feast of the Holy Innocents

The Des Moines Faith Committee for Peace is holding a Feast of the Holy Innocents service at 6:30 pm December 28 at Capitol Hill Lutheran Church, 511 Des Moines Street, Des Moines. You can also participate live online at <https://fb.me/e/3TlxZtVEs>

They will be raising up prayers to stop violence against innocent children caused by wars and conflicts around the world. Donations to benefit the U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants.

Save the Date: “Unity in the Community” MLK Community Worship Service

The Ames Area Religious Leaders Association will sponsor an ecumenical worship service Sunday, January 16, at 3:00 pm. All are invited to participate!