

PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

Danielle Jones

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

+ CLOSING HYMN

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

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!"

Refrain: Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King"

Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb:
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail th'incarnate Deity,
Pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Jesus, our Immanuel. *[Refrain]*

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
Born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth. *[Refrain]*

SENDING REMINDERS

Lindy Purdy, Danielle Jones

+ BENEDICTION

Steve Wiens

Leader: For what does the Lord require of us?

All: To do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God. (Micah 6:8)

POSTLUDE

Toccata on "O Come, Emmanuel"
Andrew Carter

Stephen Self

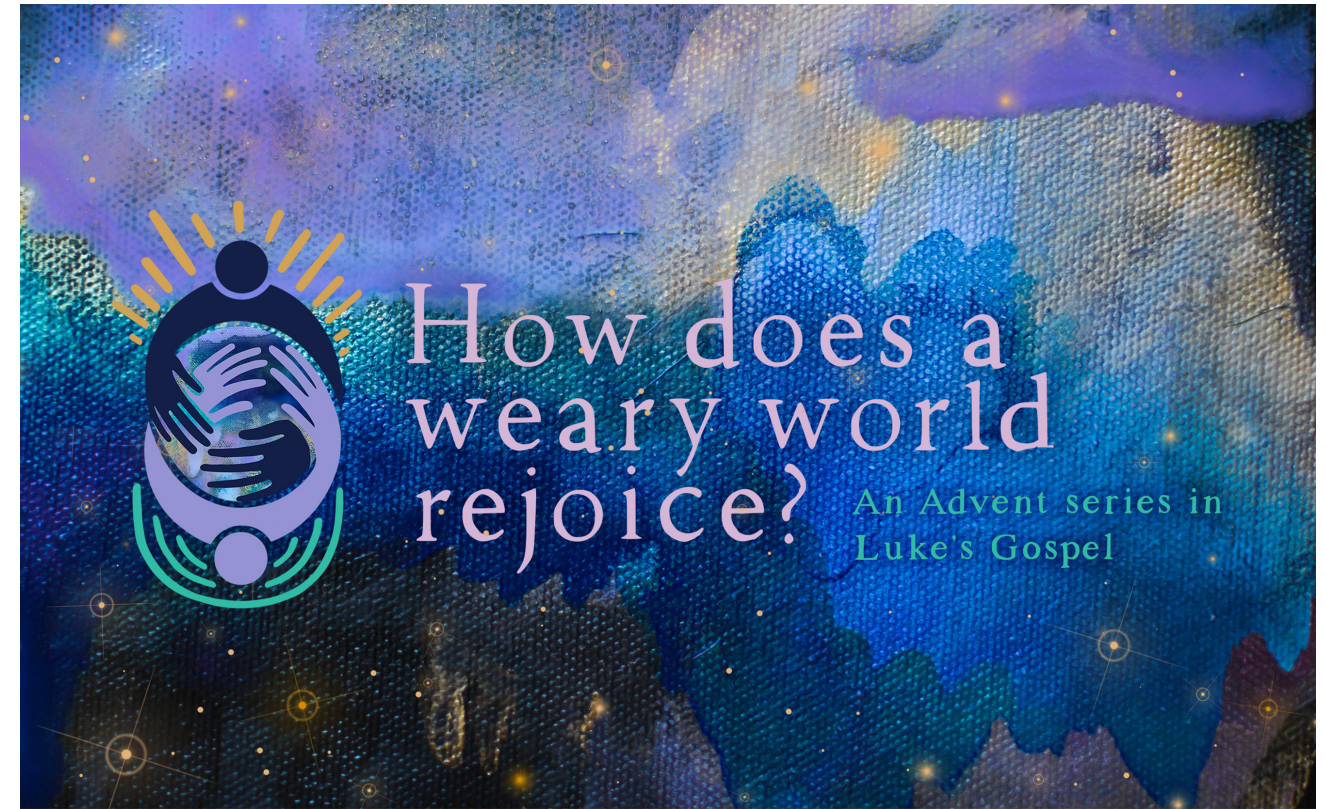
...The End of Worship, the Beginning of Service...

WORSHIP LEADERS

Preacher: Rev. Steve Wiens
Liturgist: Rev. Danielle Jones, Rev. Lindy Purdy
Music: Stephen Self, Alexis Reed, Chancel Choir
Deacon: Anne Johnson
Usher: Laura Babcock Team



The Chancel Flowers today are given by Judy and Dick Corson in memory of Ruth and Al Simpson, and Lydia and WK Corson.



THE WORSHIP OF GOD
December 17, 2023 ❖ 10:30 a.m.
Sanctuary

Welcome to Wayzata Community Church where different people come together for the shared purpose of worshiping God and encouraging each other through the inclusive love of Jesus. Whether you are our guest, looking for a church home, or already a member, we want you to feel welcomed by our congregation and inspired by our worship service.



THE WORSHIP OF GOD
December 17, 2023 ❖ 10:30 a.m.

+ Indicates an invitation to rise in body or in spirit.

PRELUDE *At Christmas-Tide* Stephen Self
Charles Villiers Stanford

CHIMING OF THE HOUR Stephen Self

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP *Comfort, Comfort Now My People* Chancel Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP/RESPONSIVE LITANY Steve Wiens

Leader: In God's house, we can be joyful.

All: We can be grateful. We can be hopeful.

Leader: In God's house, we can be weary.

All: We can be anxious. We can be grieving.

Leader: In God's house, we can be honest.

**All: Inspired or tired, delighted or doubtful, connected or curious,
and everything in between.**

Leader: This is God's house. You are welcome just as you are.

All: Let us worship our loving God.

+ OPENING HYMN *Angels We Have Heard on High*
Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain: Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be, which inspire your heav'nly song? *[Refrain]*

Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the new-born King. *[Refrain]*

See Him in a manger laid, Jesus, Lord of heav'n and earth!
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, sing with us our Savior's birth. *[Refrain]*

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

+ GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be. World without end. Amen.

+PASSING OF THE PEACE Lindy Purdy

COMMUNITY MOMENTS Danielle Jones

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *Night of Wonder* Chancel Choir
Karen Black

*What have we to ponder on this night of wonder? Bethlehem's stillness, starry night.
Gentle snow, world shimmering bright. Still our minds that we might gently think on this.
Beauty, wonder. Ponder this, ponder hope.*

*What have we to ponder on this night of wonder? Mary, Joseph's dauntless faith.
Infant one ordained for grace. Still our souls that we, as they, will think on this.
Faith and grace. Ponder this, ponder love.*

*What have we to ponder on this night of wonder? Angels' chorus, shepherd's awe.
Sacred space, yet cattle stall. Tune our hearts that they may sing and think on this.
Timeless gift. Ponder hope, ponder love.*

+ DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God above ye heavenly hosts, Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING Lindy Purdy

SCRIPTURE Luke 1:46-55 (NRSVUE) Lindy Purdy

Leader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON We Sing Stories of Hope Steve Wiens

VOCAL RESPONSE *He Shall Feed His Flock/Come Unto Him (from "Messiah")* Alexis Reed
George Frederick Handel

*Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped.
Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb shall sing.*

*He shall feed his flock like a shepherd; and he shall gather the lambs with his arm,
and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.*

*Come unto him, all ye that labor, come unto him ye that are heavy laden, and
he will give you rest. Take his yoke upon you, and learn of him, for he is meek
and lowly of heart, and ye shall find rest unto your souls.*