

✦ 1st Sunday after Christmas ✦
December 31, 2017 10:00 A.M.

GATHERING IN WORSHIP

Please use the time during the prelude for quiet meditation to prepare yourself for worship.

◆Prelude

◆Call to Worship (In Unison)

Praise the LORD.

Praise the LORD from the heavens;
praise him in the heights above.

² Praise him, all his angels;
praise him, all his heavenly hosts.

³ Praise him, sun and moon;
praise him, all you shining stars.

⁴ Praise him, you highest heavens
and you waters above the skies.

“Thus, the whole of creation is invoked to Praise the Lord!”

◆Hymn of Praise (BH #176) *Now Shine a Thousand Candles Bright*

◆Invocation

The Lord's Prayer (forgive us our sins...)

WORD

Scripture Readings

Colossians 3:12-17

◆Gloria Patri (BH #109)

Pastoral Prayer

◆Hymn of Preparation (BH #74) *Give Thanks*

Message “The Message of Christmas”
Rev. Mark Westlund

RESPONSE

◆Hymn of Response (BH #78) *Great is Thy Faithfulness*

Prayer of Confession (In Unison):

God of grace and truth, in Jesus Christ you came among us as light shining in darkness. We confess that we have not welcomed the light, or trusted good news to be good. We have closed our eyes to glory in our midst, expecting little and hoping for less. Allow us to reflect on our transgressions of this past year and to not hold ourselves too highly. Forgive our doubt and renew our hope, so that we may receive the fullness of your grace and live in the truth of Christ the Lord. Amen.

Time for personal reflection and confession.

Words of Assurance (Pastor):

Hear the good news! The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. Christ has heard your prayer of confession today and He has forgiven you and is making all things new within you!

Passing of the Peace

Life Together

Offering

Offertory *A Long Time Ago in Bethlehem*

Holiday Ensemble

◆ *Doxology*

◆ Prayer of Dedication

SENDING

◆Hymn of Dismissal (BH #151) *In the Bleak Midwinter*

◆Benediction

Postlude (BH #184) *God's Love Made Visible* **Holiday Ensemble**

◆Indicates those who are able should stand.

NOTES OF INTEREST

Childcare is offered for infants and younger children in the church nursery. If you need directions or more information feel free to ask an usher for assistance.

PRAYER CONCERNS: Greg Goetz, Carol Latimer, Bruce Sladek, Lorraine Sorensen, Linnea Wimpenny.

Church Directory – 2nd Draft

The 2nd draft of the church directory is on the table in the narthex. Please review your edits and make any additional corrections. The directory will be printed in January.

Rev. Mark Westlind.....Interim Pastor
 Stuart Seale.....Director of Music and Worship
 Betty Aardema and Nate Van Der Male.....Organists
 Amanda Fulton.....Director, Noah's Ark Preschool
 Karen Christakos.....Church Secretary
 Joe Michalowicz.....Custodian

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Calendar for the Week:

Today: New Year's Eve

10 A.M. Worship
10–11 A.M. Nursery for Infants/Sunday School Pre-K – 6th Grade
11:15 A.M. Confirmation Class and High School Youth Group
No Adult Sunday School; study resumes January 7.

Pacesetters New Year's Eve celebration at Barbara Johnson's home following morning worship.

This Week:

Monday **Happy New Year**

Wed. 12 P.M. Family Event to Aurora – Feed My Starving Children

Next Sunday:

10 A.M. Worship
10–11 A.M. Nursery for Infants/Sunday School Pre-K – 6th Grade
11:15 A.M. Confirmation Class and High School Youth Group
11:30 A.M. Adult Sunday School

Jan. 7 – Nursery Helpers: Madeline Ford
Greeters: Marcia Lellos, Margie Morrissey

Announcements:

Family Event

The next Family Event is Wednesday, January 3. We are heading to Aurora from 12-2 P.M. to Feed My Starving Children (FMSC). Founded in 1987, FMSC is a Christian non-profit that provides nutritionally complete meals specifically formulated for malnourished children. Donations given fund the meal ingredients, volunteers hand-pack the meals, and the meals are donated to FMSC food partners around the world, where kids are fed and lives are saved! All are welcome! See Linda Kozak to sign up.

Adult Sunday School

Join Greg Goetz on January 7 after worship in the Fireside Room as he leads the class on the topic "The Library of Alexandria".

WELCOME TO TRINITY

So that we can get to know you better and you can better know us, please complete the tear-off below and place in the offering plate. Thank you!

Date: _____

Name _____

Phone _____

Address _____

Noah's Ark Preschool

The preschool is on winter break starting December 26; class resumes January 8.

Women's Bible Study

The Women's Bible Study group will break for the Christmas holiday December 26 and January 2; study resumes on January 9.

"The Kingdom" class

Pastor Mark's Wednesday evening class is on break for the Christmas holiday and will resume January 10.

Today's Scripture:

Colossians 3:12-17

¹²Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.¹³Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. ¹⁴And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

¹⁵Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. ¹⁶Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. ¹⁷And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.