

LESSONS & CAROLS

Fourth Sunday of Advent | December 21, 2025 | **8:30am**

Today we light the candle of Faith.

We celebrate the announcement of the coming King and the greatness of God's love revealed through the Christ child.

For an explanation of today's Lesson and Carol's service turn to #708 in the hymnal.
The description of Lessons and Carols is just above.

Prelude | *Infant Holy*, R. W. Thygeson

Carol #781 | *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

Welcome & Greeting

Bidding Prayer (#708)

Beloved in Christ, be it this Christmastide our care
and delight to hear again the message of the angels,
and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem and
see this thing which is come to pass, and the babe lying
in a manger.

—From King's College, Cambridge

Lighting the Fourth Advent Candle | Faith

Isaiah 7:10-16

Carol #715, verse 4 | *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

Lesson One, #712 | Genesis 3:8-10

Nathaniel Olson

Carol #770 | *This is the Truth Sent from Above*

Soloist sings 1st verse, congregation joins on 2nd verse

Lesson Two, #713 | Genesis 22:15-18

Owen Ronningen

Carol #734 | *What Child is This*

Lesson Three, #721 | Isaiah 9:2, 6

Lesson Four, #722 | Isaiah 11:1, 3, 4

Solveig DeFant

Special Carol | *Wexford Carol*, Dale Warland

Jovie Webbeking, flute

Lesson Five, #732 | Luke 1:26-35

Cooper Guidry

Homily | Ready Your Hearts for Christ

Laurie Brenner

Morning Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Lesson Six, #744 | Luke 2:4-7

Gabriel Birne

Carol #745 | *Christmas Sanctus (Holy, Holy, Holy)*

Lesson Seven, #746 | Luke 2:8-16

Luke Leddy

Carol #779 | *Hark the Herald Angels Sing*

Lesson Eight, #782 | Matthew 2:1-2, 9-11

Owen Ronningen

Prayer of Dedication

Offering and Offertory

See Amid the Winter's Snow, arr David Willcocks

Nicholas and Paul Gjording, violins: Camber Charlot, viola;

Devin LaMarr, cello

Lesson Nine, #787 | John 1:1-5, 9-14

Solveig DeFant

Celebration of Communion

O Little Town of Bethlehem, arr. R. Vaughan Williams

Carol #780 | *Joy to the World*

Benediction

Postlude | *Chimes at Yuletide*, James Mansfield

NEW HERE?

We're glad you're here! If you are visiting us, we'd love to connect with you. Fill out the Connect Card (in the pew rack) or scan this QR code. And stop by the Welcome Center for your gift bag!



WEST SIDE KIDS

8:30am | Kids are invited to the kid's table in the narthex during the sermon to work on an art or craft project.

10:00am | Kids (5th grade and under) are dismissed during the service to attend Sunday School.

Nursery | Available for kids ages 0-3.

WEST SIDE YOUTH

10:00am | Middle School Discipleship

Dismissed during the service to gather downstairs for Bible study.

Looking Ahead: No MS Discipleship on 12/28.

6:00pm | High School Youth Group

No Youth Group until January 4, 2026!

DAILY READINGS

The scripture references in parentheses are for the *Seeing Jesus Together* journals. The schedule came with your journal, or you can pick up a copy at the Welcome Center, or scan the QR code for it.

Mon: 1 Samuel 18, Matthew 22 (Matthew 22:34-40)

Tues: 1 Samuel 19, Matthew 23 (Matthew 23:27-28)

Wed: 1 Samuel 20, Matthew 24 (Matthew 24:36-44)

Thurs: 1 Samuel 21, Matthew 25 (Matthew 25:31-40)

Fri: 1 Samuel 22, Matthew 26 (Matthew 26:26-29)

Sat: Psalm 52, (Psalm 52:6-7)



END OF YEAR OFFERINGS

End of year offerings may be made online, dropped in our locked mailbox (near the main entrance) by December 31, or mailed (postmarked by December 31). Note that the church building will be closed December 24-January 3.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

December to-Date

December Income: \$66,953

Previous Year December Income: \$140,000

Goal*: \$156,000

Fiscal Year-to-Date

Fiscal YTD: \$430,340

Previous July-December Income: \$511,000

Goal*: \$607,000

*Goal: Income required to fund future ministry expenses without drawing on reserves.

ONLINE GIVING

Scan the code for our online giving page >>>



CHRISTMAS EVE

Family Service with "Pop-Up Nativity," 5pm

Join us for family worship and our "pop-up Nativity." Children will receive their costumes and parts on arrival to worship as all of us participate in the retelling of the Christmas story.

Candlelight Service, 7pm

We will gather to worship with a traditional candlelight service. All ages welcome.

LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE

TONIGHT, December 21 at 7pm

The service of the Longest Night is a worship service for those carrying heavy burdens this season and the people who love and wish to pray for them. Those gathered for this service will have the opportunity to pray, sing, or simply sit in silence and await the light of Christ coming into the world at Christmas.

CHRISTMAS EVE OFFERING

This special offering on Christmas Eve is received each year for special projects or programs that our missionaries have requested to meet ministry needs.

If you are unable to join us Christmas Eve, donate online or send a check with "Christmas Eve Offering" in the memo line.



SIL International (requested by Larry Burke) | Scholarships for 2026 Sahel Initiative conference

Dallas International University (requested by Scott Berthiaume) | Developing library at instructional site in Uganda

Grace Global (requested by Larry Ciccarelli) | Printing True Meaning Arabic Study Bible for Syria

Matt. 28:20 Ministries (requested by Denise Hovland) | Travel and scholarships to teach "Godly Marriage" to church leaders in SE Asia

SIM Ethiopia (requested by Michael Madnay) | Travel costs for Somali Christian colleague to visit underground Somali Christians and Ethiopian pastors

OMF Partner hub/Hiragishi Izumi Church (requested by Keith Olson) | Building fund for OMF church in Sapporo, Japan

Christar (requested by Andrew Prout) | Laptop for seminarian returning to Sri Lanka to teach

YouthCompass International (requested by Tom Speckhardt) | Establish new Youth Compass ministry in Nairobi

Bellingham Chi Alpha (requested by Tallulah Reyes) | Leadership Connection meals for 30+ student leaders at Western WA University

PRAYER OF BELIEF

Lord Jesus Christ, I admit I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but, through you, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment and offering forgiveness. I turn from my sins and receive you as Savior. Amen. (If you are saying this prayer for the first time today, please let one of our pastors know.)