

CHRISTMAS PROGRAMME



December 15, 2024

Christmas Play / Advent 3
Sunday, December 15, 2024
(* indicates the assembly stands)

Gathering

Prelude "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" C. Oliver

Words of Welcome & Service Announcements

*Hymn 266 "All Earth Is Hopeful"

*Lighting of the Advent Wreath

*Hymn 247 v. 1-3 "Come Now, O Prince of Peace"

*Greeting

*Prayer of the Day

Duet "The Minstrel Boy" arr. C. Donkin

Word

First Reading Isaiah 9:6-8

Solo "What Child Is This"

Second Reading John 1

Children's Choir "Who Are We Waiting For?" R. Schram

Gospel: Good News of Great Joy

Scene 1: Mary's Dance

Duet "Mango Walk" arr. C. Donkin

Scene 2: The Angel Appears

Hymn 289 "Angels We Have Heard on High"

Scene 3: Come and See

Hymn 279 "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

Duet "A Cloudy Day" unknown

Solo	<i>"My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness"</i>	Vaughn
Scene 4: Jesus is Born		
Hymn 290		<i>"Go Tell it On the Mountain"</i>
Hymn 300		<i>"The First Noel"</i>
Children's Choir	<i>"Ring and Celebrate!"</i>	Brad Nix
*Hymn of the Day 267		<i>"Joy to the World"</i>
*Prayers of Intercession		A: receive our prayer
*Peace		
Thanksgiving for the World		
*Offering Solo	<i>"O Holy Night"</i>	
*Thanksgiving for the Word		
*Lord's Prayer (<i>Our Father in heaven...</i>)		p. 221
Sending		
General Announcements		
*Blessing		
*Hymn 253		<i>"He Came Down"</i>
*Dismissal		A: Thanks be to God.
Postlude	<i>"It Came Upon a Midnight Clear"</i>	D. Pearl

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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. The AED and a first aid kit are in the hallway by the office.

Christ's presence in our midst is cause for singing. The nearness of the God in prayer, in every circumstance, is cause for rejoicing. The coming of God With Us, is good news. Great joy is the tone for the third Sunday of Advent.

Leading Worship Today

Minister: Rev. Carey Meadows-Helmer

Diaconal Minister of Music: Deacon Scott Knarr

Lector: Kim Schaner

Children: Davis, Elise, Ezra, Gabrielle, James, Mason, Meghan, Sydney, Vivienne

Cello: James

Flute: Julia

Guitars: Dennis, Delaney

Tone Chimes: Linda, Mikala, Children

Narrators: Delaney, Gabrielle, James, Karen L., Sue

Piano: Bob

Solos: Gabrielle, Dennis

Violin: Rev. Sebastian Meadows-Helmer

Broadcast: Andrew Weber

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

Worship Notes

In our prayers Anneke, Glennis Koenig, Judy, Clare, Yvonne, Jeanette, Meaghan, Henry, Grace, Maureen and John.

The Advent Wreath

One of the best-known customs for the season is the Advent wreath. The wreath and winter candle-lighting amid growing darkness strengthen some of the Advent images found in the Bible. The unbroken circle of greens is an image of everlasting life, a victory wreath, the crown of Christ, or the wheel of time itself. Christians use the wreath as a sign that Christ reaches into our time to lead us to the light of everlasting life. The four candles mark the progress of the four weeks of Advent and the growth of light. Sometimes the wreath is embellished with natural dried flowers or fruit. Its evergreen branches lead the household and the congregation to the evergreen Christmas tree. In many homes, the family gathers for prayers around the wreath.

Important Information for today's worship

- **Offering:** Please place your offering in one of the offering plates in the Narthex (entranceway) upon entering. The offering plates will be presented at 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.
- **Please join us for Fellowship Time** after worship in the Community Hall. Use any of the staircases (Narthex, west stair tower, parking lot tower) to go down.
- **Downstairs Washrooms** can be accessed via any of the staircases. There is one wheelchair accessible washroom, and the rest are all-gender washrooms. A further all-gender washroom is also available via the west stair tower door (front left of the Sanctuary) on the same level. Turn right at the hallway.

General Announcements

Boxed Envelopes are ready for pick up outside the church office.



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

Contact info@stmattskw.com today!

Contact Information

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Christmas Worship



Christmas Eve (German)

December 24th

5:00 pm

Christmas Eve (English)

December 24th

7:30 pm

New Year's Eve

December 31st

4:30 pm

Christmas Day

December 25th

9:30 am



Merry Christmas

St. Matthews Lutheran

54 Benton Street, Kitchener



St. Matthews Lutheran Church

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