



# Weekly Announcements

## Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church

**For Dec. 24 and Week of Dec. 25, 2022**

### NO SUNDAY SCHOOL AND YOUTH GROUP SUNDAY

Classes resume Jan. 8.

### 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.

### WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Dec. 25, 9:30 a.m. – Joint worship at **Gustavus Adolphus** lead by Pr. Steve Olson  
Jan. 1, 9:30 a.m. – Joint Worship at Mt. Carmel

### OFFICE SCHEDULE

The office will be closed Dec. 26, Dec. 30 and Jan. 2.

### OLD VAN?

The Afghan refugee family we sponsor is looking for a van. Have you got one to sell cheap or donate? Call the office or Dave Olson: 651-528-7459.

### 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)

### THOSE WE ARE PRAYING FOR

- The family of Sabra, friend of Stephenie Labandz, who passed away unexpectedly
- 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

### 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.

### 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!



612-781-2796



office@mountcarmelmpls.org



www.mtcarmel.net



/MountCarmelMpls

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Dec. 25 – Carroll Rignell

Dec. 30 – Diane Langer

## 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.

## 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](http://mountcarmelmpls.org/give) or scan the QR code for online giving opportunities.



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

## 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.

## 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.



## MT CARMEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

1701 St Anthony Parkway NE

Minneapolis, MN 55418

Office Phone: 612-781-2796

Office Email: [office@mountcarmelmpls.org](mailto:office@mountcarmelmpls.org)



## STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

**Steve Olson, Interim Pastor**

Ext. 103, [pastor@mountcarmelmpls.org](mailto:pastor@mountcarmelmpls.org)

**Ruth Bills, Director of Music**

Ext. 120, [ruthabills@gmail.com](mailto:ruthabills@gmail.com)

**Nancy Nordeen, Office Administrator**

Ext. 101, [office@mountcarmelmpls.org](mailto:office@mountcarmelmpls.org)

**Steve Panning, Maintenance Engineer**

Ext. 104, [building@mountcarmelmpls.org](mailto:building@mountcarmelmpls.org)

**Brenda Wetzel, Child Care Director**

Ext. 107, [childcare@mountcarmelmpls.org](mailto:childcare@mountcarmelmpls.org)

## PRAYER CHAIN

To lift up a prayer concern for the prayer chain, please contact Leona Olson at 612-859-7075.



612-781-2796



[office@mountcarmelmpls.org](mailto:office@mountcarmelmpls.org)



[www.mtcarmel.net](http://www.mtcarmel.net)



[/MountCarmelMpls](https://www.facebook.com/MountCarmelMpls)

# Christmas Eve

## December 24th, 2022

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

“Angel Carols”

“Still, Still, Still”                      Soloist, Anna Matthes

“Jubilate Deo”                      Instrumentalist, Dan Kuch

### PROCLAMATION FROM 2021

**O Come All Ye Faithful**

**ELW 238 (choir only on verse 3)**

- 1      O come, all ye faithful,  
         joyful and triumphant!  
         O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
         come and behold him,  
         born the king of angels:**

#### *Refrain*

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

- 2      The highest, most holy,  
         light of light eternal,  
         born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;  
         Son of the Father  
         now in flesh appearing! *Refrain***

3 Sing, choirs of angels,  
sing in exultation,  
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God  
in the highest: *Refrain*

4 **Yea, Lord, we greet thee,  
born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to thee be glory giv'n!  
Word of the Father,  
now in flesh appearing: *Refrain***

#### CHRISTMAS DIALOG

P: Jesus Christ is the Light of the world!

**C: He is the Light no darkness can overcome**

P: At darkest night we gather to celebrate the great light of our salvation.

**C: With the heavenly host we sing, "Glory to God in the highest heaven."**

P: In Christ, God's Word is made flesh and lives among us.

**C: With the shepherds, we will tell of the wonders we have seen and heard.**

#### Go Tell It on the Mountain

ELW 290

##### *Refrain*

Go tell it on the mountain,  
over the hills and ev'rywhere;  
go tell it on the mountain  
that Jesus Christ is born!

1 While shepherds kept their watching  
o'er silent flocks by night,  
behold, throughout the heavens  
there shone a holy light. *Refrain*

2 The shepherds feared and trembled  
when, lo, above the earth  
rang out the angel chorus  
that hailed our Savior's birth. *Refrain*

**3 Down in a lonely manger  
the humble Christ was born;  
and God sent us salvation  
that blessed Christmas morn. *Refrain***

## 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.

Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your only son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** **Amen.**

## WORD

---

### FIRST READING

Isaiah 9:2-7

**L:** The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. 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. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his

kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Jubilate Bells

“Away in a Manger”

## SECOND READING

Titus 2:11-14

L: For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

L: Word of God, Word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

**O Little Town of Bethlehem**

**ELW 279 verses 1, 2**

**1 O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
the silent stars go by;  
yet in thy dark streets shineth  
the everlasting light.  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
are met in thee tonight.**

**2 For Christ is born of Mary,  
and, gathered all above  
while mortals sleep, the angels keep  
their watch of wond'ring love.  
O morning stars, together  
proclaim the holy birth,  
and praises sing to God the king,  
and peace to all the earth!**

## GOSPEL READING

Luke 2:1-7

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

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

P: In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

**Away in a Manger**

**ELW 277 verses 1, 3 with children up front**

**1     Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,  
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;  
the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,  
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.**

**3     Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay  
close by me forever and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in your tender care  
and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.**

Luke 2:8-20

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

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

P: In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger. "And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" 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.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sanctuary Choir "African Noel" Instrumentalist, Michael Kahout

### **Hark the Herald Angels Sing**

**ELW 270**

**1 Hark! The herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn king;  
peace on earth, and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled."  
Joyful, all you nations, rise;  
join the triumph of the skies;  
with angelic hosts proclaim,  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"**

#### ***Refrain***

**Hark! The herald angels sing,**

**"Glory to the newborn king!"**

- 2 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, incarnate deity!  
Pleased as man with us to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel! *Refrain***
- 3 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 we no more may die,  
born to raise each child of earth,  
born to give us second birth. *Refrain***

MESSAGE "This Christmas"

HYMN OF THE DAY

**Angels We Have Heard on High**

**ELW 289**

- 1 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.**

- 2 Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?**

**What the gladsome tidings be  
which inspire your heav'nly song? *Refrain***

- 3 Come to Bethlehem and see  
him whose birth the angels sing;  
come, adore on bended knee  
Christ the Lord, the newborn king. *Refrain***

## OFFERTORY

Sanctuary Choir

“Christmas Lullaby”

## 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 So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, peasant, king, to own him.  
The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.  
Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby;  
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!**

## Offering Prayer

**P:** Let us pray. Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

**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: Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God, who has come to save you.

### 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: We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy strengthen us through this gift in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

L: As we prepare for the fullness of Christ's presence, let us pray for a world that yearns for new hope.

*A brief silence.*

L: God our shepherd, let your Spirit move with power throughout the church. Give discernment and wisdom to our bishops, pastors, deacons, and lay leaders. Take

away our fear, so that we serve and love, confident that you are guiding us. God, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

L: God our source, awaken us to the beauty of the earth and the marvelous variety of life. Unite humankind in repairing and caring for your creation. Protect creatures and habitats in peril due to rising seas and warming temperatures. God, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

L: God our vision, raise up leaders in every nation who dream of freedom and justice for all people. We pray for the work of international organizations that promote peace and human rights, especially Amnesty International (*others may be named*). God, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

L: God our helper, come to the aid of all who cry out to you. Shelter migrants, refugees, and those fleeing war and famine. Bring relief to individuals and families experiencing hunger, homelessness, or impoverishment. Comfort any who are isolated or lonely. God, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

L: God our Emmanuel, you are with us in our life together. We give you thanks for gathering us in worship and fellowship, and we remember those who cannot be present. Watch over those who travel. Heal the sick and speed their recovery *especially*..... God, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

L: God our hope, you bring life out of death, and you promise to be our God forever. Shine upon the faithful who now rest in the fulfillment of your promise and bring us also into your blessed reign of peace. God, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

L: God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children. In Jesus' name we pray.

C: **Amen.**

PEACE

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

**Silent Night, Holy Night! / *Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht!***

**ELW 281**

**GERMAN**

*Soloist, Jo Alice Boatright*

Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht!  
Alles schläft, einsam wacht  
nur das traute, hochheilige Paar.  
Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar,  
schlaf in himmlischer Ruh,  
schlaf in himmlischer Ruh.

**ENGLISH**

Congregation sings

- 1 **Silent night, holy night!**  
**All is calm, all is bright**  
**round yon virgin mother and child.**  
**Holy Infant, so tender and mild,**  
**sleep in heavenly peace,**  
**sleep in heavenly peace.**
  
- 2 **Silent night, holy night!**  
**Shepherds quake at the sight;**  
**glories stream from heaven afar,**  
**heav'nly hosts sing, alleluia!**  
**Christ, the Savior, is born!**  
**Christ, the Savior, is born!**
  
- 3 **Silent night, holy night!**  
**Son of God, love's pure light**  
**radiant beams from your holy face,**  
**with the dawn of redeeming grace,**

**Jesus, Lord, at your birth,  
Jesus, Lord, at your birth.**

### FINAL BLESSING

**P:** May God, who has called you out of darkness to be servants of light, grant you the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, and the peace of the Christ Child. Almighty God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit ✝ bless you now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### SENDING HYMN

**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 every heart prepare him room,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven, and heaven, 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.**

### DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Share the 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  
 Guest Musicians ..... Michael Kohout, Dan Kuch, Anna Matthes  
 Altar Guild ..... Janell Partyka  
 Liturgist ..... Sinead Carolan  
 Lector ..... Patrick Kutzer  
 Soundboard Tech ..... Paul Lathrop  
 Usher..... Rich Feist, Doug and Linda Jones, Rick Sundly

Altar flowers are given by Bill and Kay McReavy: Merry Christmas!

**O Come, All Ye Faithful** - Text: attr. John Francis Wade, 1711-1786; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802-1880, sts. 1, 3-4; tr. unknown, st. 2  
**Go Tell It on the Mountain** - Text: African American spiritual, refrain; John W. Work Jr., 1872-1925, stanzas, alt.  
**O Little Town of Bethlehem** - Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835-1893  
**Away in a Manger**- Text: North American, 19th cent.  
**Hark the Herald Angels Sing** - Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.  
**Angels We Have Heard on High** - Text: French carol; tr. H. F. Hemy, *The Crown of Jesus Music*, 1864  
**Silent Night, Holy Night** - Text: Joseph Mohr, 1792-1849; tr. John F. Young, 1820-1885