



“Do not be afraid, for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.”

Luke 2:10-11

Wednesday, December 24, 2025

Christmas Eve Communion, Candlelight and Choir

Please be seated, silence all devices, and prepare yourself for worship.

All are welcome in this sacred space, including the wiggles and giggles!

◆ **PLEASE RISE IN BODY OR SPIRIT**

PRELUDE

Carols for the Congregation

Mary Dailey

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

Chancel Choir

...We light the Christ candle to remember that nothing can separate us from God's love; for God's Christ has come to redeem all creation.

Heaven and nature sing: Joy to the World; The Lord is come.

The light of the world; the song of salvation;

The reason for our hope, peace, love and joy.

May this light remind us that Christ is born in us today,

And everyday we welcome him. Joy to the World!

ADVENT WREATH HYMN *Light the Advent Candle*

Light the Advent candles in the wreath of green.

Let them be an offering fit for a King.

One for hope and one for love,

one for joy and peace, glowing in the darkness,

shine for all to see.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Murray

~~~ GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE ~~~**◆ CALL TO WORSHIP**

Bill F

People of God, arise! The Light of God has come into the world.

We celebrate the birth of Jesus,

the One who brings joy to every heart.

*Tonight we gather with shepherds and angels, with prophets and dreamers,
with all creation that longs for peace.*

Let heaven and nature sing! Let every heart prepare room!

Come, let us worship the God who is born among us.

Joy to the world! Christ is come!

◆ HYMN 133 (vs. 1, 3, 4)***O Come, All Ye Faithful***

Congregation

~~~ LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD ~~~

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

Angels Carol

Chancel Choir

LITANY OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Bill F

*On this holy night, when heaven bends low to touch the earth,
we acknowledge the places where our lives fall short of God's vision.*

**God of promise,
we confess that we often close our hearts to your joy.
We cling to fear when you invite us into hope.
We turn inward when you call us to love the world.**

Yet tonight we remember:

Into darkness, Light has come.

Into despair, Hope is born.

Into fear, Love takes on flesh.

We believe in Jesus Christ,

who is the Word made flesh,

who comes among us with good news of great joy.

We believe that every valley shall be lifted

and every heart renewed by the song of angels.

We believe that love is stronger than fear

and that joy is God's gift for all people.

This is the good news we proclaim:

In Jesus Christ, God is with us, and we are made new.

In Jesus Christ, you are forgiven, loved, and set free.

Thanks be to God! Alleluia and Amen.

◆ HYMN 113 (Refrain) *Angels, We Have Heard on High* Congregation

◆ GOSPEL READING Luke 2:8-20 (NRSVUE) Pastor Murray
This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

~~~ PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD ~~~

MESSAGE *Joy to the World!* Pastor Murray
Sermon Series *Caroling the Christmas Story*

HYMN 134 *Joy to the World* Congregation

~~~ RESPONDING TO GOD'S CALL ~~~

OFFERING Pastor Murray

OFFERTORY HYMN *O Holy Night* Ashley R, soloist

◆ HYMN 606

A Christmas Doxology

Congregation

***Praise God for gifts of hope and peace,
Praise God for gifts of joy and love,
Praise God for sending Christ to dwell
On earth for us – Emmanuel. Amen.***

◆ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Pastor Murray

PASTORAL PRAYERS AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (page 35)

Pastor Winslow

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION
THE PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord is come

And so we draw near

Let us gather around the Lord's Table

And give God great thanks and praise!

*...donning human flesh and dwelling among us, a story that is at once both
heavenly and earthly.*

**Gathering around this table on this Christmas night, as we break the bread
we remember that in our brokenness we are made whole in Christ; as we
fill this cup and remember we are filled with the Holy Spirit as we share
this sacred story.**

*...Open our eyes, that we might recognize the Spirit rising in our midst and in one
another.*

**Together, around this table, we hear once again your call upon us once
again. As we share your gifts of bread and cup, may we fall into your
grace-filled arms as we embrace the Christ child, God-with-us. Amen.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND INVITATION TO THE TABLE

***All bread is gluten-free bread.**

*This evening you are invited to come forward to receive the gifts of God
(bread and juice). Please come forward by the center aisle,
and use the outside aisle to return to your seat.*

If you are unable to come forward, for any reason, a server will come to you.

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

GIVING THANKS FOR GOD'S GIFTS

*Friendly reminder, if your candle is lit, please keep it upright.
An unlit candle may lean into the flame.*

◆ HYMN 122 (vs. 1, 2, 3)	<i>Silent Night</i>	Congregation
◆ HYMN 119	<i>Hark! The Herald Angels Sing</i>	Congregation

~~~ CARRYING GOD'S GOOD NEWS INTO GOD'S WORLD ~~~

◆ BENEDICTION		Pastor Murray
◆ SHARING THE PEACE ...Hear the Good News! A Savior is Born!		

POSTLUDE	<i>Ding, Dong, Merrily on High</i>	Mary Dailey
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How will you live differently in the year ahead if you truly believe that God's joy has entered the world?

Today's Service

Director of Music	Mary Dailey
Trustee	Ashley R, soloist
Usher	Chancel Choir and Guests
Advent Candle Lighting	Bill F
Cover Image	Connie S
Image	Chancel Choir
	<i>The Ashland Beacon</i>
	<i>iStock</i>

Worship Plans

Sermon Series Caroling the Christmas Story

December 28: *First Nowell* --- Exodus 3:9-15; Matthew 2:1-12

January 4: *We Three Kings* --- Isaiah 60:1-6; Matthew 2:1-12 Epiphany & Communion

A NEW SERMON SERIES QUESTIONS GOD ASKS

January 11: *Where Are You?* Genesis 3

January 18: *What Have You Done?* Genesis 4

A Service of Ordination and Installation of our New Officers

January 25: *What Are You Doing Here?* 1 Kings 19

February 1: *What Are You Looking For?* John 1

Communion



Office Hours 9am-2pm Tuesday-Thursday

Office Phone Number 303-798-1389

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Staff Members

Pastor Jonathan Murray, Minister of Word and Sacrament

Pastor Blakeley Winslow, Pastor of Christian Discipleship

Lydia Cooper, Office Manager

Mary Dailey, Director of Worship Arts

Karen A. Meersman, Director of Handbells & Children/Youth Music

Joan Lund, Financial Secretary

Tracy Eidson, Child Care



Church Office Hours

The office will be closed from December 25th, 2025, until January 1st, 2026
The phone and email messages will be monitored during this time.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A BLESSED NEW YEAR

Mission Statement:

**We Believe the Good News that all of Littleton is called Beloved by Jesus
Christ and together we Belong to God's Kingdom.**

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