



Weekly Announcements

Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church

For Week of Jan. 1, 2023

ANNUAL REPORTS DUE

We will prepare a report ahead of the annual meeting. Group leaders, please submit reports to the office by Friday, Jan. 13.

MISSION REBOOT

Pr. Steve Olson will present ways to redevelop, revitalize and reestablish our congregation. Join us Jan. 15, 10:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.

BUDGET MEETING

The 2023 budget will be presented at a meeting on Jan. 22. Meet in the sanctuary after the service.

ANNUAL MEETING

Mt. Carmel's annual congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, Jan. 29. We'll meet in the Fellowship Hall following the service.

OFFICE SCHEDULE

The office will be closed Jan. 2.

FELLOWSHIP JANUARY

- ONLINE Good Fruits Bible Study—Tuesdays at 2:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room and online. (Contact Leona Olson, onondave@yahoo.com)
- ONLINE Men's Bible Study—Wednesdays at 6:45 a.m. online. (Contact Ralph Matthes, marinosdelimpls@gmail.com)
- Racial Justice Book Study Group—Meets every other Thursday at 6:30 p.m. in Fireside Room and online. Next meeting: Jan. 5. (Contact Barb Hollister, bjhollister@comcast.net)

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL AND YOUTH GROUP SUNDAY

Classes resume Jan. 8.

GOD'S GLOBAL BARNYARD

Our barnyard is growing! So far, your generous donations will provide families with 9 goats, 11 chicks, 6 pigs, 3 roosters and 12 colonies of honeybees! We also received gifts that will pay for school fees, supplies and uniforms, Bibles, and meals at a soup kitchen. Thank you all for your support.

THOSE WE ARE PRAYING FOR

- Dan, Nancy Nordeen's father, recovering from surgery in transitional care
- Marilyn, Janell Wampler's sister, whose wound is almost healed and is staying in the health care center.

To include your prayers on this list, contact the church office.

HOMEBOUND AND LONG-TERM CARE

Ethel Antonson, Marlene Black, Lorraine Carlson, Annette Dahl, Gerry Johnson, and Dorothy Warhol

THE 2 MINUTE RULE

Following worship, please take the first 2 minutes to greet someone you don't know. It makes all the difference. And you can still meet up with your friend, even better introduce them to the guest.



612-781-2796



office@mountcarmelmpls.org



www.mtcarmel.net



/MountCarmelMpls

FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

The Foundation awards educational scholarships to Mt. Carmel members each year. Applications are due Feb. 28. Pick up a hard copy in the Narthex or contact the office for an e-copy.

PCYC GIFT SALE

We delivered 90 gifts to the Capri Theatre for the Plymouth Christian Youth Center gift sale. Thank you to all who donated!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Jan. 3 – Dave Olson

Jan. 4 – Roxanne Thorkelson

Jan. 5 – Steve Panning

Jan. 7 – Steve Ristuben, Elsa Ruser

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP ACTIVITY BAGS

Activity bags are available in the Narthex. Feel free to pick one up any time during the worship service. The red bags are geared for preschoolers and the blue bags are geared for elementary school age kids. Please return bags to the box marked Bag Returns.

COVID RISK – MEDIUM

The covid task force is on hold, however Pastor Steve would like us to do our best to keep one another healthy! The current community covid transmission level is *medium* which puts us in a yellow zone. Masking in the building is still optional. Please wear a mask if you are at high risk of getting very sick from a covid infection. Please wear a mask if you have symptoms or have been exposed to someone with covid. Thank you.

LITTLE KITCHEN VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Little Kitchen food shelf is looking for volunteers on Wednesday or Friday mornings between 9:30 a.m.-noon. For more information contact Myrna at 612-246-7095 or the food shelf director, Lynn, at 612-703-0250.

NEED A RIDE TO CHURCH?

Mini-bus service resumes Jan. 8! Call the church office (612-781-2796) by noon Friday to let us know you want a ride.

REMEMBERING TO GIVE

Please continue to support our congregation with your faithful financial contributions to Mt. Carmel as you are able. There are several ways to give:

- Mail your check to the church or drop off in the secure mailbox.
- Online by credit card or bank account. Visit mountcarmelmpls.org/give or scan the QR code for online giving opportunities.



Your generous support for Mt. Carmel and our ministry is truly appreciated.



MT CARMEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Name of Jesus Festival

January 1st, 2023

Congregation parts are printed in **bold**.

Please make sure you have the following items on hand and ready for communion:

Bread on a small plate. You may put a cloth or napkin on top if you like.

Wine or grape juice (or some other beverage) and small glasses to drink from.

PRELUDE

WELCOME

Good Christian Friends Rejoice

ELW #288 verses 1-3

- 1 **Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
give ye heed to what we say:
Jesus Christ is born today;
ox and ass before him bow,
and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today!
Christ is born today!**

- 2 **Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now ye hear of endless bliss:
Jesus Christ was born for this!
He has opened heaven's door,
and we are blest forevermore.
Christ was born for this!
Christ was born for this!**

- 3 **Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now ye need not fear the grave;
Jesus Christ was born to save!**

**Calls you one and calls you all
to gain the everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save!
Christ was born to save!**

GATHERING

GREETING

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

C: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Let us pray.

Eternal Father, you gave your incarnate Son the holy name of Jesus to be a sign of our salvation. Plant in every heart the love of the Savior of the world, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Love Has Come

ELW #292 verses 1-3

- 1 Love has come—a light in the darkness!
Love shines forth in the Bethlehem skies.
See, all heaven has come to proclaim it;
hear how their song of joy arises:
Love! Love! Born unto you, a Savior!
Love! Love! Glory to God on high.**
- 2 Love is born! Come, share in the wonder.
Love is God now asleep in the hay.
See the glow in the eyes of his mother;
what is the name her heart is saying?
Love! Love! Love is the name she whispers;
Love! Love! Jesus, Immanuel.**

**3 Love has come and never will leave us!
Love is life everlasting and free.
Love is Jesus within and among us.
Love is the peace our hearts are seeking.
Love! Love! Love is the gift of Christmas;
Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!**

WORD

FIRST READING

Numbers 6:22-27

L: The Lord spoke to Moses, saying: Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, Thus you shall bless the Israelites: You shall say to them,
The Lord bless you and keep you;
the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you;
the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.

So they shall put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them.

L: Word of God, Word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Joy to the World

ELW # 267 verses 1,2,4

**1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her king;
let ev'ry 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.**

**2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let all their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
repeat the sounding joy,**

**repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

4 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.

GOSPEL READING

Luke 2:15-21

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 2nd chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

MESSAGE "The Rest of Your Name"

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

ELW #276 verses 1-2

1 Infant holy, infant lowly,

for his bed a cattle stall;
oxen lowing, little knowing
Christ the child is Lord of all.
Swiftly winging, angels singing,
bells are ringing, tidings bringing:
Christ the child is Lord of all!
Christ the child is Lord of all!

- 2 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 child was born for you!
Christ the child was born for you!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

- L: With wonder and thanksgiving for Christ's coming into the world, we pray for the church, the life of the earth, and the whole human family.

A brief silence.

- L: Holy God, you have given the church the holy name of Jesus, and in him we are your beloved children. Unite us in mission through the power of his Spirit. Make us worthy of the name we bear, the name in which we pray. God of grace,
- C: **hear our prayer.**
- L: Renewing God, restore your glory to the earth. Awaken humanity to our kinship with all living things that depend on your provision. Teach us to care for the earth and safeguard its treasures for those who come after us. God of grace,
- C: **hear our prayer.**
- L: Peacemaking God, reconcile the nations. Lead those in conflict into negotiation, especially in areas of religious or ethnic strife. End acts of aggression and violence carried out in your name. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Delivering God, rescue our siblings in any danger, especially in communities where disaster and disease threaten. Move those in authority to respond with speed and compassion. We pray for the safety of first responders, health care workers, and all who protect us. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Healing God, raise up any who are bowed down with illness or sorrow. Deepen our care and concern for one another. We lift to you all who are undergoing transition in relationships, occupation, living situation, or health condition *especially*..... God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

L: Saving God, redeem us and grant us eternal peace. We give thanks for the faithful departed who now rest in your undying love, made known to us in Jesus our Emmanuel. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Pondering the mystery of eternal love made flesh in Christ Jesus, we commend all for whom we pray to the mercy of God.

C: Amen.

PEACE

OFFERTORY "Mary Had a Baby"

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

What Child Is This **ELW 296 verses 1, 3**

1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the king, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!

3 Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.

**Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mary!**

OFFERING PRAYER

P: God of abundance, receive and bless these gifts we have offered. Join our hearts with the song of the angels, and gather us at your table of celebration. Strengthen us to share with all the world the abundance of your grace upon grace, poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.

C: **Amen.**

Angels from the Realms of Glory

ELW #275

- 1** Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
once you sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king.
- 2** Shepherds, in the fields abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing, yonder shines the infant light.
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king.
- 4** All creation, join in praising God, the Father, Spirit, Son,
evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in One.
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king.

MEAL

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts

C: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: 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:

(Tune of “Hark the Herald Angels Sing”)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of heav’n and earth adored.
O how blest is he who comes
In the holy name of God.
Joyful, all you nations rise;
Join the triumph of the skies;
With angelic hosts proclaim,
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn king!”**

P: 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 all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

P: Let us pray the prayer Jesus taught us:

C: 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

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

Lamb of God

ELW p. 135

C: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Grant us peace.

RECEIVING THE MEAL

For those doing the consecrating at home, AT THIS TIME you can now do the distribution words:

P: This is the body of Christ, broken for you.
This is the blood of Christ, shed for you.

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

L: Let us pray: God our redeemer, you have fed us at this table with gifts of grace, truth, and life. As you have gathered us in joy, send us forth as messengers of your peace. Make us shine with the good news of your glory, born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

FINAL BLESSING

P: God bless you and keep you, ✠ Jesus grant you grace and truth, and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts, now and forever.

C: Amen.

It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

ELW #282 verses 1, 3, 4

1 It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav'n's all-gracious king."
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.

- 3 **And you, beneath life's crushing load, whose forms are bending low,
who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow:
look now, for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing;
oh, rest beside the weary road and hear the angels sing!**
- 4 **For lo! The days are hast'ning on, by prophets seen of old,
when with the ever-circling years shall come the time foretold,
when peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,
and all the world give back the song which now the angels sing.**

DISMISSAL

L: Christ the Savior is born! Go in peace. Proclaim this good news.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

You are invited to remain and enjoy the postlude.

Serving in Worship Today

Presiding..... Rev. Steve Olson
 Music Director Ruth Bills
 Altar Guild Janell Partyka
 Liturgist Dave Olson
 Lector Janell Wampler
 Soundboard TechPaul Lathrop and Myrna Flatland
 Usher..... Rich Feist

Altar flowers are given by Karen and Ralph Matthes in memory of Yvonne Berg.

Good Christian Friends Rejoice - Text: Medieval Latin carol; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866

Love Has Come - Text: Ken Bible, b. 1950 / Text © 1996 Integrity's Hosanna! Music (ASCAP) c/o Integrity Media, Inc., 1000 Cody Road, Mobile, AL 36695

Joy to the World - Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

What Child Is This? - Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898

Angels from the Realms of Glory - Text: James Montgomery, 1771-1854, alt., sts. 1-3; *Salisbury Hymn Book*, 1857, st. 4

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly - Text: Polish carol; tr. Edith M. G. Reed, 1885-1933, alt.

It Came Upon a Midnight Clear - Text: Edmund H. Sears, 1810-1876