

Third Sunday in Advent

INTERGENERATIONAL
CHRISTMAS
PROGRAMME

December 11, 2022



Advent 3
Sunday, December 11, 2022
(indicates the assembly stands)*

Gathering

Prelude

Words of Welcome & Service Announcements

*Confession and Forgiveness (see page 4)

*Hymn 242 *"Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn"*

*Lighting of the Advent Wreath

*Hymn 253 vs. 1, 2, 3 (see page 5) *"He Came Down"*

*Greeting

*Kyrie p. 165

*Prayer of the Day

Word

Reading Isaiah 35:1-10

Christmas Programme

Scene 1: Mary's Home in Nazareth

"We Wish You a Merry Christmas"

Duet *"Ave Maria"* Bach/Gounod

Scene 2: The Inn In Bethlehem

279 *"O Little Town of Bethlehem"* (vs. 1 children, vs. 2 all)

Scene 3: Shepherd's Field

281 *"Silent Night"* (vs 1 children, vs. 2, 3 all)

Duet *"What Child Is This"*

Scene 4: The Stable

277 *"Away in the Manger "* (vs. 1 children, vs. 2 all)

Duet *"Ode to Joy"* Beethoven

267 *"Joy to the World"*

*Prayers of Intercession

A: hear our prayer.

Meal

*Offering Hymn 901 v. 1, 3 (see page 6) *“Now the Heavens”*

*Offering Prayer

*Great Thanksgiving p. 172

*Holy, Holy, Holy p. 173

*Thanksgiving at the Table

Lord’s Prayer (“Our Father, who art in heaven...”*) p. 173

Lamb of God p. 174

Communion Hymns 491, 266

*Table Blessing

*Prayer after Communion

Sending

General Announcements

*Blessing

*Hymn 290 *“Go Tell It On the Mountain”*

*Dismissal **A: Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Cover image and liturgy from Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2020 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SB142079

A note of joyful expectation marks today’s worship. Isaiah announces that the desert shall rejoice and blossom. The children, adults and congregation announce the birth in the baby Jesus in story and song.

Leading Worship Today

Minister: Rev. Carey Meadows-Helmer

Assisting Minister: Scott Kuschnerreit

Diaconal Minister of Music: Deacon Scott Knarr

Lector: Tim Schaner

Poet Narrator: Delaney Laking

Angels: Lauren Fischer, Elise Meadows-Helmer, Julia Crnko

Shepherds: Mateo Swainson, Spencer Fischer, Linda McLellen

Mary: Gabrielle Meadows-Helmer

Joseph: James Meadows-Helmer

Innkeeper: Mateo Swainson

Wiseones: Sue Laking, Pastor Carey, Pastor Sebastian

Flute: Laura McLellan

Piano: Chloe Schmidt

Guitars: Jeremy Hawrylak and Aaron Henry

Cello: James Meadows-Helmer

Voice Solo: Gabrielle Meadows-Helmer

Violin: Pastor Sebastian

Animals and Angels: Congregation

Broadcast: Gary Pootz

Building Monitor: Don Robins (519-502-2099)

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,
who alone does wondrous things.

A.: Blessed be God's name forever. Amen.

P: Beloved, ..

God of new beginnings,

A.; we confess that we have not welcomed your holy reign.

We have strayed from your paths.

We prepare for war instead of peace.

We dishonour one another and your creation.

Purify us with your refining fire

and set us again on your way of love,

that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance,

and welcome your coming among us.

Amen.

Fire Exits: All Sanctuary fire exits remain operational during lower-level demolition and renovations. This includes the three Narthex (Entrance) doors, the mid-tower door (half-way up the right side), and the staircase at the front left, piano side.

Church Fire Plan For everyone's awareness, a copy of the Church Fire Plan for safe exit from the Sanctuary appears in the back of the worship books. Please take a moment to review for your own safety.

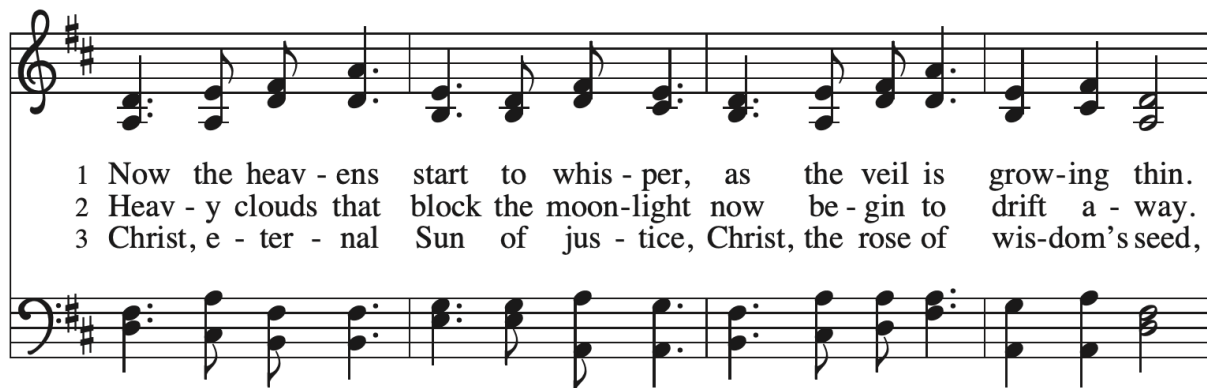
He Came Down

- 1 He came down that we may have HOPE
he came down that we may have hope;
he came down that we may have hope;
hallelujah forevermore.
- 2 He came down that we may have PEACE
he came down that we may have peace;
he came down that we may have peace;
hallelujah forevermore.
- 3 He came down that we may have JOY;
he came down that we may have joy;
he came down that we may have joy;
hallelujah forevermore.

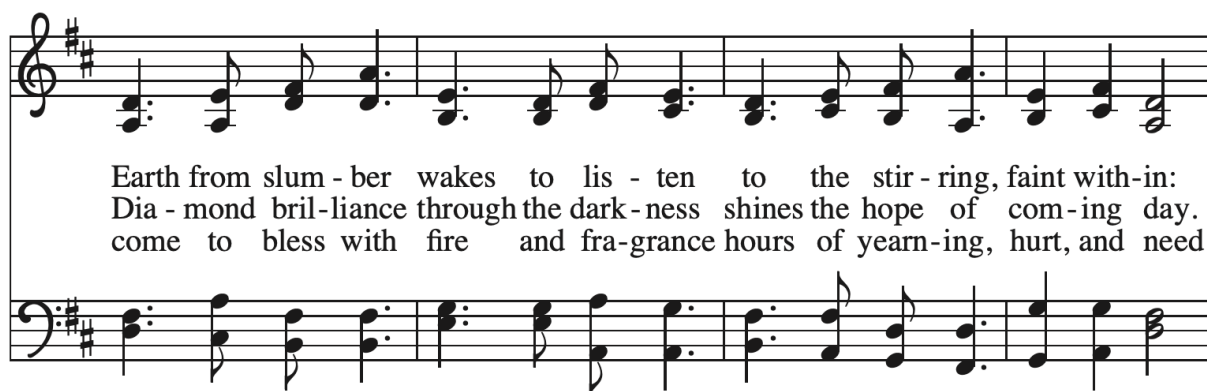
Text: Cameroon traditional

Space for your notes on today's service, for your personal reflection.

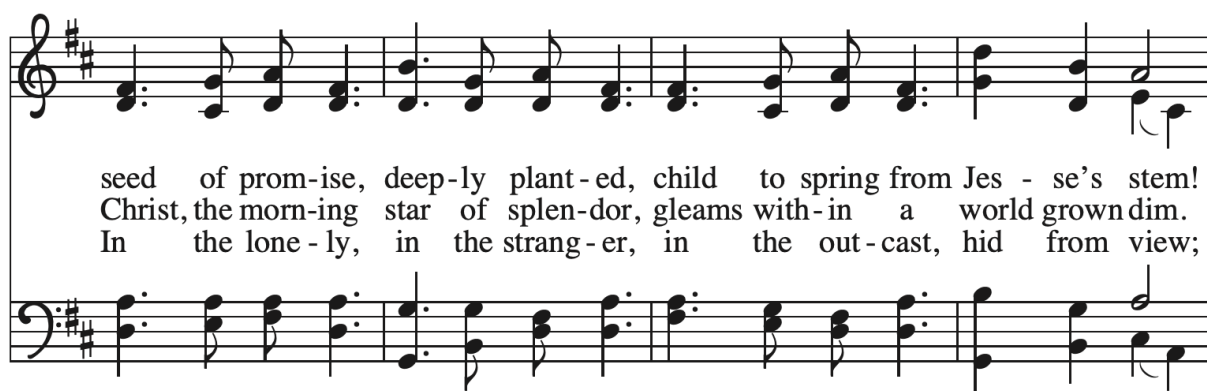
Now the Heavens Start to Whisper



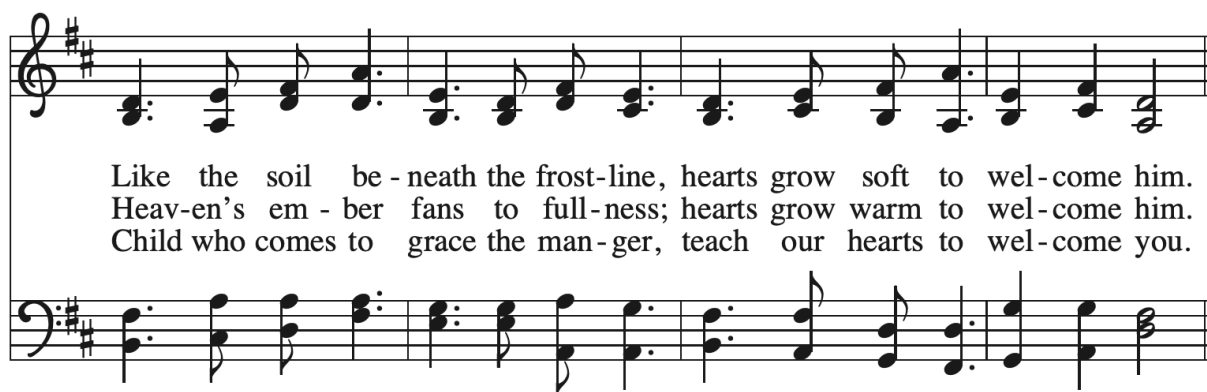
1 Now the heav - ens start to whis - per, as the veil is grow - ing thin.
2 Heav - y clouds that block the moon - light now be - gin to drift a - way.
3 Christ, e - ter - nal Sun of jus - tice, Christ, the rose of wis - dom's seed,



Earth from slum - ber wakes to lis - ten to the stir - ring, faint with - in:
Dia - mond bril - liance through the dark - ness shines the hope of com - ing day.
come to bless with fire and fra - grance hours of yearn - ing, hurt, and need.



seed of prom - ise, deep - ly plant - ed, child to spring from Jes - se's stem!
Christ, the morn - ing star of splen - dor, gleams with - in a world grown dim.
In the lone - ly, in the strang - er, in the out - cast, hid from view;



Like the soil be - neath the frost - line, hearts grow soft to wel - come him.
Heav - en's em - ber fans to full - ness; hearts grow warm to wel - come him.
Child who comes to grace the man - ger, teach our hearts to wel - come you.

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953
Music: SUO GÂN, Welsh melody; arr. hymnal version
Text © 2006 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.
Arr. © 2020 Augsburg Fortress

Important Information for today's worship

- **Self-Screening:** Members are reminded to continue to perform self-assessments if they have COVID symptoms.
- **Masks:** We support people's choice to wear a mask, and we strongly encourage the following of current guidelines.
- **Physical distancing:** Members are encouraged to continue physical distancing where possible indoors.
- **Offering:** Please place your offering in one of the offering plates in the Narthex (entranceway) upon entering. The offering plates will be again presented to the High Altar during the service.
- **The Peace:** We support people's choices for passing of the peace.
- **Exiting:** At the end of the service, please remain in place until the end of the postlude.
- **Ministers** will be greeting worshippers after the postlude in the Narthex, without handshakes.
- **Thank you for helping to keep all of us as safe as possible during this pandemic, by following these directions!**

Worship Notes

In our prayers Bruce, John, Susan, Marie, Grace, Maureen, Frank and Bernice.

General Announcements

Offering Envelope boxes are available to be picked up outside the office on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, after which they will be available in the office starting January 3.

Update: West Tower Door for Emergency Only. Due to the current demolition, when going in to the church house or washrooms, use the west stair tower door and stay on that floor. Use the hallway by the office to the stairway to the floor below. The stairs in the west tower are closed to the lower level sanctuary and should only be used in case of an emergency to exit the building.

Phone System Update:

Dear Congregation Members,

It is with great pleasure we announce that St Matthews now has its new VoIP (Voice over Internet Protocol) Phone System up and running! Staff have been trained, and the door buzzer is working. Thank you for your patience while Ron Roeder and John Heil did the due diligence in choosing the right phone system for St. Matthews. Also thank you to Leanne, who managed to answer phones and get people into the building when the phones were not operational in full capacity, as well as being the main contact person and trainer for the new system.

Please note the new extension numbers as listed here:

Pastor Sebastian – 2

Pastor Carey – 3

Deacon Scott – 4

Bookkeeper Rick Kitchen – 5

Administrator Leanne Vanderhout – 6

Please also note that handsets in other locations (e.g. Room 102, Kitchen) have been removed. The church phone number (519-742-0462) remains unchanged.

Christmas at St. Matthews Worship Services

Christmas Eve (German)

December 24th

5:00 pm

Christmas Day

December 25th

9:30 am

Christmas Eve

(English)

December 24th

7:30 pm

New Year's Eve

December 31st

4:30 pm

New Year's Day

January 1st

9:30 am



54 Benton Street, Kitchener, 519.742.0462



JOIN OUR MAILING LIST

Get the newsletter and email updates on upcoming church events, announcements, reminders and service changes.

Contact info@stmattskw.com today!

Contact Information

Office: 519-742-0462 stmattskw.com

Rev. Carey Meadows-Helmer Ext. 3
pastorcarey@stmattskw.com

Rev. Sebastian Meadows-Helmer Ext. 2
pastorsebastian@stmattskw.com

Deacon Scott Knarr Ext. 4
deaconscott@stmattskw.com

Leanne Vanderhout Ext. 6
lvanderhout@stmattskw.com



[Facebook](#)



[Instagram](#)



[YouTube](#)



[Donate](#)



St. Matthews Lutheran Church

54 BENTON STREET
KITCHENER
N2G 3H2
519.742.0462

stmattskw.com
info@stmattskw.com