CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK

Sunday, Dec 7

NO Adult Bible Study 10:30 am Worship- Bell Service

11:30 am Pancake Feed- Confirmation Fundraiser

NO Confirmation II NO Confirmation I

Tuesday, December 9

10:00 am- Noon Coffee with Pastor Katie @ The Bean

Wednesday, December 10

5:30 pm LAF

NO UCC Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, December 14

9:00 am Adult Bible Study

10:30 am Worship- Christmas Pageant

11:30 am Coffee Hi 4:30 pm Confirmation II 6:00 pm Confirmation I

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Worship Leaders and Church Staff

Rev. Katie Miller - Sr. Minister
Benjamin Barth - Organist
Gretchen Burbach - Choral Director
Anthony Burbach - Bell Director/ Piano
Paul Ebsen - Media Director

Rev. Elaine Miller - Minister of Visitation Kari Jensen - Christian Ed Director Taylor Ebsen - Church Administrator Sarah Gregg - Church Financial Officer Kathy Hasenbank, Linda Moe - Custodians

2025-2026 Interns

Maleah Wright - Choir, Soprano Alexis Meyer - Choir, Alto Sam VanGerpen - Choir, Tenor Charlee Huska - LAF, Nursery Tommy Gress - Organ



December 7 - Annual Advent Choral Service

PRELUDE "Ring With the Angels" arr. Brenda E. Austin

Bell Choir

WELCOME

Friendship Pads
Announcements
Joys and Concerns
Please also complete a "Prayer Card" and put it in the collection plate.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

*INTROIT - O Come, O Come, Emmanuel 116, v 1

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel that mourns in lonely exile here, until the Child of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Interns

NOTE: Lessons and Carols began at Truro Cathedral in England on Christmas Eve 1880, created by Bishop F. W. Benson as a service of scripture and carols. In 1918, King's College, Cambridge adapted the format for its own Christmas Eve service, and later BBC broadcasts helped spread it worldwide. The core of the service remains the same: retelling the Christmas story from the fall of Adam to the coming of the Incarnate Word.

6

1

A Festival of Lessons and Carols by Hal. H. Hopson

Director: Gretchen Burbach

Narrator: Rich Hall Organ: Benjamin Barth Bell Choir: Anthony Burbach

1. CAROL PRELUDE

Organ, strings, handbells, percussion

2. *O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL *Congregation please join in singing verses 1, 2 & 4

VERSE 1- choir & congregation
O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant.
O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem
Come and behold him, born the King of angels;
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

VERSE 2- choir & congregation
True God of true God, Light from Light Eternal,
Lo, he shuns not the Virgin's womb;
Son of the Father, begotten, not created;
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

VERSE 3- choir only

VERSE 4- choir & congregation
Yea, Lord we greet thee, born this happy morning
Jesus, to thee be all glory giv'n.
Word of the father, now in flesh appearing:
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

*A BIDDING PRAYER

The Lord's Prayer

FIRST LESSON (Genesis 3:8-15)

Adam and Eve rebel against God.

3. GOD WALKED IN EDEN'S GARDEN FAIR

Choir and handbells

SECOND LESSON (Genesis 22:15-18)

God promises to Abraham that his descendants will be a blessing to all the nations of the earth.

4. THE GOD OF ABR'AM PRAISE

*Congregation please join in verses 1, 2 & 3 when cued.

VERSE 1- choir & congregation
The God of Abr'am praise, sing praises to God's name,
Who was and is and is to be, fore'er the same!
The one eternal God, before what now appears;
The First, the Last: beyond all thought through timeless years!

CHORAL INTERLUDE

VERSE 3- choir and congregation
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.

CLOSING PRAYERS *please stand

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, who made us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of our Savior Jesus christ; grant that as we joyfully receive the word made flesh as our redeemer, we may one day with sure confidence behold the Son of Righteousness, who will come to be our judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end.

Amen.

The Blessing

May Christ, the Incarnate One fill you with inward peace and love; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE

"Where Are You, Christmas?" arr. Blanche Marie Lewis

Bell Choir

This year we celebrate the **83rd Annual Carol Service**, begun by USD professor and UCC organist, Jack Noble, who wished to offer students a Christmas worship experience before they returned home for the holidays. We give thanks for this lasting tradition and the joy it continues to bring to our community.

Many thanks to all the musicians today—choir, organ, strings, percussion, and bell choir. We are also grateful to the Carol Service Endowment, whose support provided the orchestral scores, compensated our instrumentalists, and enabled the purchase of the new gold stoles.

Orchestra:

Natalie Sterba- Violin 1
Clara Carlson- Violin 2
Morgan Boll- Viola
Guillermo Morales- Cello
Kelly Coslet- Bass
Nathan Wigton- Percussion
Quinn Thornton- Percussion

VERSE 2- choir & congregation God's spirit freely flows, high surging where it will; God spoke of old in prophet's word; that word speaks still. Established is God's law, and changeless it shall stand, Deep written on the human heart, in every land.

VERSE 3- choir & congregation God has eternal life implanted in the soul; God's love shall be our strength and stay, while ages roll. All praise the living God! All laud that hallowed name, Who was and is, and ever shall be still the same!

THIRD LESSON (Isaiah 9:2, 6,7) Christ's birth and rule of peace and justice are foretold by Isaiah.

5. COMFORT, COMFORT, O MY PEOPLE

Choir, organ, strings, hand drum

MUSIC TO INSPIRE

"Aurora" by Benjamin A. Tucker

Bell Choir

FOURTH LESSON (Isaiah 11:1-4a, 6-9)

The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.

6. LO, HOW A ROSE E'ER BLOOMING

Choir, a cappella

FIFTH LESSON (Luke 1:26-35, 38)

The angel Gabriel announces to Mary that she will be the mother of Jesus.

7. THERE IS NO ROSE

SSA choir, organ, strings

SIXTH LESSON (Mathew 1:18-23)

Saint Mathew tells of the birth of Jesus.

8. GOOD CHRISTIAN FRIENDS, REJOICE

*Congregation please join in singing verses 1 & 3 when cued

VERSE 1- choir & congregation Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; Give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today! Ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now, Christ is born today!

VERSE 2- choir only

VERSE 3- choir & congregation Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; Now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save! Calls you one and calls you all to gain his everlasting hall. Christ was born to save, Christ was born to save! SEVENTH LESSON (Luke 2:8-16)

The shepherds go to Bethlehem.

9. ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH

*Congregation please join in singing verses 1 & 4 when cued

VERSE 1- choir and congregation
Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

VERSE 2- choir only VERSE 3- choir only

VERSE 4- choir and congregation See him in a manger laid, whom the choirs of angels praise Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, while our hearts in love we raise, Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

OFFERTORY

"In the Bleak Midwinter" arr. Mark Longfield

Bell Choir

EIGHTH LESSON (Matthew 2:1-11)

The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.

10. FROM A DISTANT HOME

TB choir, piano, strings, percussion

NINTH LESSON (John 1:1-14)

John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.

11. JOY TO THE WORLD

*Congregation please join in singing verses 1-3 when cued.

VERSE 1- choir and congregation
Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room,
And heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

VERSE 2- choir and congregation
Joy to the world, the Savior reigns!
Let all their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rock, hills, and plains
repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

VERSE 2- choir & congregation God's spirit freely flows, high surging where it will; God spoke of old in prophet's word; that word speaks still. Established is God's law, and changeless it shall stand, Deep written on the human heart, in every land.

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