



JANUARY 4, 2026  
*HOLY COMMUNION FOR  
THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS*

(+) *The congregation will please stand as able*  
**(BOLD-FACED TYPE) Congregation responds**

## THE CHURCH GATHERS

*Silent Prayer and Time for Centering*

Prelude

### † CALL TO WORSHIP

God of Mystery, your light has led us to you.

**Alleluia! All through our days your Word has shone;  
your star has lit the way.**

You have accompanied us, guided us, and guarded us.

**Alleluia! We have come**

**through miles and years to this place, this moment.**

We have come to praise you,  
to honor you, to worship you.

**Alleluia! We thank you for your grace.**

**We wonder at your presence.**

And we are still learning  
to seek your presence and to follow your light.

**We are still asking, "Where is the child?"**

**Help us to search, and help us to find.**

God, we praise you  
for the One who shepherds your people.

**Alleluia! We worship you with thanksgiving and praise.**

**Open the eyes of our hearts  
to see, and to wonder.**

**Alleluia!**

† HYMN OF PRAISE

Thou, Whose Almighty Word

28

WORDS: John Marriott, 1780-1825

MUSIC: Melody from Madan's Collection, 1769; adapt. Felice de Giardini, 1769

MOSCOW

664.6664

1. Thou, whose al - might - y word cha - os and  
 2. Thou, who didst come to bring on Thy re -  
 3. Spir - it of truth and love, life - giv - ing,  
 4. Ho - ly and bless - ed Three, glo - ri - ous

dark - ness heard, and took their flight; hear us, we  
 deem - ing wing, heal - ing and sight, health to the  
 ho - ly Dove, speed forth Thy flight; move on the  
 Trin - i - ty, Wis - dom, Love, Might; bound - less as

hum - bly pray, and where the gos - - pel day  
 sick in mind, sight to the in - - ly blind,  
 wa - - ter's face, bear - ing the lamp of grace,  
 o - - cean's tide roll - ing in full - - est pride,

sheds not its glo - rious ray, let there be light.  
 O now to hu - man-kind, let there be light.  
 and in earth's dark - est place, let there be light.  
 through the earth far and wide, let there be light.

Words: John Marriott 1780-1825, published in 1828; Music 1769 Felice de Giardini, MOSCOW, then arranged to become ITALIAN HYMN depending on texts; PUBLIC DOMAIN

## **† PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**God of Love,**

**we confess we do not always follow your star of love;  
we turn aside;  
we weary of the journey.**

**We confess we sometimes cooperate with Herod;  
we sometimes fail to give our gifts.**

**Forgive us;**

**renew your Spirit in us.**

**Be our star and guide us.**

## **† WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

God's presence does not depend on our perfection.

God meets us where we are, guides us with love,  
and leads us back into life.

In Christ, we are forgiven, restored, and renewed.

**Thanks be to God!**

Passing the Peace of Christ

## THE CHURCH HEARS THE WORD OF GOD

Old Testament Lesson:

[Jonah 1:1-18](#)

(Pg. 752) \*\*

ANTHEM      In the Beginning

[Carson Cooman](#)

In the beginning was the Word,  
and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

He was with God in the beginning.

In him was life, and that light was the light of men.

The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not overcome it.

*Words: John 1: 1-5, Arr. Carson Cooman © 2012; Music: Carson Cooman © 2012 Saint James Music Press 4580 State St., #181 Saginaw, MI 48603; reprinted and recorded under SJMP License #234 All rights reserved*

## A TIME FOR THE CHILD IN ALL OF US

† HYMN OF PREPARATION NO 512

Stand By Me

512

1. When the storms of life are rag-ing,  
 2. In the midst of trib - u - la-tion,  
 3. In the midst of faults and fail-ures, stand by me; (stand by me)  
 4. In the midst of per - se - cu-tion,  
 5. When I'm grow - ing old and fee - ble,

when the storms of life are rag-ing,  
 in the midst of trib - u - la-tion,  
 in the midst of faults and fail-ures, stand by me. (stand by me)  
 in the midst of per - se - cu-tion,  
 when I'm grow - ing old and fee - ble,

When the world is toss - ing me, like a ship up - on the sea,  
 When the host of hell as - sail, and my strength be-gins to fail,  
 When I've done the best I can, and my friends mis-un-der-stand,  
 When my foes in war ar - ray un - der-take to stop my way,  
 When my life be-comes a bur-den, and I'm near-ing chil - ly Jor-dan,

thou who rul - est wind and wa-ter,  
 thou who nev - er lost a bat-tle,  
 thou who know-est all a-bout me, stand by me. (stand by me)  
 thou who sav - ed Paul and Si-las,  
 O thou Lil - y of the Val-ley,

WORDS: Charles Albert Tindley, ca. 1906 (Mt. 8:23-27; Mk. 4:35-41; Lk. 8:22-25)  
 MUSIC: Charles Albert Tindley, ca. 1906; arr. by William Farley Smith, 1989

Arr. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House

STAND BY ME  
 83.83.77.83

# †GOSPEL LESSON:

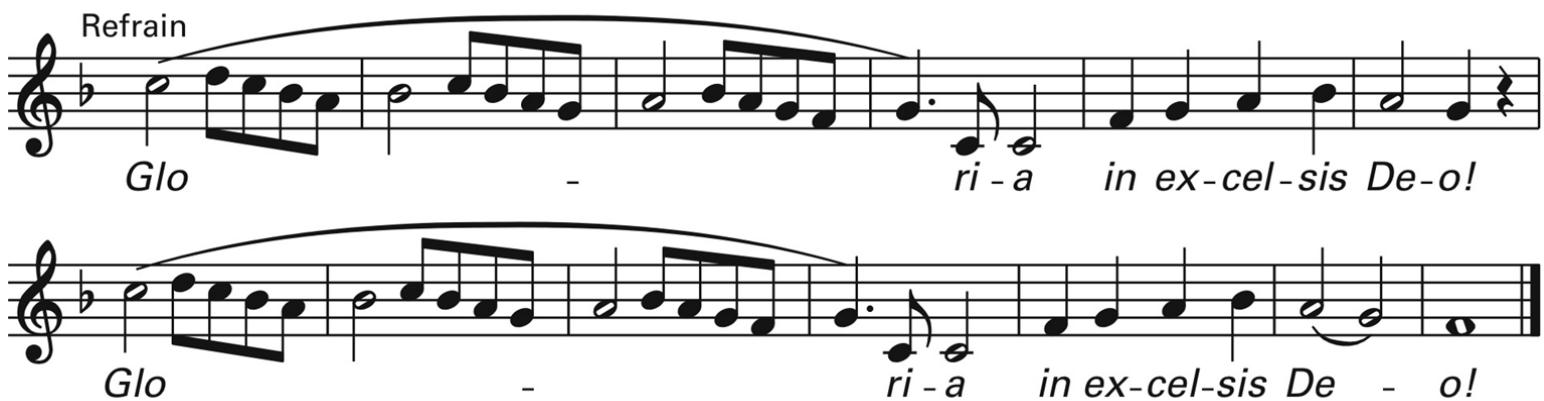
[John 1:1, 10-18](#)

(Pg. 862) \*\*

PRESIDER: For the word of God in Scripture,  
For the word of God among us,  
For the word of God within us,

**ALL: Thanks be to God!**

## \*GLORIA PATRI



Refrain

Glo - ri - a in ex-cel-sis De-o!

Glo - ri - a in ex-cel-sis De - o!

Text: 77 77 with refrain; trad. French carol, ca. 18th cent.; tr. fr. *Crown of Jesus Music, II*, London, 1862; tr. by James Chadwick, 1813–1882, and others, alt. Music: Trad. French carol.

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## SERMON

**"Journeying with Jonah 1 - *FLEEING*"**

**THE CHURCH RESPONDS TO THE WORD OF GOD**

1 In the bleak mid - win - ter, frost - y wind made moan,  
 2 Our God, heaven can - not hold him, nor earth sus - tain;  
 3 An - gels and arch - an - gels may have gath-ered there,  
 4 What can I give him, poor as I am?

earth stood hard as i - - ron, wa - ter like a stone;  
 heaven and earth shall flee a - way when he comes to reign:  
 cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim thronged the air;  
 If I were a shep - - herd, I would bring a lamb;

snow had fall - en, snow on snow, snow on snow,  
 in the bleak mid - win - ter a sta - ble - place suf - ficed  
 but his moth - er on - - ly, in her maid - en bliss,  
 if I were a wise man, I would do my part;

the in the bleak mid - win - ter, long a - go.  
 the Lord God in - car - nate, Je - sus Christ.  
 wor - shiped the Be - lov - ed with a kiss.  
 yet what I can I give him: give my heart.

WORDS: Christina Rossetti (1830-1894)  
 MUSIC: Gustav T. Holst (1874-1934)

CRANHAM  
 Irregular

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## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Sharing of Joys and Concerns*

## PRAYER SONG *(Verse 1)*

### INFANT HOLY, INFANT LOWLY

W ZLOBIE LEZY

1. Infant holy, infant low-ly, For his bed a  
2. Flocks were sleep-ing, shep-herds keep-ing Vi-gil till the

1. cat-tle stall; Ox-en low-ing, lit-tle know-ing  
2. morn-ing new. Saw the glo-ry, heard the sto-ry,

1. Christ the babe is Lord of all. Swift are wing-ing, an-gels sing-ing,  
2. Tid-ings of a gos-pel true. Thus re-joic-ing, free from sor-row,

1. No-els ring-ing, tid-ings bring-ing: Christ the babe is Lord of all.  
2. Prais-es voic-ing greet the mor-row: Christ the babe was born for you.

Text: 87 87 88 77; Polish carol; tr. by Edith M. Reed, 1885–1933. Music: Polish carol.

Words: Trad. Polish Carol 1925, Public Domain; Music © 1965 Abingdon Press; Permission to reprint and record granted under [OneLicense.net](https://www.onelicense.net/) # A-711296.

## SILENT PRAYER

## PASTORAL PRAYER

## PRAYER SONG *(Verse 2, from above)*

### PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*During this time, we are grateful for your continuing financial support of our ministries.*

## OFFERTORY MUSIC

# + DOXOLOGY

1 D Bm A A<sup>7</sup> D/F# G D A<sup>7</sup> D A<sup>7</sup>  
 Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all

7 D G A<sup>7</sup> D A<sup>7</sup> D A<sup>7</sup> Bm A A<sup>7</sup>  
 crea - tures here be - low. Praise God a - bove, ye

12 D/F# G D A<sup>7</sup> D A<sup>7</sup> D G A<sup>7</sup> D A<sup>7</sup> D  
 heavenly host. Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

18 A<sup>7</sup> D Bm F#m D G A<sup>7</sup> D A  
 No - el, No - el, No - el, No - el,

22 Bm D/A G D A<sup>7</sup>/E D/F# D/A A<sup>7</sup> D  
 born is the King of Is - ra - el.

Words: Thomas Ken, 1674  
 Music: Trad. English Carol

*THE FIRST NOEL*  
 Irr. with Refrain

Text and tune adapted by Dean McIntyre, The United Methodist General Board of Discipleship, PO Box 340003, Nashville TN 37203-0003. Telephone 615-340-7073. Website <http://www.umcworship.org>. Email address: [music@gbod.org](mailto:music@gbod.org). Text and tune are public domain.

## OFFERTORY PRAYER:

# THE GREAT THANKSGIVING      *For Epiphany*

The Lord be with you....

**And also with you.**

Lift Up Your hearts....

**We lift them up to the Lord**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God....

**It is right to give our thanks and praise**

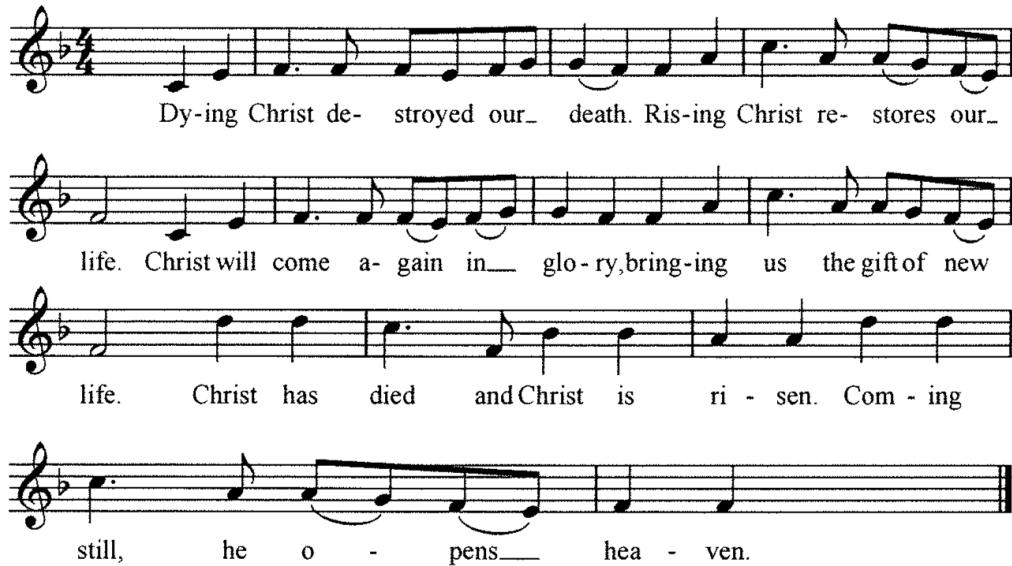
..... *and all the company of heaven  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:*

*Sanctus*

The musical notation consists of five staves of music. The first staff begins with a single note followed by a series of eighth and sixteenth notes. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might a- dored, heaven and earth shine this night with the glo - ry of your light." The second staff continues with eighth and sixteenth notes. The lyrics are: "Loud ho-san-nas now we sing! In the high-est may they ring! Blest is your An-". The third staff begins with a single note followed by a series of eighth and sixteenth notes. The lyrics are: "oint - ed One, Christ, E - man - nu - el, your Son. Sing Ho-san - na". The fourth staff continues with eighth and sixteenth notes. The lyrics are: "at his birth! Glo - ry on high, and peace on earth!". The fifth staff concludes the hymn.

..... *in union with Christ's offering for us,  
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.....*

*Memorial Acclamation*



Dy-ing Christ de- stroyed our\_ death. Ris-ing Christ re- stores our\_

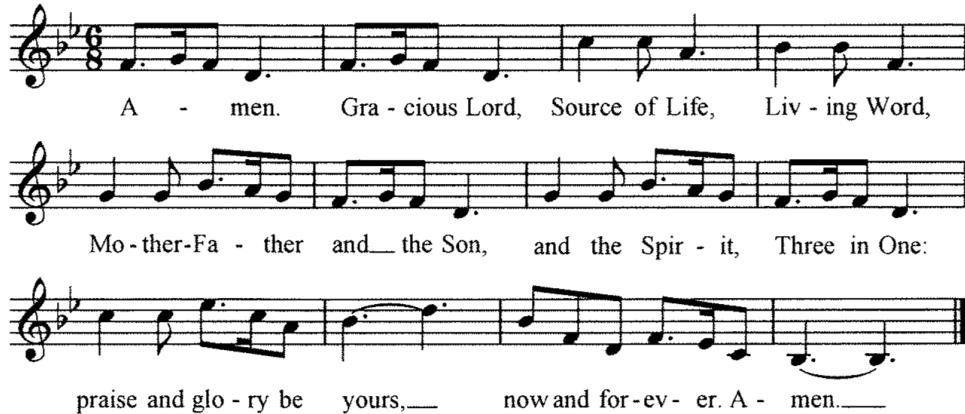
life. Christ will come a- gain in\_ glo-ry, bring-ing us the gift of new

life. Christ has died and Christ is ri - sen. Com - ing

still, he o - pens hea - ven.

..... *all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever.*

*Great Amen*



A - men. Gra - cious Lord, Source of Life, Liv - ing Word,

Mo - ther-Fa - ther and the Son, and the Spir - it, Three in One:

praise and glo - ry be yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

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**The Lord's Prayer** (UMH p. 895)

Prayer Following Communion:

**THE CHURCH IS SENT TO SERVE**

# † HYMN OF DEDICATION

377

## It Is Well with My Soul

1. When peace, like a riv - er, at - tend - eth my way,  
 2. Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come,  
 3. My sin, oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought!  
 4. And, Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight,

when sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll; what - ev - er my  
 let this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, that Christ has re -  
 My sin, not in part but the whole, is nailed to the  
 the clouds be rolled back as a scroll; the trump shall re -

lot, thou hast taught me to say, It is well, it is  
 gard - ed my help - less es - tate, and hath shed his own  
 cross, and I bear it no more, praise the Lord, praise the  
 sound, and the Lord shall de - scend, e - ven so, it is

*Refrain*

well with my soul.  
 blood for my soul. It is well with my soul,  
 Lord, O my soul! It is well with my soul,  
 well with my soul. It is well with my soul,  
 well with my soul. It is well with my soul,  
 it is well, it is well with my soul.

WORDS: Horatio G. Spafford, 1873  
 MUSIC: Philip P. Bliss, 1876

VILLE DU HAVRE  
 11 8.11 9 with Refrain

BENEDICTION

VOLUNTARY

## Assisting with Worship today:

Liturgist:

*John Pyrich*

Video and Sound Engineer

*Charlie Devito*

Altar Flowers: *In Honor of Katie Pyrich's 7th birthday, given by Mom, Dad, & Charlotte.*

Cover Image: *Christ our Light*, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=54167> [retrieved December 29, 2025]. Original source:

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Background on the Bulletin Cover [can be found HERE](#)

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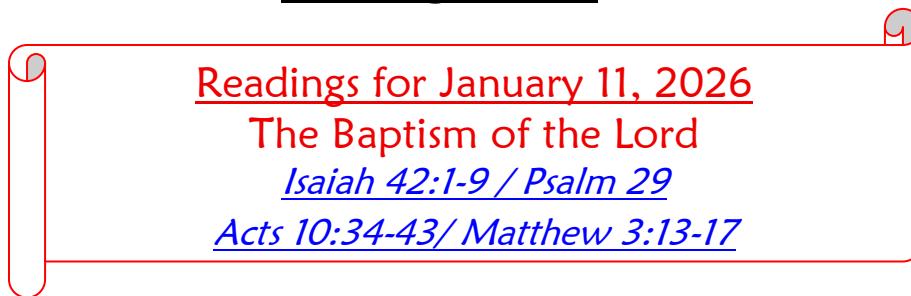
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\*\*\*Worship elements from [unfoldinglight.com](http://unfoldinglight.com) & Ho Soon Han

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## Looking Ahead



Readings for January 11, 2026

**The Baptism of the Lord**

[Isaiah 42:1-9 / Psalm 29](#)

[Acts 10:34-43 / Matthew 3:13-17](#)

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<http://www.firstumcrochester.org/>

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