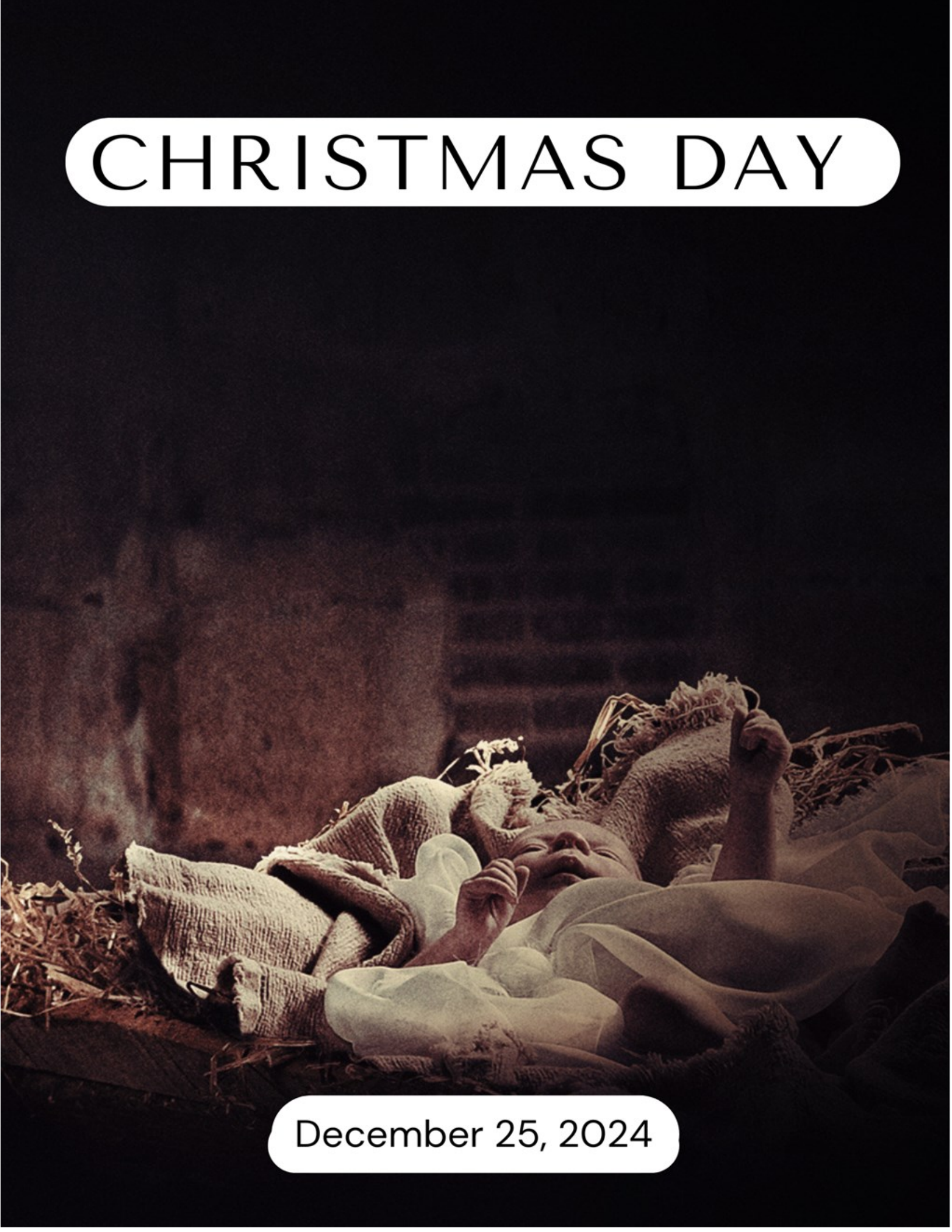


CHRISTMAS DAY



December 25, 2024

Christmas Day
Sunday, December 25, 2024
(indicates the assembly stands)*

Gathering

Prelude	<i>"Lo How a Rose"</i>	G. Near
Words of Welcome & Service Announcements		
*Hymn 278		<i>"Away in a Manger"</i>
*Dialogue (see page 4)		
*Greeting		
*Prayer of the Day		
Solo	<i>"Sweet was the Song the Virgin Sang"</i>	W. Ballet

Word

First Reading		Isaiah 62:6-12
Psalm 97 (see page 5)		<i>(assembly sings refrain)</i>
Second Reading		Titus 3:4-7
*Gospel Acclamation	<i>"Alleluia"</i>	p. 124
*Gospel		Luke 2:[1-7] 8-20
Sermon		
*Hymn 296		<i>"What Child Is This"</i>
*Nicene Creed		p. 126
*Prayers of Intercession		A: receive our prayer
*Peace		

Meal

*Offering Hymn 276		<i>"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"</i>
*Offering Prayer		

*Great Thanksgiving		p. 129
*Holy, Holy, Holy		p. 130
*Thanksgiving at the Table		p. 130
*Lord's Prayer (<i>Our Father, who art in heaven...</i>)		p. 134
Lamb of God		p. 135
Special Music	<i>"He Came as a Babe from Heaven"</i>	D. Humphreys
Communion Hymn 298		<i>"The Bells of Christmas"</i>
*Table Blessing		
*Prayer after Communion		
Sending		
General Announcements		
*Blessing		
*Hymn 284	<i>"'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime"</i>	
*Dismissal (see page 6)		
Postlude	<i>"Toccata on Angels We Have Heard on High"</i>	M. Helman

Cover image and liturgy from Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2024 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SB142079

As on the first day of creation, on this Christmas Day the Word illumines the world, shining forth to bring all things into being. Today we celebrate the incarnate Word, God becoming flesh to live among us in the person of Jesus Christ then and now. Emboldened by the good news of Christ's birth, along with the shepherds, Mary and Joseph, and all witnesses to the light of Christ, we declare to the world that we have indeed seen and been transformed by the arrival of "the salvation of our God." O come, let us adore!

Dialogue

L: Come! Look upon the baby Jesus,
cradled in the arms of his mother.

**A: Seeing this wondrous sight,
may our hearts be comforted
and our spirits filled with peace.**

L: Come! Listen to choirs of angels
announcing good news to all people.

**A: Hearing this marvellous song, may we too sing:
Glory to God in the highest!**

L: Come! Receive this ancient story in your heart,
not as history but as a gift.

**A: Opening our hearts to this great mystery,
may Christ be born in us today.**

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.

Psalm 97

Refrain:



To - day a Sa-viour has been born to us:
He is Christ the Lord.

The Lord reigns; let the earth rejoice; let the multitude of the isles be glad. Clouds and darkness surround the Lord, righteousness and justice are the foundations of God's throne.

Refrain

Fire goes before the Lord, burning up enemies on every side. Lightnings light up the world; the earth sees and trembles. The mountains melt like wax before the Lord of all the earth. The heavens declare your righteousness, O Lord, and all the peoples see your glory.

Refrain

Confounded be all who worship carved images and delight in false gods! Bow down before the Lord, all you gods. Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah rejoice, because of your judgments, O Lord.

For you are the Lord, most high over all the earth; you are exalted far above all gods. You who love the Lord, hate evil! God guards the lives of the saints and rescues them from the hand of the wicked.

Refrain

Light dawns for the righteous, and joy for the honest of heart. Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous, and give thanks to God's holy name.

Refrain

Dismissal

- L: Glory to God in the highest!
- A: **And peace to God's people on earth!**
- L: Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus.
- A: **Thanks be to God.**
-

Leading Worship Today

Minister: Rev. Carey Meadows-Helmer

Assisting Minister: Scott Kuschnereit

Diaconal Minister of Music: Deacon Scott Knarr

Choral Scholar: Hannah Swiderski

Communion Server: Pat Gillick

Broadcast: Andrew Weber

Building Monitor: Dennis Diebolt (519-571-4525)

Worship Notes

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

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.

- **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.

Please have your 2024 donations to the office before 11:00 am on December 31, 2024.

If you need to be reimbursed for expenses, please submit receipts by December 31, 2024.

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