

# Christmas Eve

## Lessons and Carols

### Friday, December 24, 2021

(\* indicates the assembly stands

\*\* indicates singing is encouraged)

Prelude	<i>"Quem Pastores"</i>	H. Walcha
Words of Welcome & Service Announcements		
*Hymn 283** (All: 1, Choir: 3 & 4; All: O Come let us adore... )		<i>"O Come, All Ye Faithful"</i>
*Christmas Dialogue and Greeting		see page 4
*Opening Prayer		
Celebration Bells	<i>"Christmas Night"</i>	M. Helman
First Reading		Micah 5:2-5a
*Hymn 279** (All: 1, Solo: 3)		<i>"O Little Town of Bethlehem"</i>
Second Reading		Luke 2: 1-7
*Hymn 278** (All: 1, Choir: 2 & 3 )		<i>"Away in a Manger"</i>
Third Reading		Luke 2: 8-12
Anthem	<i>"O Beloved Shepherds"/ "O ihr lieben Hirten"</i>	Hammerschmidt
Fourth Reading		Luke 2: 13-20
*Hymn 289** (Women: 1/ Men: 2 / All: 3 + Gloria in excelsis...)		<i>"Angels We Have Heard on High"</i>
Reflection		
Anthem	<i>"Shepherd's Pipe Carol"</i>	J. Rutter
*Offering Prayer		
*Prayers		
*Lord's Prayer		

*(Candles are lit)*

Music for Reflection      *“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”*      arr. S. Knarr

\*Fifth Reading      John 1:1-14

\*Hymn of Light 281\*\* (Solo: German, v. 2 All: 1, 3) see page 6      *“Silent Night”*

\*Blessing & Dismissal      see page 4

*(Candles are extinguished)*

Postlude      *“Noël Étranger”*      L. C. D'Aquin

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**In winter’s deepest night, we welcome the light of the Christ child.** The angels declare that Jesus’ birth is good and joyful news for everyone, including lowly shepherds. Filled with the light that shines in our lives, we go forth to share the light of Christ with the whole world.

**Welcome to worship this evening,** whether you are joining us in person, online or via the Golden Hour.

**Christmas Day Worship:** Join us at 9:30 am for in-person or livestream worship (via [stmattskw.com](https://stmattskw.com)) and at noon for worship on FaithFM 93.7 (<https://kitchener.faithfm.org>).

## Christmas Dialogue

L: Jesus, the bright Morning Star, shines light in the world.

**A: By day and night he shines for all to see.**

L: Jesus was born in the midst of injustice and poverty

**A: that the world may see the justice and richness of God.**

L: God so loved the world that God sent Jesus,

**A: so that all who believe in him may not perish but have eternal life.**

L: Jesus is the light of the world.

**A: Jesus is the light of our lives.**

L: Sing to God a new song!

**A: A song of hope, joy, and peace around the world.**

## Blessing & Dismissal

L: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow!

**A: Praise God, all creatures here below!**

L: You are the shepherds telling the story.

**A: We tell it in the streets and across the land.**

L: You are the wise ones worshiping with thanksgiving.

**A: We worship with gifts of song and service, talents and treasures.**

L: You are the angels announcing peace.

**A: We live with joy and go now in peace.**

L: Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you now and forever.

**A: Amen.**

## O ihr lieben Hirten/ O Beloved Shepherds

O beloved shepherds, fear not!

Behold, I bring you tidings of joy, great joy, that will come to all people.

Joy, great joy, O joy!

For you today a Saviour is born who is Christ, the Lord.

Be not afraid! Joy, great joy, O joy!

And this shall be your sign:

you will find the child wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.

Be not afraid!

Take heed, my heart, and look over there:

What lies there in the little manger?

Who is this lovely little child?

Be not afraid!

It is the dear little Jesus,

Joy, great joy, O joy!

For you today a Saviour is born who is Christ, the Lord.

Glory be to God in the highest, peace on earth, and goodwill to all people!

Silent Night, Holy Night!

**1 All:**

**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 Solo:*

*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 All:**

**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.**

## **Leading Worship Tonight**

**Minister:** Rev. Carey Meadows-Helmer

**Assisting Minister:** Scott Kuschnereit

**Diaconal Minister of Music :** Deacon Scott Knarr

**Choral Scholars:** Nicole Hamilton, Laura Moolenbeek, Dylan Siebert, Jacob Steinmann, Hannah Swiderski

**Vocal Ensemble:** Julia Crnko, Pauline Finch, Lana Moses, Bev Roeder, Erika Sattler, Jim Sattler

**Soprano soloist:** Hannah Swiderski

**Celebration Bells:** Julia Crnko, Gwenanne Jorgenson, Anneke Klaver, Laura McLellan, Linda McLellan, Christine Klaver-Schmidt, Chloe Schmidt, Sam Schmidt, Mary-Ellen Winkler

**Flute & Recorder:** Pauline Finch

**Guitar:** Jacob Steinmann

**Lectors:** Rev'd Dr. Allen Jorgenson, Gabrielle Meadows-Helmer

**Radio Operator:** Gary Pootz

**Building Monitor:** Steve Dickin (519-580-8407)

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## **Worship Notes**

**In our prayers** Susan, Marie, Walter, Grace, Maureen, Ruth-Marie, Frank and Bernice.

**The Golden Hour** this evening is sponsored in loving memory of husband Alvin Meyer and cherished grandson, Michael Neuhof, who entered Life Eternal, March 15, 2002 and January 20, 2106 respectively, by Audrey Meyer and family.

And

Presented to the Glory of the Christ Child by the Treusch families in memory of Esther Wolfard (2009), Bill Wolfhard (2002), Bill Treusch (1984), Bob

Treusch (1972), Rita Treusch (1956), and Reg Hoddle (1956), who were called to the church triumphant.

And

In loving memory of Trent Karges who entered Life Eternal December 23, 2008 by Diane, Megan, Lindsay and Dan, Donna and family.

**The Guides to Worship** are dedicated to all those born in 2021, in honour of Jesus' birth. Sponsor Anonymous.

**Handheld Candles:** At tonight's Christmas Eve Service there will be handheld candles for all people. Please pick up a candle on the way into the sanctuary. Lighting the handheld candle will be done towards the end of the service. To light your candle, tip the unlit candle into the lit candle. Do not tip the lit candle. You will need a candle snuffer to extinguish the candle. We have made a small candle snuffer for everyone. Use the candle snuffer provided. Do not pull down your mask to blow out the candle.

**Nursery:** The nursery and Sunday school rooms are closed on tonight.

**Activity Bags for Children:** There will be an activity bag available for children on the table in the narthex. Please take one to your pew.

## **Important Information for today's worship**

- **Masks:** According to the Waterloo Region Bylaw, wearing a mask indoors is mandatory.
- **Personal belongings:** You may use the basement coat racks, but please use the Church Street side staircase to descend back down (follow the arrows). Please still exit via the left (Charles St.) staircase and doors.

- **Offering:** Please place your offering in one of the offering plates upon leaving.
- **The Peace** will be shared without physical contact
- **Guides to Worship:** Please place these in the recycling bins in the Narthex upon leaving, or take them home.
- **Exiting:** At the end of the service, all will remain in place until the end of the postlude. Then, following the ushers' guidance, those in the back pews will exit first, going directly out the only official exit: the Benton parking lot doors. Please do not mingle inside, and maintain distancing until you are in the parking lot. We encourage you to mingle outside while maintaining physical distancing.
- **Washrooms:** Are not sanitized after each usage. Please only use the ones in the Sanctuary basement, follow all signage and maintain physical distancing.
- **Coffee Hour** is cancelled until further notice.
- **Mingling:** Please do not mingle while indoors and respect 2 metre physical distancing at all times. Please refrain from shaking hands or other physical contact with people outside your social bubble.
- **Pastors** will not be greeting at the door or mingling indoors, but will make an effort to come outside asap after the service. If you wish to talk to them, best to call or email at another time. An in-person meeting may be scheduled.
- **Water Coolers** are not to be used.
- **Access** to the rest of the building (e.g. Office, Fellowship Hall, Scout Hall) is not permitted.
- **Property Cleaning and Sanitizing:** Will be increased throughout this time
- **Thank you for helping to keep all of us as safe as possible during this pandemic, by following these directions!**



## General Announcements

**Parking at 39 Church Street.** Due to the closing of the sale of our 39/51 Church Street properties, the surface parking lot across the street is no longer ours to use and members should now park either at our main lot beside the church or in the Parking Garage on Charles Street. Parking at the garage is free on Sundays. Please consider using the parking garage if you are able, in order to keep space available at the 54 Benton St. parking lot for those who need to park closer. Please note that continuing to park at the 39 Church Street lot will be at your own risk. Thank you for understanding!

**2022 Boxed Offering Envelopes** are available for pickup until January 9, 2022 in the Sanctuary basement by the contact tracing area. Any offerings received in a 2022 envelope during 2021 will be held until 2022 for processing. After January 9, please go to the church office during office hours, Mon.-Fri., 10 am-noon & 1-3 pm for your box. We appreciate your cooperation in taking your box as soon as possible. Please note that the designation "Benevolence" has been replaced with the wording "Eastern Synod and wider church". While the wording has been updated, there is no change to where this money will go. It is still a "Benevolence" offering, forwarded to the Eastern Synod office for ministry and mission work in the Synod, across the ELCIC and throughout the world via the Lutheran World Federation and CLWR. If you have any questions, please contact the office.

**Simplified Guides to Worship.** You may have noticed our Guides to Worship look a little different! Starting the new Church Year (Nov. 28th), the guide covers we have been using for many years are no longer able to be purchased. Pastor Carey has prepared seasonal cover pages based on art contained in the "Evangelical Lutheran Worship" books. Also, as we have excellent lectors, it was found that we do not need the readings printed in the Guides. The readings of Scripture in worship are meant to be heard communally, and not read

individually. Furthermore, the costs of purchasing the covers will be saved.

If you would still like to follow along with the readings, there are Bibles available to borrow at the back of the Sanctuary (pulpit side), or you may consider one of many smartphone apps that contain the NRSV translation which we use in worship (such as “Olive Tree”). Any Congregational Psalms will be printed within the Guides.

**2021 contributions and expenses** must be received by end of day on December 31, for inclusion in your 2021 Income Tax Receipt. \*\*Please note: the church office reopens Monday, January 3, 2022.

### Contact Information

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