



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!

Thou, Whose Almighty Word


28

WORDS: John Marriott, 1780-1825


MOSCOW

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

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
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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

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† 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

196 In the Bleak Midwinter



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;

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

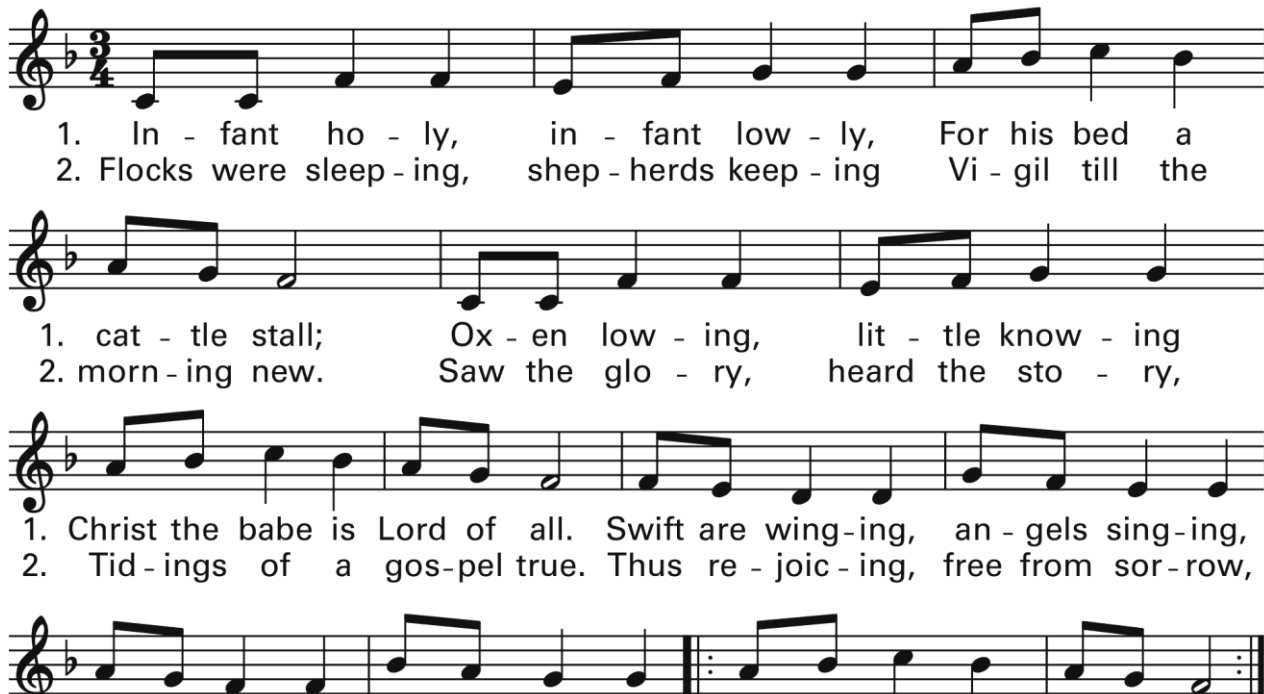
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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
Sharing of Joys and Concerns

PRAYER SONG *(Verse 1)*

INFANT HOLY, INFANT LOWLY

W ZLOBIE LEZY



1. In - fant ho - ly, in - fant 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.

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SILENT PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

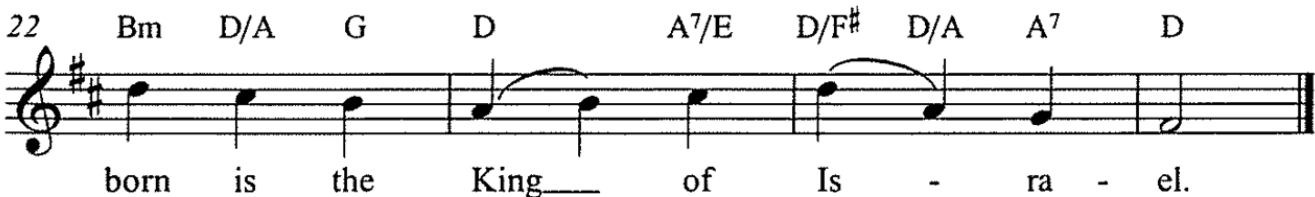
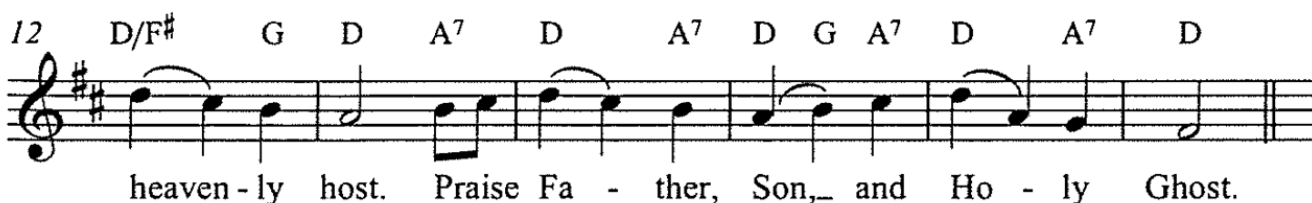
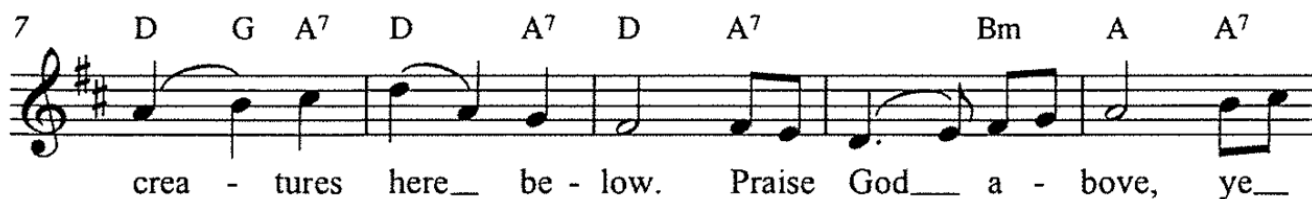
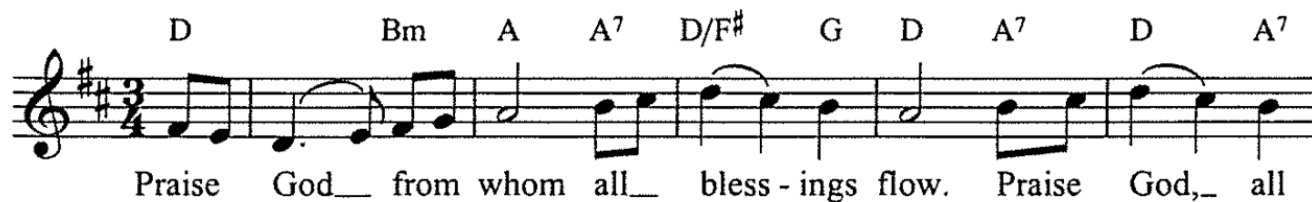
PRAYER SONG *(Verse 2, from above)*

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

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

OFFERTORY MUSIC

† DOXOLOGY



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. 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:

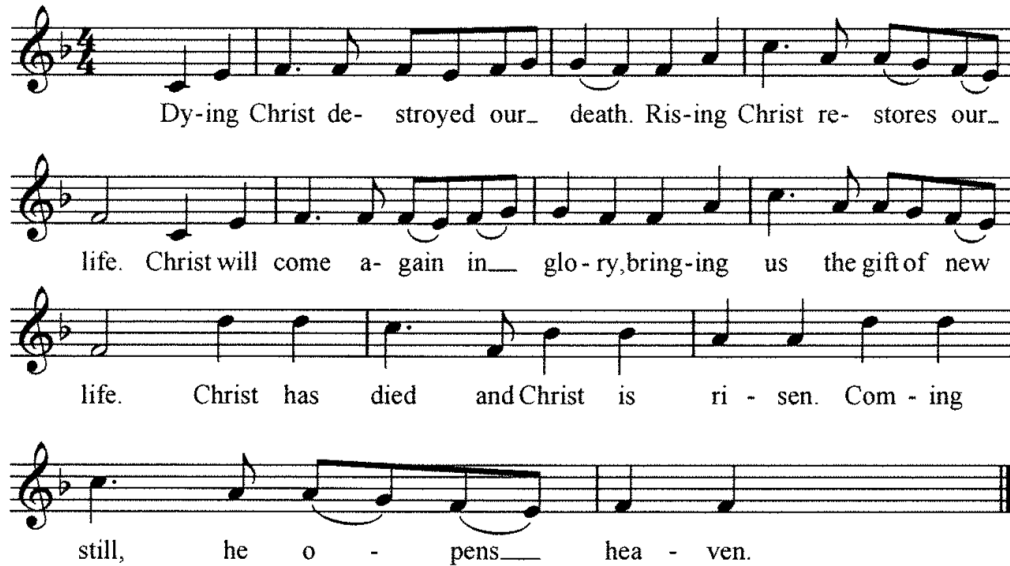
Sanctus



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.
Loud ho-san-nas now we sing! In the high-est may they ring! Blest is your An-
oint-ed One, Christ, E - man - nu - el, your Son. Sing Ho-san - na
at his birth! Glo - ry on high, and peace on earth!

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

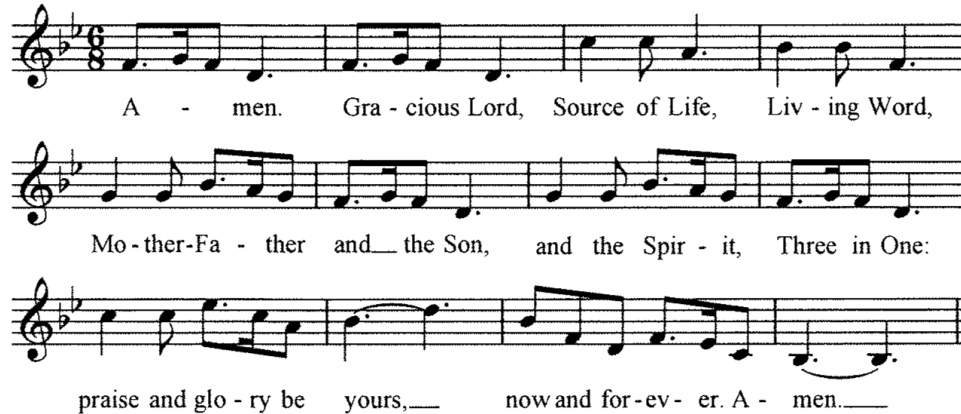
Memorial Acclamation



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,

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: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/35409814@N00/2105918430/>.

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

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***Worship elements from 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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