

FAITH

LUTHERAN CHURCH
Love God. Love Others. Serve.

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Traditional Service with Organ and Choir

REGULAR SERVICES TIMES

9 a.m. Traditional Worship Service

11:11 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service

Joy

225 JAMESTOWNE BLVD, FARRAGUT, TN, 37934
WWW.FAITHLOVES.ORG
865.966.9626

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICE
DECEMBER 28, 2025 • 9AM
1st Sunday of Christmas • Evangelical Lutheran Worship Setting 10

PRELUDE

Silent Night Franz Xavier Gruber

Vada Kasefang

CALL TO WORSHIP FOR CHRISTMAS FROM THE BAPTISMAL FONT *(stand)*

Pastor: Joy to the world, the Lord is come!

Congregation: Let earth receive her king.

P: Let every heart prepare him room,

C: **and heaven and nature sing!**

P: Come and worship Christ the newborn king.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN hymn 270 *(stand)*

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing



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!



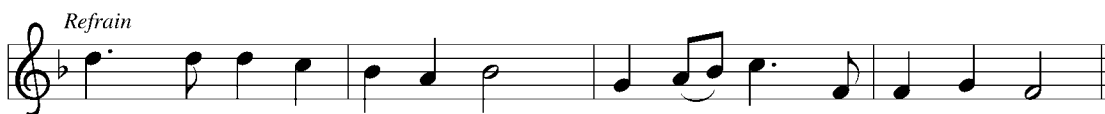
peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled."
late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.



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!"

GREETING / INVOCATION / PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: We gather in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit †

C: Amen.

P: Let us pray,

**All: Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnation.
The time is right, our expectations are fulfilled and our hope is vindicated.
We rejoice in the life and light you have given us in the Christ child. Amen.**

PARISH NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

FIRST READING Isaiah 63:7-9 *pew Bible, page 679*

Amy Canapa, lector

God does not delegate divine intervention to a messenger or angel. God's own presence brings salvation. The prophet and all who read these words join in celebrating God's gracious deeds. God trusts that God's people will not act falsely.

I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord, the praiseworthy acts of the Lord, because of all that the Lord has done for us and the great favor to the house of Israel that he has shown them according to his mercy, according to the abundance of his steadfast love. For he said, "Surely they are my people, children who will not act deceitfully," and he became their savior in all their distress. It was no messenger or angel but his presence that saved them; in his love and pity it was he who redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

PSALM: Psalm 148 *pew Bible page 571*

Lector: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights!

Congregation: Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his hosts!

L: Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars!

C: Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens, and you waters above the heavens!

L: Let them praise the name of the Lord, for he commanded and they were created.

C: He established them forever and ever; he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.

L: Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps,

C: fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling his command!

L: Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!

C: Wild animals and all cattle creeping things and flying birds!

L: Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!

C: Young men and women alike, old and young together!

L: Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven.

C: He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his faithful, for the people of Israel who are close to him. Praise the Lord!

SECOND READING: Hebrews 2:10-18 *pew Bible, page 1092*

Through Jesus' suffering and death, the trail to eternal salvation has been blazed for us. We do not fear death, because he has conquered the power of death. Thus Christ, our merciful and faithful high priest, has the final say over the destiny of our lives.

It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, saying, "I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you." And again, "I will put my trust in him." And again, "Here am I and the children whom God has given me." Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL: John 1:1-18 *pew Bible, page 968*

Today's Gospel reading is the first chapter of the Book of John. Jesus is the Word of God who became flesh, one of us, at Christmas. This is one of the greatest poetic passages in all of Scripture. Jesus is the true light who enlightens everyone,

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to John, the 1st chapter

Congregation: Glory to you, O Lord!

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, "He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me." From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

Congregation: Praise to you, O Christ!

SERMON

Making Christmas Last

Rev. Dr. Bob Stelter

HYMN OF THE DAY hymn 277 (stand)

Away in a Manger



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.

NICENE CREED

Pastor: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us proclaim our faith

**All: We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS *stand or kneel*

Bill Steele, Assisting Minister

Assistant: Empowered by the news of Christ's birth, let us pray boldly for the church, creation, and all who are in need.

brief silence.

Assistant: God of grace, you show us mercy not according to our worthiness, but according to the abundance of your steadfast love. Grant us the courage to go into the world and do likewise. Hear us, O God.

Congregation: Your mercy is great.

A: God of abundance, the sun and moon praise you and the shining stars sing of your love. Where we have desecrated your creation, make us into a healing balm for what we have broken. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: God of righteousness, when leaders fail to fulfill their calls to enact justice, you suffer alongside us. Propel those in power to see you reflected in the faces of all they serve. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: God of life, you claim us as your own and care for us as Christ's siblings. Pour out your compassion in every place your people suffer, and protect them in the palm of your hand. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: God of compassion, you nurture children as the apple of your eye. As you sheltered your son Jesus from Herod's grasp, shelter all children in danger. As you comforted Rachel, comfort all who have lost children to violence. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: God of love, you console those who weep for lost beloved ones. Even as we mourn, we offer thanks for those who have gone before us, trusting in your comfort and protection. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

Silence for individual prayer petitions.

Pastor: With the joy of Christ's birth in our hearts, we commend our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your boundless mercy and eternal love; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Congregation: Amen.

CHILDREN'S TALK

THE PEACE

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Congregation: And also with you.

OFFERING FOR MISSION AND MINISTRY *(sit)*

OFFERING ANTHEM *There is a Balm in Gilead* Mark Hayes

OFFERING HYMN *hymn #296*

What Child is This?



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?
2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?
3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas-ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep-ing?
Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead-ing.
The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an - gels sing;
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Congregation: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

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

C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: With one will and one voice, we pray:

**All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not
into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION FROM PASTOR STELTER

DISTRIBUTION MUSIC

Trace Taylor

COMMUNION BLESSING *(stand)*

Pastor: Now may the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

Congregation: Amen.

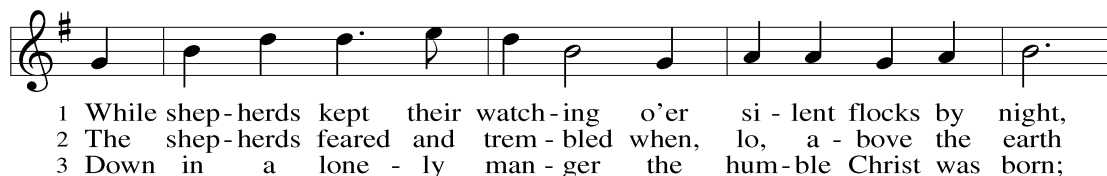
BENEDICTION

Pastor: May Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Congregation: Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN *hymn 290*

Go Tell It on the Mountain



DISMISSAL

Assistant: Go tell it on the mountain,

Congregation: Jesus Christ is born!

Assistant: Go in peace to love God, love others, serve.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *Trio on "All Through the Night"* Janet Correll

Vada Kasefang

WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY

ALTAR GUILD	Mary & Doug Bales
GREETER	Gloria Fife
USHERS	Steve Dean, John Woods
ASSISTING MINISTER	Bill Steele
LECTOR	Amy Canapa
COMMUNION MINISTERS	Laura Beardsley, Larry Koran, Mary & Doug Bales
PROJECTION & LIGHTS	George Deichert

Christmas Poinsettia Memorials & Honorariums

In memory of Karen & Ralph—Peggy & Paul Jurkoic
In honor of Maria—Jen & Brad Berry
In memory of Austin Montgomery Herbold—Mary & George Herbold
In memory of C.B & Louise Wright—Mary & George Herbold
In memory of Arlene & George Herbold—Mary & George Herbold
In memory of our son, Adam—Nancy & Stephen Dean
In memory of Adelaide & Sterling Wigren—Nancy & Steve Dean
In memory of Myrtle & Wilbur Dean—Nancy & Stephen Dean
In memory of Betty & Bob Ellis—Dawn Ellis
In honor of our grandchildren & great grandchildren—Alice & Joe Pigott
In memory of our son Joe—Alice & Joe Pigott
In memory of Joe Pigott's parents Edna & Richard Pigott—Alice & Joe Pigott
In memory of my husband Toivo Rist—Connie Rist
In memory of my husband Jim West—Marj West
In memory of Lisa and Carol—Vicki Adams
In honor of our children—Shirley & Ben Campbell
In memory of Patricia's parents Nita & Paul Hoover—Patricia & David Mabry
In memory of David's parents Virginia & Arthur Mabry—Patricia & David Mabry
In memory of Leonard, Jeff & Jill Johnson; Craig & Bonnie—Debbie & Anthony Ragucci
In memory of Michael Lee—Debbie & Anthony Ragucci
In honor of our families—Debbie & Anthony Ragucci
In memory of my father Skip Beardsley—Laura Beardsley
In memory of my grandparents Harold & Louise Polsgrove—Laura Beardsley
In memory of Bud & Carol Beardsley—Laura Beardsley
In joyful celebration of our children and grandchild—Carrie & Andrew Parrott

PRAYERS

Members: Terry Biesboer, Gene Bird, Dave Birkholz, Jan Bishop, Mary Blackburn, Rob Blackburn, Roger Brown, Nancy & Leon Cole, Michael Condon, Myles Cooper, Debbie Courtney, Nancy Dean, Nancy Dickinson, Irene Dorfinger, Patsy Elmore, John Elmore, Karoline Frasch, Pat Gary, Nick Gary, Mary Beth Green, Jonas Greenman, Chip Hester, Deb & Doug Houck, Tom Jayne, Paul Jurkoic, Bonnie Legako, Lin & Mike McKinley, Diane Lee, Debbie Palatinus, Scarlett Parrott, Harold Peters, Joe Poole, Dr. Ted Primka, Sandra Prior, the Saylor family, Pamela Spaar, Bill Steele, Rich Wellner, Jean Witte, John Woods, Matt Wright.

Friends: Rogan Acuff, Alderman family, App family, Baker family, Bill Birkholz, Sheila Birkholz, Carl Bowers, John Burkett, Michael Carfi, Steve Case, Andy Cole, Meg Corrigan, Vanessa Coates, Linda Cosby, Michael Condon, Nancy Crain, Michael Damico, Irma DeBord, Shayna DeBord, Dennis family, Carolyn Dillhyon, Michelle Dionne, Van Dudley, Brandy & Brian Duke, Dan Edmunds, Favre family, Alanna & Arnie Fenske, Kathi Fenske-Hong, Phylis Garrison, Cindy Gioe, Angél Gobel, Gregory Goodall, Gary Gouzy, Gutelius family, Hall family, Patrick Harvey, Charlie Hewston, Joy Hymer, Christine Johansen, Juniper Johnson, Don Karlstad, Duane Koran, Barb Korsmo, Dick Korsmo, Darren Lee, Tammy & Mark Leonhart, Loyacano family, Joe May, Jeff McCown, Roger McCown, Tillie Meffert, David Nelson, Scott Nelson, Josh Nickols, Cynthia & Jack Park, Chris Patrick, Rose & Steve Penney, Ashley Raunch, Shannon Remington, Lois Richardson, Roberts family, Carolyn Russell, Sarah Ryg, Salles families, Marilyn Savilisky, Tony Savilisky, Scaglione family, Richard Sena, Lynn Siegfried & family, Audra Tyler Moore, Frank Tyler, Barb Weldon, Mya, Ro & Haven Wolfe, Kim Yee, Gary Yonke, Mark Zalesky, Nan Zhang & family, Zenher family, Aaron & Zionah, Angel & Ben, Barb, Cheri & George, Christine, Darcy, Dave, Debbie, Duskin, Eve, Hayden, Janie, Jodi, Judy, Laura, Lauren, Myra, & Sandra, Stephanie, Tonya, Vanessa, Zane, Zoe *and those we name to You.*

Revelation: The Christmas story requires all to love God, love others, and serve.

Comfort in the midst of death for the family and friends of: Michael Lee, Sarah.

Shepherd of Hope Pantry Friends: Eddie, Faye, Edna, Anne, Max, Savannah, May, Jorge, Johnny, Ease, Vivian, Susan, Brood, Robert, Chris, Alisa, Zachary, Donna, Amber, Kelly, Adrien, Ronnie, Mary, Andrew, Noorjau, Merita, Brook, Tricia & Andrew, Ryan *and those known to God.*

Salvation Army Friends: Paula, Julie, Stephanie, Daphne, Elizabeth, Ren, Lisa, Cheryl, Wendy, Al, Gabby, James, Gibby, Jay, Alfredo, Chris, Grant, Grant, Jr., Zyane, Lois, Adam, Jason, Gary, Brandon, Sean, Jason *and those known to God.*

Concern & Assistance: Those dealing with addiction while incarcerated. Mentally & physically challenged. Veterans. Refugees and those living in fear of deportation. Persecuted Christians. The people of Jamaica, Nigeria, Iran, Israel, Syria, Palestine, Ukraine, Russia.

Partnerships: Bishop Yehiel Curry & the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; Bishop Kevin Strickland & the Southeastern Synod; Alicia & David Brondos, Missionaries in Mexico; Seminarian Sam Sosebee; Shepherd of Hope Food Pantry; English Language Learning Classes, Quiet Music Ministry; Tyson House; Deacon Ministry; Knox Area Rescue Ministry; Via de Cristo Ministry; Salvation Army Women's & Men's Homeless Shelters; Street Hope; Cole Center Caregivers and Parkinson Band; Mercy Ships; Lutheran Church & School in Guatemala; AL-ANON; Narcotics Anonymous.

Peace & Protection for all armed forces, especially: Jacob Cole, Kyleigh Cole, Anthony Hu, HM, Andrew McDonald, Alex Primka, Christine Russ, Sam Thompson, Chris Yonke, Mitchell Yount.

Church Council Leadership Team

Stephen Dean, President

David Mabry, Vice President

Mary Bales

Laura Beardsley, Secretary

Carrie Parrott, Treasurer

Ritchie Case

Connie Rist

Dawn Titsworth

Pastor Stelter

As followers of Jesus, we rejoice in God's plan for a just, loving and peaceful world. We commit ourselves to making it a reality for all people everywhere. Just as all are welcome at the Lord's table during holy communion, all are welcome to this family of faith. People of all races, ages, social status, sexual orientations and gender identities are united here in our mission to love God, Love Others, Serve.

DECEMBER 28



Ongoing Christmas Joy

Today's sermon will focus on living with Christmas joy all throughout the year.

If you are new, please sign a worship card and place it in the offering plate.

DIG IN, GROW DEEP, LEARN WITH OTHERS.

Sunday School Classes are regularly held at 10:15 a.m.

Adult Bible Class: The Holy Land Revealed - In the classroom side of the Cup

Teen Sunday School (6th - 12th grade): In the Youth Room (Resumes in January)

Confirmation Class (8th - 10th grade): In the Library (Resumes in January)

Children's Sunday School for 5th grade and younger: (Resumes in January)

- Ye Littles of Faith for Kindergarten and younger in East hallway classroom next to Nursery
- The Mighty Kids Kingdom for 1st - 5th grades in West hallway classroom, 2 doors past youth room

Tuesday Bible Study (Open to All): In the classroom side of the Cup

STAY CONNECTED

 Weekly newsletter: www.faithloves.org/subscribe

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 Subscribe to our podcast of sermon audio at www.faithloves.org/sermonpodcast/

 Faith Guest wi-fi password: **beblessed**

Staying connected through at least one of these ways allows you to know what's happening in between Sundays so you can plan ahead and be involved. If you follow us on social media, please be **sure to share our posts!**

EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

EVENTS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 28

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28

- 9 a.m. Traditional Worship Service
- 10 a.m. English Language Class
- 10:15 a.m. Bible Study/Sunday School
- 11:11 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service

MONDAY, DECEMBER 29

- 12 p.m. Via de Cristo Reunion
- 6:15 p.m. English Language Class

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30

- 1:30 p.m. Bible Study Class
- 7:30 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31

- 5:30 p.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal
- 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, JANUARY 1

HAPPY NEW YEAR

- 7:30 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous

FRIDAY, JANUARY 2

- 7 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous

SATURDAY, JANUARY 3

- 11 a.m. Al-Anon

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4

- 9 a.m. Traditional Worship Service
- 10 a.m. English Language Class
- 10:15 a.m. Bible Study/Sunday School
- 10:15 a.m. The Cup Revisioning
- 11:11 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Chili Cook Off**
 - Wednesday, January 14, at 6 p.m.
- **Spirituality Book Club**
 - Tuesday, January 13, 6:30 p.m.

DAILY LECTIONARY READINGS THIS WEEK

Monday: Jeremiah 31:15-22, Luke 19:41-44, Psalm 20

Tuesday: Isaiah 26:1-9, 2 Corinthians 4:16-18, Psalm 20

Wednesday: Ecclesiastes 3:1-13, Psalm 8,

Revelation 21:1-6, Matthew 25:31-46

Thursday: Numbers 6:22-27, Psalm 8, Galatians 4:4-7

or Philippians 2:5-11, Luke 2:15-21

Friday: Genesis 12:1-7, Hebrews 11:1-12, Psalm 72

Saturday: Genesis 28:10-22, Hebrews 11:13-22,

Psalm 72

Sunday: Jeremiah 31:7-14, Psalm 147:12-20,

Ephesians 1:3-14, John 1:1-9, 10-18

Faithful Response

Offerings last week: **\$ 14,046**

Offerings year to date: **\$ 816,500**



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