

CHRISTMAS

A CHILD BORN AMONG US



St. Matthews Church

WHERE COMMUNITY GATHERS AND GROWS

January 1, 2023

Name of Jesus
Sunday, January 1, 2023
(* indicates the assembly stands)

Gathering

Prelude *"Greensleeves"* P. Crisafulli

Words of Welcome & Service Announcements

*Hymn 620 vs. 1-5 *"How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds"*

*Greeting

*This is the Feast p. 169

*Prayer of the Day

Solo *"Cold December Flies Away"* M. Barker

Word

First Reading Numbers 6:22-27

Psalm 8 (see page 4) (sung responsively by verse)

Second Reading Galatians 4:4-7

*Gospel Acclamation

*Gospel Luke 2:15-21

Homily

*Hymn 293 (vs. 1-4) *"That Boy-Child of Mary"*

*Prayers of Intercession **A: hear our prayer.**

*Peace

Meal

*Offering Hymn 290 *"Go Tell It On the Mountain"*

*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 Distribution	<i>"Pastorale"</i>	A. Vivaldi
Communion Hymn 292		
*Table Blessing		
*Prayer after Communion		
Sending		
General Announcements		
*Blessing		
*Hymn 299	<i>"Cold December Flies Away"</i>	
*Dismissal	A: Thanks be to God.	
Postlude	<i>"Noël sur les anches"</i>	L. Daquin

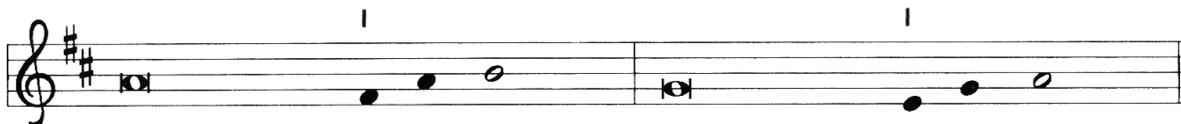
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From the beginning, through baptism, we are called Christian. We are "Christened" at the font. Bearing Christ's name, we share the same Father and are invited to address this parent intimately: Abba! Jesus bears our sins in humble obedience to the will of God. Today we pray that the mind of Christ, whose name we bear, would be our own. It is a good way to begin, again, another year.

Psalm 8



Tone 1



²you whose glory is chanted above the heavens
out of the mouths of in - | fants and children;
you have set up a fortress against your enemies,
to silence the foe | and avenger.

**³When I consider your heavens, the work | of your fingers,
the moon and the stars you have set | in their courses,**

⁴what are mere mortals that you should be mind - | ful of them,
human beings that you should | care for them?

Refrain

⁵Yet you have made them little less | than divine;
with glory and hon - | or you crown them.

**⁶You have made them rule over the works | of your hands;
you have put all things un - | der their feet:**

⁷all | flocks and cattle,
even the wild beasts | of the field,

**⁸the birds of the air, the fish | of the sea,
and whatever passes along the paths | of the sea.**

Refrain

Leading Worship Today

Minister: Rev. Carey Meadows-Helmer

Assisting Minister: Scott Kuschnereit

Diaconal Minister of Music: Deacon Scott Knarr

Flute: Pauline Finch

Broadcast: Andrew Weber

Building Monitor: Ron Roeder (519-895-6833)

Worship Notes

All are welcome at the meal where Jesus is present loving you and forgiving you. The pastor will distribute communion wafers using tongs. Gluten-free wafers are also available; please indicate this request to the Pastor. You may then take a pre-poured wine cup from the larger tray or a juice cup from the smaller tray. If you would (also) like to receive a blessing, please approach the Pastor with your arms crossed over your chest. If you'd like to receive Communion in your pew, the pastor will come to you. Please let an usher or the pastor know before worship if possible.

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

General Announcements

There is no Coffee Hour this morning, we will see you again on January 8. Happy New Year!

Sunday, January 22nd, 2023: Joint Service with UNA Church at 10 a.m. For this year's Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, we'll be holding a Service of the Word jointly with our siblings in Christ from UNA

Church. Please note the later service start time. It's been a few years since we last held a joint service, most recently with Trinity United Church. These service are always a wonderful way to explore our various gifts, discover what is in common, and try something a little out of the ordinary in the spirit of ecumenism.

Offering Envelope boxes are available to be picked up in the office starting January 3.

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 be 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!**

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.

Contact Information

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