

Christmas Day

THE POWER OF

YES

December 25, 2025

Nativity of Our Lord: Christmas Day
“God said Yes!”
Thursday, December 25, 2025
(indicates the assembly stands)*

Gathering

Prelude	<i>“O Little Town of Bethlehem”</i>	C. Christiansen
Words of Welcome & Service Announcements		
*Hymn 270		<i>“Hark, the Herald Angels Sing”</i>
*Greeting		
*Glory to God		p. 213
*Prayer of the Day		
Solo	<i>“Christkind”</i>	P. Cornelius

Word

First Reading		Isaiah 52:7-10
Psalm 98 (see page 4)		<i>(sung responsively)</i>
Second Reading		Hebrews 1:1-4
*Gospel Acclamation	<i>“Alleluia”</i>	p. 151
*Gospel Reading		
Sermon		
*Hymn of the Day 295		<i>“Of the Father’s Love Begotten”</i>
*Nicene Creed		p. 104
*Prayers of Intercession		A: Your mercy is great.
*Peace		

Meal

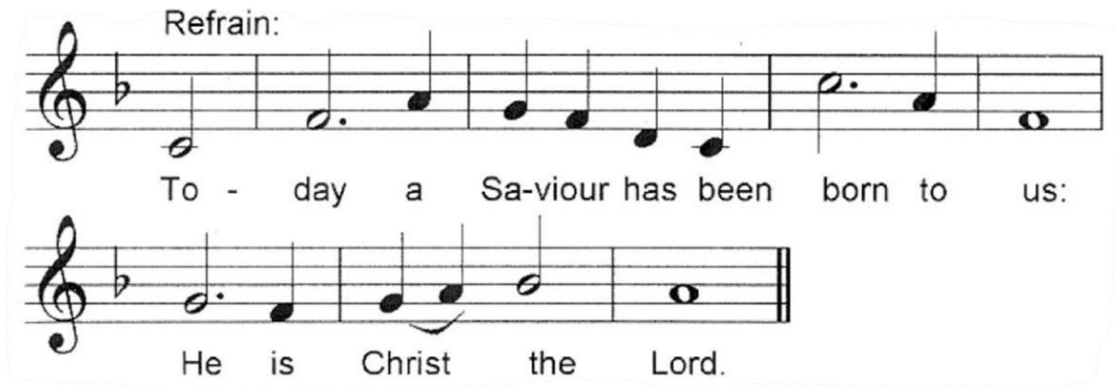
*Offering Hymn 294		<i>“In the Bleak Midwinter”</i>
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*Offering Prayer	
*Great Thanksgiving	p. 152
*Holy, Holy, Holy	p. 153
*Thanksgiving at the Table	
*Lord's Prayer (<i>Our Father, who art in heaven...</i>)	p. 134
Lamb of God	p. 154
Communion Hymn 272	<i>"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"</i>
Table Blessing	
Prayer after Communion	
Sending	
General Announcements	
*Blessing	
*Hymn 290	<i>"Go, Tell it on the Mountain"</i>
*Dismissal	A: Thanks be to God.
Postlude	<i>"Swiss Noel"</i> G. Lasceux

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Instead of beginning with a manger or a baptism, for instance, John's Gospel begins at the dawn of creation: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." God's "yes" is expressed in the Word enfleshment, its coming to dwell among humanity. A second yes emerges in when John says that those who receive this Word become "children of God."

Psalm 98



¹Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done | marvelous things,
whose right hand and holy arm have | won the victory.

²**O LORD, you have made | known your victory,
you have revealed your righteousness in the sight | of the nations.**

³You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the | house of Israel;
all the ends of the earth have seen the victory | of our God.

⁴**Shout with joy to the LORD, | all you lands;
lift up your voice, re- | joice, and sing.**

⁵Sing to the LORD | with the harp,
with the harp and the | voice of song.

⁶**With trumpets and the sound | of the horn
shout with joy before the | king, the LORD.**

⁷Let the sea roar, and | all that fills it,
the world and those who | dwell therein.

⁸**Let the rivers | clap their hands,
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD,
who comes to | judge the earth.**

⁹The LORD will judge the | world with righteousness
and the peo- | ples with equity.

Leading Worship Today

Minister: Rev. Sebastian Meadows-Helmer

Assisting Minister: Bob Loeb sack

Diaconal Minister of Music: Deacon Scott Knarr

Choral Scholar: Hannah Swiderski

Communion Server: Pat G iilck

Broadcast: Jason Smolak

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

Worship Notes

In our prayers, Marjorie, Kevin, Betty, Anneke, Judy, Yvonne, Jeanette, Meaghan, Henry, Maureen, and John.

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.
- **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.

Christkind Christ-child

Das einst ein Kind auf Erden war,
Christkindlein, kommt noch jedes
Jahr.

He who once was a child on this earth,
the Christ-child, comes yet again every
year.

Kommet vom hohen Sternenzelt,
Freut und beglückt alle Welt.

He comes from the sublime starry sky,
and delights and inspires all the world!

Mit Kindern feiert's froh den Tag,
Wo Christkind in der Krippe lag.

He joyously celebrates with children the
day the Christchild lay in his manger;

Den Christbaum zündet's überall,
Weckt Orgelklang und
Glockenschall.

All around, he ignites the Christmas trees
and awakens the peal of an organ and the
toll of bells.

Christkindlein kommt zu Arm und
Reich, Die Guten sind ihm alle
gleich.

The Christ-child comes to the poor and
the rich, for to him, the good are all alike.

Danket ihm denn und grüßt es
fein, Auch Euch beglückte
Christkindlein.

Thank him then, and greet him well;
the Christ-child has made you happy as
well!.

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General Announcements

Please have your 2025 donations to the office before 11:00 am on December 31, 2025. If you need to be reimbursed for expenses, please submit receipts by December 31, 2025.

Join us for a Christmas Ice Skating Party on Friday, January 2nd from 2- 3 pm at Aactiva Sportsplex located at 135 Lennox Lewis Way. Come to skate or socialize.

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.

Upcoming Events at St. Matthews

- Wednesday, December 31:** New Year’s Eve Service (4:30 pm)
- Friday, January 2:** Ice Skating Party, January 2, 2-3 pm, Activa Sportplex
- Wednesday, January 7:** Noontime Oasis Resumes

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	deaconsconfig@stmattskw.com
Leanne Vanderhout	Ext. 6	lvanderhout@stmattskw.com



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The St. Matthews Centre, our community hub, has a website which links all upcoming events, especially concerts of the KW Symphony and the Grand Philharmonic Choir.

Scroll down to “Upcoming Events” at <https://www.stmatthewscentre.ca>. The St. Matthews Centre also has a Facebook page, which you can “follow” to get updates.



St. Matthews Lutheran Church

**54 BENTON STREET
KITCHENER**

N2G 3H2

519.742.0462

stmattskw.com

info@stmattskw.com