



**December 28, 2025
First Sunday After Christmas**

GATHERING AND PRAISE

Welcome

Prelude

The prelude signals the beginning of our sacred time together. During the prelude, you are invited to prepare your heart for worship by focusing your attention upon God.

Call to Worship

Praise the God of mercy and love.

Praise God with angels in the highest heavens.

Praise Christ, who came as a child.

**Praise Christ with all God's children,
young and old alike.**

Praise the Holy Spirit, who calls us here.

Praise the Spirit from the depths of our souls.

Opening Prayer

Loving God, we come into your presence
with joy in this holiday season.
But we also come with sorrow
for a world struggling in pain.
Bring hope to our weary world.
Bring love to our hearts.

Sandy Bruner

Bring joy to our lives.
And help us bring hope, love, and joy,
as we follow your Son, Christ Jesus. Amen.

Hymn

Joy to the World

UMH 246

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Passing the Peace of Christ

Sandy Bruner

Called to put on compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, let us greet one another with words of mercy, love, and peace.

Please turn to those around you and greet them with the peace of the resurrected Christ.

Children's Message

Pastor Larry

Ministry of Music

Do You Hear What I Hear?

Choir

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Prayer for Understanding

All Praying

Sandy Bruner

Lord, open the eyes of our hearts by the power of your Spirit, that we know the hope to which we have been called in Jesus Christ. Amen

Scripture Reading

Psalms 98

Sing to the Lord a new song,
for he has done marvelous things;
his right hand and his holy arm
have worked salvation for him.
² The Lord has made his salvation known
and revealed his righteousness to the nations.
³ He has remembered his love
and his faithfulness to Israel;
all the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.
⁴ Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth,
burst into jubilant song with music;
⁵ make music to the Lord with the harp,
with the harp and the sound of singing,
⁶ with trumpets and the blast of the ram's horn—
shout for joy before the Lord, the King.

⁷ Let the sea resound, and everything in it,
the world, and all who live in it.
⁸ Let the rivers clap their hands,
let the mountains sing together for joy;
⁹ let them sing before the Lord,
for he comes to judge the earth.
He will judge the world in righteousness
and the peoples with equity.

Hymn

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

UMH 229

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Sermon

"Joy"

Pastor Larry

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;*
the third day he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic** church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

***Gloria Patri**

UMH 70

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the
beginning, is now, and ever shall be, World without end. Amen. Amen.**

Morning Prayer

Pastor Larry

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Offertory Invitation

Sandy Bruner

Just as visitors from the East brought gifts to the Christ child, we too are invited to bring gifts to Christ's church in service of God's work in the world. Any gift of love is a gift of gold.

Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

**Doxology Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below:

Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts!

Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Prayer of Dedication*

Sandy Bruner

**Generous God, thank you for the gift of Christ Jesus
in our lives and in our world.**

Thank you for the gifts we return to you now.

**Bless these gifts,
that they may support Christ's loving presence
in our ministry,
in our community,
and in our world. Amen.**

GOING FORTH TO SERVE

Hymn

The First Noel

UMH 245

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Benediction

Pastor Larry

Choral Benediction

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

**Go, tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain,
That Jesus Christ is born.**

Postlude

JOY TO THE WORLD

*Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.*

*Joy to the world, the Savior reigns!
Let all their songs employ;
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.*

*No more let sins and sorrows grow,
nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow
far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found.*

*He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.*

INFANT HOLY, INFANT LOWLY

*Infant holy, infant lowly,
for his bed a cattle stall;
oxen lowing, little knowing,
Christ the babe is Lord of all.
Swift are winging angels singing,
noels ringing, tidings bringing:
Christ the babe is Lord of all.*

*2. Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping
vigil till the morning new
saw the glory, heard the story,
tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow,
praises voicing, greet the morrow:
Christ the babe was born for you.*

THE FIRST NOEL

*The first Noel the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.*

Refrain:
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
born is the King of Israel.

*2 They looked up and saw a star
shining in the east, beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night.*

(Refrain)

*3 And by the light of that same star
three Wise Men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent,
and to follow the star wherever it went. [Refrain]*

*4 This star drew nigh to the northwest,
o'er Bethlehem it took its rest;
and there it did both stop and stay,
right over the place where Jesus lay. [Refrain]*

*5 Then entered in those Wise Men three,
full reverently upon the knee,
and offered there, in his presence,
their gold and myrrh and frankincense. [Refrain]*