

# Welcome

St. Peter Lutheran Church

24 December 2025

## Christmas Eve Worship

4:00pm & 7:00pm

*\*\*Both services will be livestreamed to our Facebook page and posted on our website. \*\**

***This Week:***

**Wednesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>**

4:00pm Worship (Sanctuary)

7:00pm Worship (Sanctuary)

**Thursday, December 25<sup>th</sup>**

Office Closed

**Saturday, December 27<sup>th</sup>**

10:00am Love Fellowship Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

**Sunday, December 28<sup>th</sup>**

9:00am Worship (Sanctuary)

11:00am Love Fellowship (Sanctuary)



**Glorify God.  
Build Relationships.  
Follow Jesus.**

**St. Peter Lutheran Church**

2104 Geele Ave, Sheboygan WI 53083

Phone: 920.452.4771

Web: [stpetersheboygan.com](http://stpetersheboygan.com)

Email: [stpeter@stpetersheboygan.com](mailto:stpeter@stpetersheboygan.com)

*St. Peter Lutheran Church is a faith community where:  
We glorify God by building healthy relationships with God, with one another, and with our community following the example of Jesus Christ.*

**\*\* The Pastor will read the italicized parts of the service. \*\***  
**\*\*If you would like to participate, please join in reading the bold font in unison. \*\***

|                         |                             |                   |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>PRELUDE (4:00pm)</b> | For Unto Us a Child Is Born | Pat, Dylan, Rose, |
|                         | Mary Did You Know           | Maddy, Barb,      |
|                         | He Shall Reign              | Steve, Paul       |
| <b>(7:00pm)</b>         | Carol of Worship and Praise | St. Peter Choir   |

## **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Welcome to worship! Masks are available on the table by the main doors if you would like one. All are invited to participate in the sacrament of communion. Pastor will give more instructions during the communion portion of the service. The service will be livestreamed to our Facebook page and posted to our website and YouTube page.

(Please stand)

## **CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Loved children of God: hope, peace, joy, and love will be born this night.*  
**Glory to God in the highest heaven.**

*God sent Jesus, Savior, Redeemer, and Friend, into the world to dwell among us.* **Glory to God in the highest heaven.**

*Shepherds shout, wise ones bow down, angels rejoice and sing.* **Glory to God in the highest heaven.**

*Join with the company of heaven and earth, proclaiming the good news Jesus Christ is born!* **Glory to God in the highest heaven. Let us worship!**

# OPENING HYMN

# Joy to the World

ELW # 267



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



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.

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, Wonderful Counselor, Mighty Savior, Prince of Peace. Amen.*

*Immanuel, God-with-us, we confess that as we celebrate Christmas, we bring with us imperfection.*

*We gather around the manger of the newborn baby with expectation, yet we are burdened because we know the weight of our humanity. We fall short of your way of love and justice.*

*We fall short of Christlike integrity. We fall short from who you created us to be. **Forgive us for our frailties and failures and receive us into your presence with grace.***

*Come boldly to the manger, to the birthplace of Jesus. You are forgiven and you are welcome to be here. Be pardoned. Receive grace today and be free to love yourself, your neighbors, and our 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.***

(Please be seated)

### **OPENING PRAYER**

*Immanuel, God-with-us, God of Our Ancestors, God of Peace and promise, Dayspring of Joy, Author of Love, **the night has finally arrived. The Promised One will be born for the whole world. As we celebrate this long-awaited event, this birth that changed everything, we invite you to tell us the story again, to be present in the simple, sweet moments, to teach us one more time what it means to bring hope, peace, joy, and love into the world. To be God with us. Amen.***

### **LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES**

*Into a hopeless world, Immanuel will be born, God with us, hope for all. And hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. Today, we light the candle of hope, because, in God's presence, we find hope.*

(Light the first blue candle)

*Into a violent world, Immanuel will be born, God-with-us, Prince of Peace. And the Prince of Peace tells us when we become peacemakers, we will be called Children of God. Today we light the candle of peace, because in God's presence, we find peace.*

(Light the second blue candle)

*Into a sorrowful world, Immanuel will be born, God-with-us, Dayspring of Joy. This is good news of great joy for all people. Weeping may last for a night, but joy comes in the morning. Today we light the candle of joy, because in God's presence, we find joy.*

(Light the pink candle)

*Into an uncaring world, Immanuel will be born, God-with-us, Author of Love. And by God's tender mercy, God's tender love, dawn will break upon us and God will guide us into the way of peace. Today we light the candle of love because in God's presence, we find love.*

(Light the last blue candle)

*Into the world, Immanuel is born, God-with-us, born to bring good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives, to set free those who are oppressed, and to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor. Today we light the Christ candle, because unto us a son is born in the City of David, a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.*

(Light the center Christ candle)

**HYMN**

O, Come, All Ye Faithful

See page 15  
or ELW # 283

**READING**

Psalm 96

*O sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth. Sing to the LORD, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.*

*Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples. For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; he is to be revered above all gods.*

*For all the gods of the peoples are idols, but the LORD made the heavens. Honor and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.*

*Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength. Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts.*

*Worship the LORD in holy splendor; tremble before him, all the earth. Say among the nations, "The LORD is king! The world is firmly established; it shall never be moved. He will judge the peoples with equity."*

*Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it; let the field exult, and everything in it. Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy*

*before the LORD; for he is coming, for he is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with his truth. Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.*

**ANTHEM (7:00pm)**

**Born In A Manger**

**St. Peter Choir**

**READING**

**Isaiah 9:2-7**

*<sup>2</sup>The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. <sup>3</sup>You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. <sup>4</sup>For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. <sup>5</sup>For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. <sup>6</sup>For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. <sup>7</sup>His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this. Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.*

**CHILDREN'S MOMENT (4:00pm)**

**Pastor Kristin**

**(Please stand)**

# GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

ELW # 270



1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born king;  
2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,  
3 Hail the heav'n - born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righ - teous - ness!



peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled."  
late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.  
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;  
Veiled in flesh the God - head see! Hail, in - car - nate de - i - ty!  
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



with an - gel - ic hosts pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"  
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!  
born to raise each child of earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.



Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king!"

## GOSPEL

Luke 2:1–20

*The holy gospel according to Luke the second chapter. Glory to you, O Lord.*

*In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>All went to their own towns to be registered. To us is born a Savior. **Jesus Christ our Lord.***

*<sup>4</sup>Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. <sup>5</sup>He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. To us is born a Savior. **Jesus Christ our Lord.***

*<sup>6</sup>While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup>And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. To us is born a Savior. **Jesus Christ our Lord.***

*<sup>8</sup>In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. To us is born a Savior. **Jesus Christ our Lord.***

*<sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup>to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup>This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." To us is born a Savior. **Jesus Christ our Lord.***

*<sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup>"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" To us is born a Savior. **Jesus Christ our Lord.***

*<sup>15</sup>When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." <sup>16</sup>So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. To us is born a Savior. **Jesus Christ our Lord.***

*<sup>17</sup>When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; <sup>18</sup>and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup>But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. To us is born a Savior. **Jesus Christ our Lord.***



*<sup>20</sup>The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them. To us is born a Savior. **Jesus Christ our Lord.***

(Please be seated)

SERMON

Pastor Kristin Berglund

(Please stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY Angels We Have Heard on High

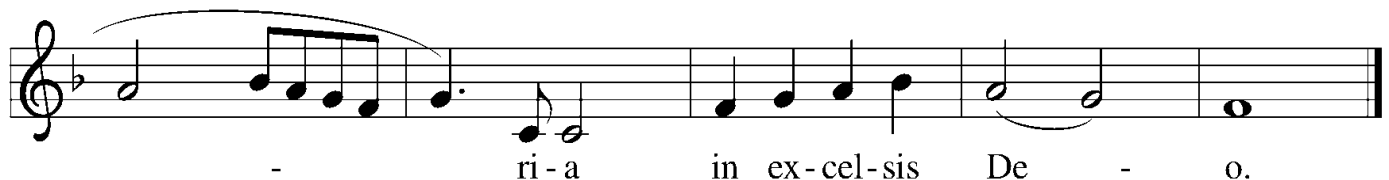
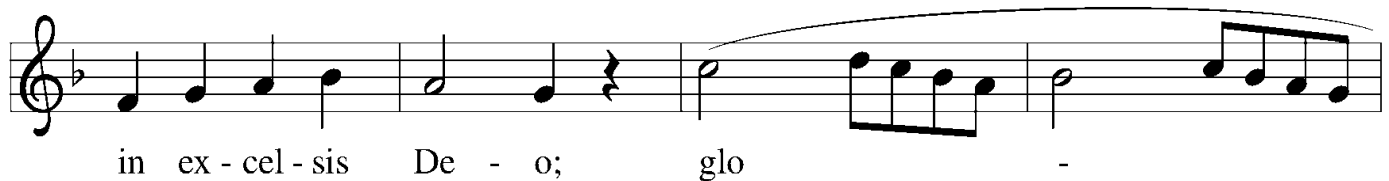
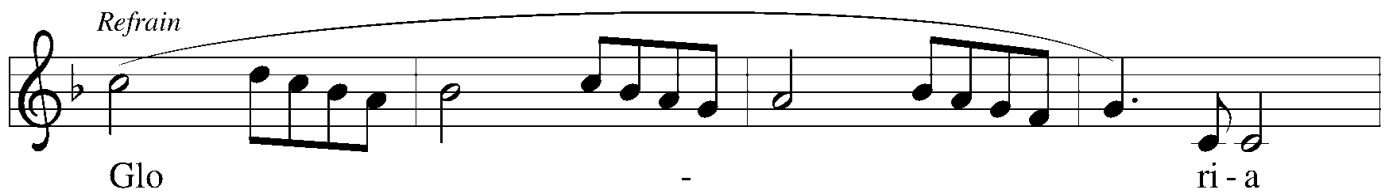
ELW # 289



1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,  
2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?  
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;



and the moun-tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.  
What the glad - some tid - ings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?  
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.



## APOSTLES' CREED

*With the whole church, let us confess our faith.*

**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 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.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*Gracious God, you come from heaven above into the midst of our world.*  
**Fill our hearts with the joy of the angels at your birth.**

*You come from heaven above to the lowliest of human conditions.* **Watch over those in need, the sick, the hungry, the grieving.**

*You come from heaven above to walk the way of the cross.* **Guide us to follow your path of forgiveness, mercy, and peace.**

*You come from heaven above to become flesh and live among us.* **May we see your glory, full of grace and truth. Amen.**

## OFFERING PRAYER

Please place your offering in the plates at the end of the main aisle, scan the QR code on the right to go directly to St. Peter's secure donation page, or visit the church website to give online.



*We offer praise and thanks to God for what we have been given and what we share with others.*

*Let us pray. God of glory, great are your wonders among us and many are the blessings you bestow. Use us and these your gifts for the needs of the world, that all the ends of the earth may rejoice in your saving grace, through Christ our Savior. Amen.*

## **SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

*As we enter a time of communion, prepare your hearts to come to the table of love. At Christ's table, hate has no place. At Christ's table, love prepares a meal of justice.*

*Jesus extends the bread of life and cup of blessing to all who desire to be fed by the feast. This fellowship welcomes you to come to the table, no matter where you are on your journey. All are welcome.*

*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:*

Angels, from the Realms of Glory  
(verses 1& 4)

See page 16  
or ELW # 275

*In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.*

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

*Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.*

**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

*Love has come: God's love for all people. Come to the table. There is a place for you.*

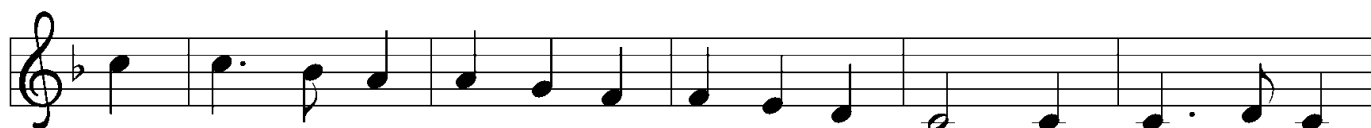
(Please be seated)

All are welcome to receive the sacrament. Please follow instructions given by Pastor.

Grownups are always welcome to bless non-communing children with the words "You are a loved child of God" and the sign of the cross on their forehead, hand, or in front of them. If you use individual cups, please place the used cups in the baggie and leave the baggie in the large glass bowl as you depart worship. Gluten free wafers are available.

## COMMUNION HYMNS Christmas Communion Song Away in a Manger

7:00pm Choir  
ELW # 277



- 1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed, the lit - tle Lord
- 2 The cat - tle are low - ing; the ba - by a - wakes, but lit - tle Lord
- 3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask you to stay close by me for -



Je - sus laid down his sweet head; the stars in the bright sky looked  
Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes. I love you, Lord Je - sus; look  
ev - er and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear chil - dren in



down where he lay, the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.  
down from the sky and stay by my cra - dle till morn-ing is nigh.  
your ten - der care and fit us for heav-en, to live with you there.

## O Little Town of Bethlehem

ELW # 279



O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!  
For Christ is born of Mar - y, and, gath - ered all a - bove  
How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly the won - drous gift is giv'n!  
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)

*The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace. Amen.*

### **POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

*Let us pray. Immanuel, God-with-us, Author of love, you have fed us with the bread of life and the cup of blessing. And as we leave this table, we leave with the assurance you accompany us along the journey. Amen.*

### **BLESSING**

*The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace. Amen.*

### **SENDING HYMN & LIGHTING OF CANDLES**

(Candles will be lit beginning in the center aisle. Please pass the light by tipping only the unlit candles.)

#### **Silent Night**

**Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright round yon virgin mother and child. Holy Infant, so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.**

**Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight; glories stream from heaven afar, heav'nly hosts sing, alleluia! Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!**

**Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light radiant beams from your holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at your birth, Jesus, Lord, at your birth.**

(Please extinguish your candle following the hymn.)

### **DISMISSAL**

*Glory to God in the highest! And peace to God's people on earth!*

*Go in peace. You are loved! Thanks be to God!*

### **POSTLUDE**

**We Three Kings Medley**

**Pat, Dylan, Rose,  
Maddy, Barb, Steve, Paul**

# 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!

# Angels, from the Realms of Glory

## (verses 1& 4)



- 1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
- 2 Shep-herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your flocks by night,
- 3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, bright - er vi - sions beam a - far;
- 4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son,



once you sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:  
 God with us is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant light.  
 seek the great de - sire of na - tions, you have seen his na - tal star.  
 ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing to the e - ter - nal Three in One.

*Refrain*



Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born king.

### WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

|                 |   |                 |
|-----------------|---|-----------------|
| Message         | Pastor Kristin                            |                 |
| Reader          | 4:00pm: Laura                             |                 |
|                 | 7:00pm: Ginny                             |                 |
| Advent Lighting | 4:00pm: Jamie, Amanda & Family            |                 |
|                 | 7:00pm: Inara & Satya                     |                 |
| Usher           | 4:00pm: Dick & Karen, Steve/Jamie(lights) |                 |
|                 | 7:00pm: Steve W, Wayne (lights)           |                 |
| Communion       | 4:00pm: JoAnne, Aimee, Jamie              |                 |
|                 | 7:00pm: Ginny, Steve & Jennifer           |                 |
| Altar Guild     | Set up: Pastor Kristin                    |                 |
|                 | In-between: Joy                           | Clean up: Ginny |
| Music           | Lori                                      |                 |
| Tech            | 4:00pm: Aimee                             |                 |
|                 | 7:00pm: Pastor Kristin                    |                 |