

A Service of Lessons and Carols

Welcome

Song of Ascent Joy to the World! *Trinity Hymnal (TH)* No. 195

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;
Let every 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 men 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 sins and sorrows 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.

Call to Worship Isaiah 11:1-4 Martin Wagner, Executive Pastor

Leader: There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.

People: Alleluia! Jesus is coming!

Leader: And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him,
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and might,
the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

People: Alleluia! Jesus is coming!

Leader: And His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.
He shall not judge by what His eyes see,
or decide disputes by what His ears hear.

People: Alleluia! Jesus is coming!

Leader: But with righteousness He shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth.

All: Alleluia! Jesus is coming!

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

Choral Response Come to Us, O Promised One Lloyd Larson
(Words by Jan McGuire)

Come to us, O Promised One. Fill our emptiness with love.
Whisper to our longing hearts your words of hope from above.
Come, as the prophets did foretell: God with us, Emmanuel.

Come to us, O Counselor, bind each battered, broken heart.
Steady ev’ry stumbling step; heal each life that’s torn apart.
Come, as the prophets did foretell: God with us, Emmanuel.

Come to us, O Prince of Peace. Save us from our endless strife.
Teach us how to walk in love; lead us to abundant life.

Come to us, O Mighty God. Come in love to save us all.
Wrap your strength in tenderness; lift us up each time we fall.
Come, as the prophets did foretell: God with us, Emmanuel.

Come to us, O Promised One. Come to us, O Counselor.
Come to use, O Prince of Peace. Come to us, O Mighty God.
God with us, Emmanuel.

First Reading Genesis 1:1-3; 3:1-15 David Allen

Carol O Come, O Come, Emmanuel *with* *TH* No. 194 / 535
O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus!

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear. *Refrain*

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou Dayspring, come and cheer, our spirits by Thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death’s dark shadows put to flight. *Refrain*

O the deep, deep love of Jesus! Vast, unmeasured, boundless, free;
Rolling as a mighty ocean in its fullness over me.
Underneath me, all around me, is the current of Thy love;
Leading onward, leading homeward, to Thy glorious rest above.

O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind;
Bid envy, strife, and quarrels cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace. *Refrain*

Second Reading Isaiah 9:2-7; Micah 5:1-5 Paul Conner / Chap Chapman

Special Music Return, Return, Return

Through the wintry land of darkness,
Filled with danger, toil, and snares,
Bleak and groaning, still we're trusting.
Every ruin You will repair.

Refrain: Return, return, return, O God,
And melt the cold of night.
Return, return, eternal God,
Our everlasting light.

Long the waiting, long lamenting,
Will the chill of sorrow end?
Come, descending King of gladness,
As You did in Bethlehem. *Refrain*

Bridge: Return, desire of longing hearts;
O Dayspring, rise and wake the dawn.
Immanuel, dispel the dark
Far as the cold and curse are found.

Kirk Sauers | Paul Ranheim. © Bold Canary Music; Mellow Toad Music.

Third Reading Luke 1:26-38 Sumner Aldridge

Choral Response See Amid the Winter’s Snow arr. Dan Forrest
(Text: Edward Caswall, 1858)

Alleluia. Alleluia.
See, amid the winter’s snow, born for us on earth below,
See, the tender Lamb appears, promised from eternal years.

Refrain: Hail, thou ever-blessed morn; hail redemption’s happy dawn,
Sing through all Jerusalem: “Christ is born in Bethlehem.”

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Sacred Infant, all divine, what a tender love was Thine,
Thus to come from highest bliss, down to such a world as this. *Refrain*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Fourth Reading Luke 2:1-21 Caroline Meyer

Carol Hark! the Herald Angels Sing *TH* No. 203

Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled.”
Joyful, all ye nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies;
With th’ angelic hosts proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King.”

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 th’incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with men 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 man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”

Fifth Reading Matthew 2:1-12 Kyle Moore

Carol Infant Holy, Infant Lowly *TH* No. 216

Infant holy, infant lowly, for His bed a cattle stall;
Oxen lowing, little knowing; Christ, the babe, is Lord of all.
Swift are winging angels singing, noels ringing, tidings bringing:
Christ the babe is Lord of all. Christ the babe is Lord of all!

Flocks were sleeping: shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new.
Saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing, greet the morrow:
Christ the babe was born for you. Christ the babe was born for you.

Sixth Reading John 1:1-14 Margaret Watson

Choral Response Sussex Carol arr. Elaine Hagenberg

On Christmas night all Christmas sing to hear the news the angels bring;
On Christmas night all Christmas sing to hear the news the angels bring;
News of great joy, news of great mirth, news of our merciful King's birth.

Then why should men on earth be sad, since our Redeemer made us glad;
Then why should men on earth be sad, since our Redeemer made us glad;
When from our sins He set us free, all for to gain our liberty.

When sin departs before His grace, then life and health come in its place.
When sin departs before His grace, then life and health come in its place;
Angels and men with joy may sing, all for to see the newborn King.

All out of darkness we have light, which made the angels sing this night;
Then out of darkness we have light, which made the angels sing this night;
"Glory to God in highest heav'n, now and forevermore." Amen!

Homily Isaiah 9:1-7 Jason Sterling, Senior Pastor

Special Music Let Our Gladness Have No End

Let our gladness have no end, Alleluia!
For to earth did Christ descend. Alleluia!

See, the loveliest blooming rose, Alleluia!
From the branch of Jesse grows. Alleluia!

Refrain: On this day God gave us Christ, His Son, to save us;
Christ, His Son, to save us.

Into flesh is made the Word, Alleluia!
He, our refuge and our Lord. Alleluia!
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Benediction

Sending

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Jamie Peterson
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Carl Smith
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Faith Student Ministries
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Mackenzie Williams
Faith Student Ministries
SrHi Girls Coordinator

Richard Williamson
Faith Student Ministries
SrHi Guys Coordinator

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Faith Student Ministries
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to the Executive Pastor

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Rebekka Cunningham
Receptionist

Bill Boutwell
Facilities Manager

SUNDAY SUPPORT

David Crabtree
Technical Director

Ruth Baldwin
Pianist

Sarah Remetich
Choir Director


Sundays at Faith

Adults and Students

Kingdom Communities meet at 9:45 a.m. A map of classroom locations is available at the welcome desk in the upper gathering hall.



FAITH STUDENT MINISTRIES
Room 215
7th-12th graders



MOSAIC
Room 136
Singles and married couples in their late 20s to early 30s



CORNERSTONE
Room 134
Parents of older elementary–junior high students; singles and couples in their late 30s or 40s



GENESIS
Room 152
Singles and married couples in their early 20s


COVENANT
Room 133
Singles and married couples with or without young children in their late 20s to mid 30s


CROSSROADS
(across Buckton Road)
Parents of senior high and college students; singles and couples primarily in their mid 40s or 50s


TAPESTRY
Room 153
Singles and couples primarily in their late 60s, 70s, or 80s


EXODUS
Room 151
Singles and married couples in their mid 20s to early 30s


COMMON GROUND
Room 154
Parents of early elementary-age children; singles and couples in their mid 30s to mid 40s


SOJOURNERS
Room 214
Parents of adult children; singles and couples primarily in their late 50s or 60s

A Service of the Word, and Prayer Lessons and Carols

December 7, 2025

Upcoming at Faith

For more information, visit us online at faith-pca.org or on the Faith PCA app.

Redeeming Technology Conference: Register for our winter conference on January 9-11. Rev. Robert Cunningham will be joining us again, and we will explore God’s good design for technology, critique our misuse of technology, and explore practical ways Christians can navigate this increasingly technological world.

Hymn Sing: Join us for our advent hymn sing next Sunday, December 14, 5:30–7:30 p.m.

Christmas Eve Service Times: Join us for our identical Christmas Eve services on Tuesday, December 23, at 6 p.m., and Wednesday, December 24, at 4 and 5:30 p.m.

Your year-end giving must be received on or postmarked by December 31.