

The First Sunday of Christmas
Sunday, December 28, 2025
10:00 AM

In the beginning was the Word...



Image from the Hubble telescope

Welcome to Worship!
As we prepare for worship, we invite you to a time of silence and focus.



WELCOME TO WORSHIP: It is our joy to welcome you to worship today, in-person and from wherever you may be viewing. We give thanks for whatever brought you, and pray that you may experience the love of God surrounding you and upholding you as we gather together to give thanks to God through Word and Sacrament.

ASSISTED LISTENING DEVICES are available to use in the Sanctuary for worship. They are located in the Sound Booth; ask the Sound Booth operator if you would like to use one.

WORSHIP IS LIVESTREAMED in the Faith and Family Center (located near the entrance doors to the large parking lot). Anyone is welcome to worship in that space.

WE WELCOME CHILDREN IN WORSHIP! Like Jesus who welcomed children to his ministry, Saint Andrew's welcomes children to our worship services.

Re-usable activity bags (for readers and non-readers) with books, stickers, crayons, paper, and a snack are available from the usher/hospitality team; please return the bags following worship.

- "Younger Disciples Tips" are in the bulletin with ideas to engage children in worship.
- "A Time for Younger Disciples" during worship invites all God's children to listen to a message.

Health Practices in place to help reduce the spread of viruses and illness:

- Mask wearing is optional. Anyone who wishes to mask is welcome to do so.
- Hand sanitizer is available throughout the building.

For other activities, events, meetings check our website: <https://SALC.church>

VIDEO AND AUDIO RECORDING IN PROGRESS

Saint Andrews livestreams and records its worship services to YouTube.

Video and Audio recording is currently in progress. It is possible that video footage and/or audio conversations of worshippers in the Saint Andrew's Sanctuary may appear on the YouTube livestream/recording.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

"He Is Born"

arr. Albrecht

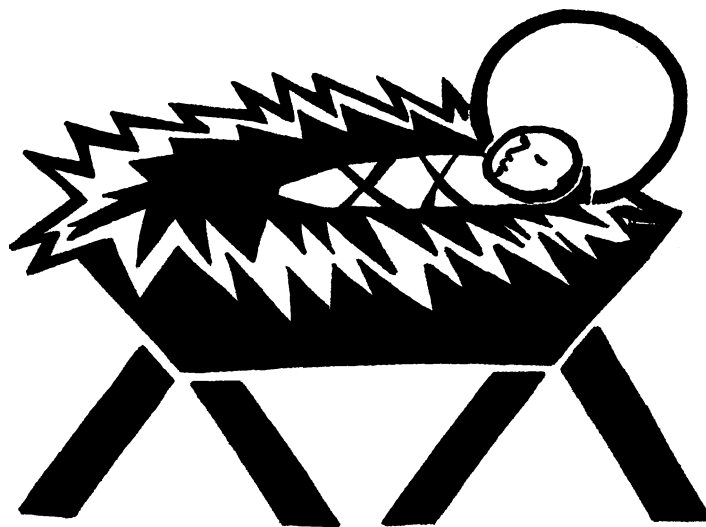
Grete Norquist, flute; Elaine Koga, piano

WELCOME

Pastor Lara

Please stand as you are able.

*Worship leaders will say text in light print.
Congregation will say/respond with **bold text***



HYMN

O Come, All Ye Faithful

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
 2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;

come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
 born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;
 sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!
 Je - sus, to thee be . . . glo - ry giv'n!

come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:
 Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!
 Glo - ry to God . . . in . . . the . . . high - est:
 Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:

Refrain
 Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,
 O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,

ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.
 O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the Word made flesh, our life and our salvation.

Amen.

Trusting the goodness and lovingkindness of God our Savior, let us confess our sin.

Silence for reflection.

God of life,
you promise good news of great joy for all people, and call us to be messengers of your peace. We confess that too often we hoard our joy, our resources, and our security. We nurture conflict and build barriers. We neglect the needs of our neighbors and ignore the groaning of creation. Have mercy on us. Where we are self-centered, open our hearts. Where we are reluctant, give us courage. Where we are cynical, restore our trust. Renew us with your grace and give us again the hope of eternal life in you. Amen.

People of God, hear the good news: We are children of God and heirs of God's promises through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. In † Jesus we are forgiven and redeemed. Sing with joy, for all the ends of the earth shall know the salvation of God.

Amen.

GREETING

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together. Almighty God,
Shine into our hearts the light of your wisdom, and open our minds to the knowledge of your word, that in all things we may think and act according to your good will and may live continually in the light of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Please be seated.

A TIME FOR YOUNGER DISCIPLES

Pastor Lara

WORD

HYMN

Love Has Come



1 Love has come— a light in the dark - ness! Love shines forth in the
2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der. Love is God now a -
3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us! Love is life ev - er -



Beth - le - hem skies. See, all heav - en has come to pro - claim it;
sleep in the hay. See the glow in the eyes of his moth - er;
last - ing and free. Love is Je - sus with - in and a - mong us.



hear how their song of joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to
what is the name her heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the
Love is the peace our hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the



you, a Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.
name she whis - pers; Love! Love! Je - sus, Im - man - u - el.
gift of Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

READING: JEREMIAH 31:7-14

For thus says the Lord:

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,
and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;
proclaim, give praise, and say,
“Save, O Lord, your people,
the remnant of Israel.”

See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north
and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,
among them the blind and the lame,
those with child and those in labor together;
a great company, they shall return here.

With weeping they shall come,
and with consolations I will lead them back;
I will let them walk by brooks of water,
in a straight path where they shall not stumble,
for I have become a father to Israel,
and Ephraim is my firstborn.

Hear the word of the Lord, O nations,
and declare it in the coastlands far away;
say, “He who scattered Israel will gather him
and will keep him as a shepherd does a flock.”

For the Lord has ransomed Jacob
and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.
They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion,
and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord,
over the grain, the wine, and the oil,
and over the young of the flock and the herd;
their life shall become like a watered garden,
and they shall never languish again.

Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance,
and the young men and the old shall be merry.

I will turn their mourning into joy;
I will comfort them and give them gladness for sorrow.
I will give the priests their fill of fatness,
and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the Lord.

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN

What Child Is This

1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?
 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?
 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas-ant, king, to own him.

Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep - ing?
 Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
 The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.

This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an-gels sing;
 Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
 Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;

haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
 hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
 joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

READING: EPHESIANS 1:3-14

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.



HYMN

Go Tell It on the Mountain

Refrain



Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;



go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!



1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when, lo, a - bove the earth
3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum-ble Christ was born;



Refrain



be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ-mas morn.



READING: JOHN 1:1-18

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it.

There was a man sent from God whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' ") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is the only Son, himself God, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.



Please stand as you are able.

HYMN

Once in Royal David's City

1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly cat - tle shed,
 2 He came down to earth from heav - en who is God and Lord of all,
 3 And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own re - deem - ing love;
 4 Not in that poor low - ly sta - ble, with the ox - en stand - ing by,

where a moth - er laid her ba - by in a man - ger for his bed:
 and his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his cra - dle was a stall;
 for that child so dear and gen - tle is our Lord in heav'n a - bove;
 we shall see him; but in heav - en, set at God's right hand on high;

Mar - y was that moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ, her lit - tle child.
 with the poor and meek and low - ly, lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
 and he leads his chil - dren on to the place where he is gone.
 there his chil - dren gath - er round, bright like stars, with glo - ry crowned.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

Trusting in God's baptismal promises,
we affirm our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died,
and was buried; he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living 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.**

** here, "catholic" means the wholeness of the church in all times and places.*

Younger Disciples Tip ~ Prayers/Offering: Invite children to write down who they want to pray for this week and one way they can serve their family/community.

THE PRAYERS

*After each petition, the leader will say, Hear us, O God,
Your response is, **your mercy is great.***

THE PEACE

**The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.**

Please greet people around you as you are comfortable.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Lara

OFFERING Our ushers will be passing offering plates. We welcome your gifts to support the mission and ministry of Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church. There are envelopes in the pews, or you can give online using the QR code.



MUSIC

"My Lord has Come"

Will Todd

Grete Norquist, soloist; Elaine Koga, piano

Shepherds, called by angels, called by love and angels;
no place for them but a stable.
My Lord has come.

Sages, searching for stars, searching for love in heaven;
no place but a stable.
My Lord has come.

His love will hold me, his love will cherish me, love will cradle me.

Lead me, lead me to see him, sages and shepherds and angels;
no place for me but a stable.
My Lord has come.

OFFERTORY VERSE

The musical score for the Offertory Verse is presented in four systems, each consisting of a piano accompaniment with a treble and bass staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are written below the treble staff of each system.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, in ev-ery gen-er - a - tion. Praise

God, all crea-tures here be-low, who gives to us sal - va - tion. Praise

God a - bove, ye heaven-ly host. Praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. Let

all cre-a - tion praise the Lord with love and ad - or - a - tion.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

We pray together. God of abundance,
receive and bless these gifts we have offered. Join our hearts with the song of the
angels, and gather us at your table of celebration. Strengthen us to share with all
the world the abundance of your grace upon grace, poured out in
Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Amen.

MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

Gently [in One]

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord,
God of pow'r and might, heav'n and earth are
full of your glo - ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.
Blessed is he, is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
high - est, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

On the night that Jesus was betrayed, he took bread, blessed and broke it and shared it with his friends, saying, “Take and eat, this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After they had eaten, Jesus took the cup, blessed it, and shared it with his friends, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood which is shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

We pray together the prayer Jesus taught us:

THE LORD’S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Please be seated. We wait silently as the participants who are worshiping online are communed.



LAMB OF GOD

Gently [In One]

O Lamb of God, O Ho - ly
Child, who takes the sin of the world a - way; Have
mer - cy on us, lamb so mild, the babe, the
son of Ma - ry. This, this is your bo - dy
giv'n, Your pre - cious blood, the gift of heav'n.
Take, eat, for we are one in the babe, the
son of Ma - ry.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

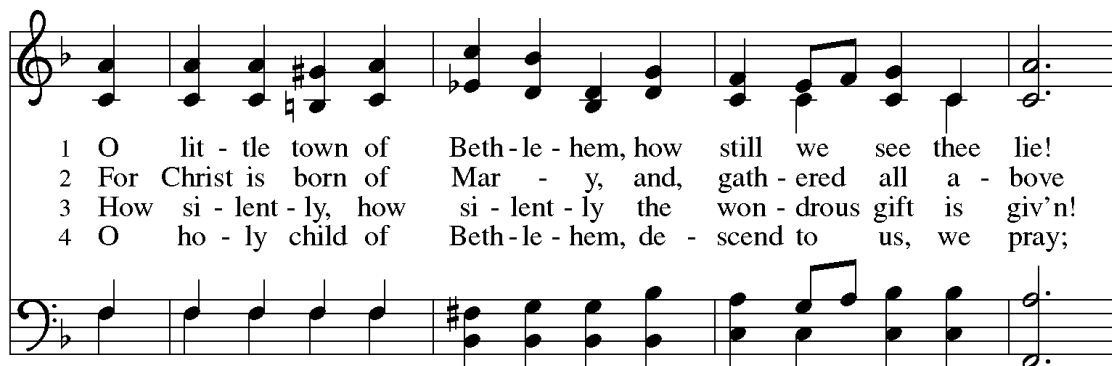
Communion is received around the altar rail. You are invited to kneel or stand as you feel comfortable. Please follow the directions of the ushers and use the hand sanitizer provided.

Bread is placed in the hands. Red wine and White grape juice are offered by individual cup. Please ask if you would like a gluten-free option.

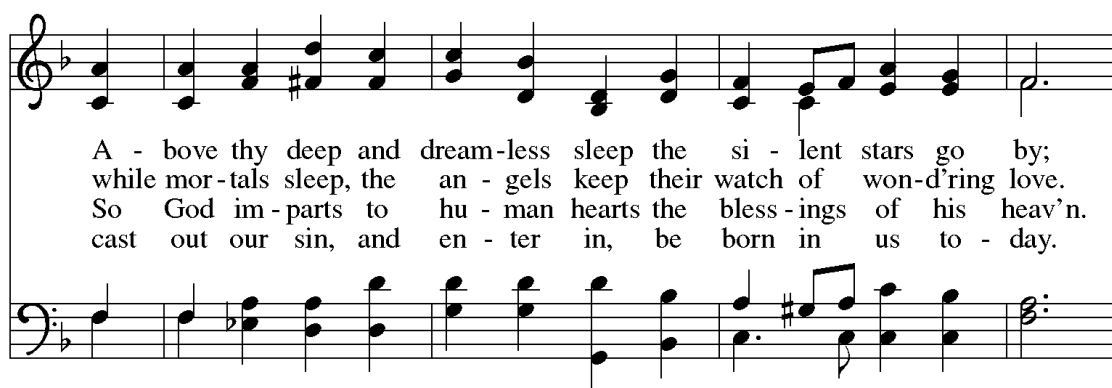
If you wish to be communed in your seat, please let one of the ushers/hospitality team know.

COMMUNION MUSIC

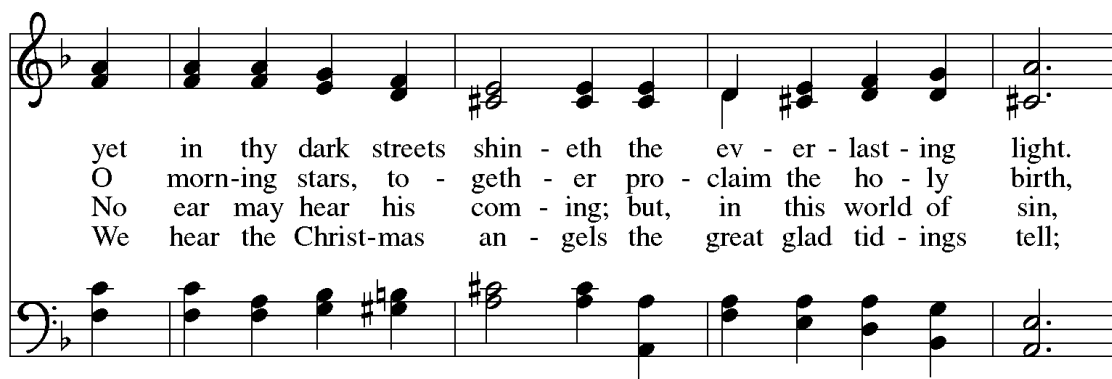
O Little Town of Bethlehem



1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
 2 For Christ is born of Mar - y, and, gath - ered all a - bove
 3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly the won - drous gift is giv'n!
 4 O ho - ly child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;



A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by;
 while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - d'ring love.
 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heav'n.
 cast out our sin, and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.



yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing light.
 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth,
 No ear may hear his com - ing; but, in this world of sin,
 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;



The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
 and prais - es sing to God the king, and peace to all the earth!
 where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.
 oh, come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Im - man - u - el!

Please stand as you are able.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together. God our redeemer,
you have fed us at this table with gifts of grace, truth, and life. As you have
gathered us in joy, send us forth as messengers of your peace. Make us shine with
the good news of your glory, born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

God bless you and keep you, Jesus grant you grace and truth, ✝ and
the Holy Spirit send peace upon your hearts, now and forever.
Amen.



SENDING HYMN

Joy to the World

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
 3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the

ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -

room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
 plains re - peat the sound-ing joy, re - peat the sound-ing
 flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

and heav'n and na - ture sing, and

sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heav'n and na - ture sing,

SENDING

All children and youth are invited to come forward to participate in the sending.

Go in peace. Jesus is born!

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing!

arr. Bennett

Elaine Koga, piano

Thank you to all who are assisting with worship today:

Pastor Lara Forbes, *Presiding and Preaching*

Dr. Will Simpson, *Director of Music*

Elaine Koga, *Piano*

Grete Norquist, *Flute and Vocals*

Vanessa Wilkie, *Bells*

Amy Baro, *Assisting Minister*

Dave Vossler, *Lector*

Soren Lester, *Acolyte*

Art Gurtel and Tom Benson, *Ushers*

JoAn Eklof, *Altar Guild*

Sharon Gurtel, *Audio*

Dianne Chong, *Livestream video*

Katrin & Gunter Bonnofsky, *Greeters*

Teresa Lutterman, *Coffee Host*

Volunteers are always welcome! Check the signup sheets in the Narthex for Greeters and Coffee hosts or contact Sherry (sherry@salc.church).

LITURGY and MUSIC: Unless otherwise noted, liturgy, liturgical music, and hymns are from Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW) and All Creation Sings (ACS), and Scripture readings are from New Revised Standard Version Bible (NRSV) Liturgy and NRSV text from Sundays and Seasons.com. Kenneth L. DeJong Liturgy, Copyright 2025 Augsburg Fortress; streamed/reprinted with permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS006660. All rights reserved. New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Reprinted / podcast / streamed with permission under OneLicense.net #A-718073. All rights reserved. Reprinted / podcast / streamed with permission under CCLI #2042297 and #CSPL048062. All rights reserved

CALENDAR

Sunday, December 28

10:00 am Worship

Monday, December 29

Office hours: 9 AM – 12 Noon

Tuesday, December 30

Office hours: 9 AM – 12 Noon

Wednesday, December 31

Office hours: 9 AM – 12 Noon

Thursday, January 1

Office is closed – Happy New Year!

Timber Ridge worship cancelled for holiday.

Friday, January 2

Office is closed

Saturday, January 3

Sunday, January 4

9:00 AM Adult Education, Constitution Updates
Sunday School (preschool – 5th grade)

10:00 AM Worship

Monday, January 5

1:00 PM Staff meeting
6:00 PM Finance Committee
7:00 PM Executive Committee

Tuesday, January 6

8:30 AM Tuesday Morning Men
10:00 AM Pastor's Bible Study

Wednesday, January 7

Thursday, January 8

Friday, January 9

Office is closed

Saturday, January 10

Sunday, January 11

9:00 AM Adult Education, Bible Study
Sunday School (preschool – 5th grade)

10:00 AM Worship

The Reverend Lara Forbes, Lead Pastor
pastor@SALC.church

The Reverend Timothy T. Weber,
Shared-Time Pastor
timweber@yahoo.com

Dr. Will Simpson,
Director of Music Ministries
will@SALC.church

Doug Johnson,
Director of Youth and Family Ministries
doug@SALC.church

Sherry Grindeland, Fellowship Coordinator
sherry@SALC.church

Kurt Lutterman, Facilities Manager
kurt@SALC.church

Kathy Fisher, Communications Director
kathy@SALC.church

Vanessa Wilkie, Handbell Choir Director

Elaine Koga, Choir Accompanist

Abby Kasper, Facilities Set-up

April Daniel, Records Administrator

Ann Thorpe, Sunday Church School Coordinator

Joan Tweten, Kitchen Team

**We welcome your support
of our mission and ministry.
Use the QR Code to give to
SALC.**



SCAN ME



**We are a Reconciling in
Christ congregation**



2650 148th Ave SE
Bellevue, WA 98007-6452
425-746-2529 <https://SALC.church>
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