

MAGNOLIA LUTHERAN CHURCH

DECEMBER 24, 2023
5PM



A SIGN FOR YOU

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Christmas Eve

5pm

Dec. 24, 2023

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Al Roberts

GATHERING HYMN O Come, All Ye Faithful, vs. 1, 2 & 3 #283 ELW

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him, born the king of angels:

Refrain: O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

The highest, most holy, light of light eternal,
Born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;
Son of the Father now in flesh appearing! *Refrain*

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God in the highest: *Refrain*

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.**

The lyrics to our hymns are printed in this bulletin. However, for those who wish to sing harmony, we also have printed the hymn numbers. All hymns are from Evangelical Lutheran Worship (the red hymnal).

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray...

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that would obstruct your mercy, that willingly we may bear your redeeming love to all the world, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

CHRISTMAS PROPHECY | saiah 9:2-7

- ² [a] 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.
- ³ 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.
- ⁴ 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.
- ⁵ For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.
- ⁶ 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.
- ⁷ 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.

CHRISTMAS CAROL O Come, O Come Emmanuel, vs 1 &2 #257 ELW

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

O come, O Wisdom from on high,
embracing all things far and nigh;
In strength and beauty come and stay;
Teach us your will and guide our way.

Refrain

CHRISTMAS GOSPEL Luke 2:1-4

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph 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.

CHRISTMAS CAROL O Little Town of Bethlehem, vs. 1&3 #279 ELW

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is giv'n!
So god imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heav'n.
No ear may hear his coming; but, in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.

CHRISTMAS GOSPEL Luke 2:5-7

⁵ He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷ 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.

CHRISTMAS CAROL

Away in a Manger

277 ELW

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;
the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing; the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky
and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay
close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care
and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.

SCENE CHANGE:

A HILLSIDE OUTSIDE OF BETHLEHEM

CHRISTMAS GOSPEL Luke 2:8-12

⁸ In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ 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: ¹¹ to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.”

CHRISTMAS CAROL Angels We Have Heard on High, vs. 1-3 #289 ELW

Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plains
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains

Refrain: Gloria, in excelsis Deo
Gloria, in excelsis Deo

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
which inspire your heav'nly song? *Refrain*

Come to Bethlehem and see
him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn king. *Refrain*

SUDDENLY COUNTLESS ANGELS ENTER

CHRISTMAS GOSPEL Luke 2: 13-15

¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

¹⁴ “Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

¹⁵ 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.”

CHRISTMAS CAROL Hark! The Herald Angels Sing #270 ELW

Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn king;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled.”
Joyful, all you nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies;
With angelic hosts proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”

Refrain: Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn king!”

Continued on next page

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righteous-ness!
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with healing in his wings,
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
Born to raise each child of earth, born to give us second birth.
Refrain

SCENE CHANGE:

BACK AT THE MANGER

CHRISTMAS GOSPEL Luke 2:16-19

¹⁶ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart.

CHRISTMAS CAROL

What Child is This

#296 ELW

What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the king, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!

Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding:
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mary!

SCENE CHANGE:

SHEPHERDS RETURNING TO THE SHEEP

CHRISTMAS GOSPEL Luke 2:20

²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

CHRISTMAS CAROL Go Tell It On The Mountain

#290 ELW

Refrain Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and ev'rywhere;
 Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. *Refrain.*

The shepherds feared and trembled when, lo, above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth. *Refrain.*

Down in a lonely manger the humble Christ was born;
and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. *Refrain*

WE RESPOND TO THE CHRISTMAS STORY

SERMON

HYMN

I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve, vs. 1-4

#271 ELW

I am so glad each Christmas Eve,
the night of Jesus' birth!
Then like the sun the star shone forth,
and angels sang on earth.

The little child in Bethlehem,
he was a king indeed!
For he came down from heav'n above
to help a world in need.

He dwells again in heaven's realm,
the Son of God today;
and still he loves his little ones
and hears them when they pray.

I am so glad each Christmas Eve!
His praises then I sing;
he opens now for ev'ry child
the palace of the king.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING

Offering Music

Away in a Manger

Gary Lanier

Offertory Hymn

The First Noel , vs. 1

#300 ELW

The first Noel the angel did say was to
certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay; in fields where
they lay, keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's
night that was so deep. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel
Born is the King of Israel.

CELEBRATING HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving

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.**

Words of Institution (In the night he was betrayed...)

Lord's Prayer

**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.**

The Distribution

- *We trust in Christ's love and that Christ is present in this meal. All are invited to the Table. Come as you wish. The ushers will guide you by row.*
- *The pastor distributes the bread. Others will distribute wine and grape juice. At Magnolia Lutheran Church, we receive communion by intinction, which is the practice of dipping the bread into the chalice.*
- *Children are welcome at the Table. We invite parents to decide the best time for their children to receive communion. The pastor is available for a home visits and conversation about communion. Children who do not receive the bread and wine are invited to receive a blessing.*

Music during communion:

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly
Still, Still, Still

Al Roberts
Roberta Rowland Raybold

WE ARE SENT TO BRING LIGHT INTO THE DARKNESS

SCRIPTURE READING: John 1:1-5

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.

CHRISTMAS CAROL

Silent Night

281 ELW

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, Heavenly 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.

SENDING BLESSING

CHRISTMAS CAROL

Joy to the World

#267 ELW

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her king;
let ev'ry heart prepare him room
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let all their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sin and sorrow grow
nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow
far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.

DISMISSAL

Go in Peace! **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

In Dulci Jubilo

J.S. Bach



CHRISTMAS DECORATION DONORS



Chris & Georgia Backman

In memory of our parents

Carpine-Cazzanti Family

In honor of loved ones near and far

Kristi Carpine - Taber & Roger Taber

In memory of Roselma Stutzman, Elsie Rodstron and Frank Carpine

Megan Hamshar

In memory of Dealous Cox

Ralph & Gail Hendrickson

In memory of our parents, Helen & Earl Blomberg & Fredia & Werner Hendrickson

Nick & Kimberly Milham

In memory of Dru Branagwin

John & Mo Nagy

In memory and honor of Louise McKeever, John Nagy Jr. & McKeever

Clayton & Deborah Ramsey

In memory of our parents

The Saharic Family

In memory of Sally Edgar Johnston

Doug & Lisa Schwartzenberger

In honor of Maverick & Canelo



Thank you to those who made donations in memory of family and loved ones, and to the Honor and Glory of God. Thank you to Donna Bergeron & Jenny Ruegamer for decorating the sanctuary. It looks stunning! And thank you to Amy Sigmar for the outdoor decorations. They look stunning as well! Thank you to anyone I might have missed!

Servants Schedule for Upcoming Dates

Assisting Minister

Dec 31 — Noah Wittner

Jan 7 — TBD

Lector

Dec 31 — Noah Wittner

Jan 7 — TBD

Altar Preparation

Dec 31 — Caroline Alabach & Jeanne Moussette

Jan 7 — Monica Scheiber

Counters

Dec 31 — Noah Wittner

Jan 7 — John Valiton

Coffee Hour Hosts

Dec 31 — Congregation brings leftovers!

Jan 7 — TBD

Ushers

Dec 31 — Cliff Kurtzweg & Noah Wittner

Jan 7 — Amy & Thor Sigmar

A new servant schedule will be out shortly!

Merry Christmas
from the MLC Staff!!

Mara

Ann

Pastor
Kevin

Nancy



This Week at MLC

Sunday, December 24, Christmas Eve

10am Service of the Word

5pm Worship Service

7pm Worship Service

Monday, December 25, CHRISTMAS

Tuesday, December 26

NO BIBLE STUDY TODAY

Thursday, December 28

7pm-9pm AA—Fireside Room

Friday, December 29

8pm AA Speakers Meeting

The office will be open limited hours during the week between Christmas and the New Year. **Phone messages will be checked often.**



The Christmas Story

by Leanne Guenther

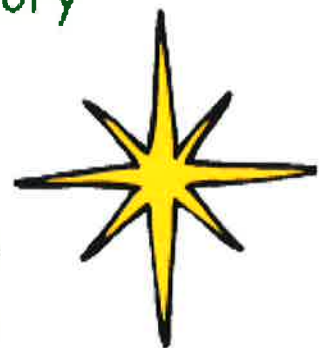
Once upon a time,
A long, long time ago.
Begins the story of a baby,
That most of you should know.

His daddy's name was Joseph,
And Mary was His mom,
This babe was very special
He was God's only Son.

Some angels came from heaven,
And they began to sing.
To the shepherds in the fields below,
"Glad tidings do we bring!"

A bright star lit the heavens,
To light the magi's way,
To the baby in the manger
Who was born on Christmas day.

And all who gathered round Him,
Rejoiced and praised His birth.
For the babe, the King, named Jesus,
Is our Saviour here on earth!



W FOOTBALL

HUSKIES WATCH PARTY!!

FUN!

On New Year's day, come watch the Huskies on MLC's big screen! Game starts at 5:45; come at 5:15 or so for hot dogs, potato salad, brownies, popcorn, soda, beer, and wine. If you

can let us know how many in your party, we'll have enough food for everybody. Please email our parish administrator at: parishadmin@magnolialutheranchurch.com to RSVP!



Please Remember In Prayer

Donna Hegstrom
Dave Larson
Family of Don Goertzen
Family of Bob McIntosh
Family of Pauline McIntosh
Gail Hendrickson
Kelly and Linda Kellenberger
Heidi Carpine
Rick Dagg (friend of the Nagys)
Family of Susan Engquist (sister of Jennifer Kroeger, aunt to Katherine and Kasey Kroeger).
Sandy Bennis
Russ Long
Vern Lindquist
Frank Edmondson
Karla Lefferson
Merlin Cavander
Kathleen Rowan
Roger Taber
Andrew Tucker

LOOK!

"GIVING TREE" 2023

The Giving Tree will be a little different this year. There are some large baskets under the tree for you to fill with new or **gently used** scarves, coats, socks, mittens, hats, etc. Think warmth!! These generous gifts will be distributed to the tiny houses at the bottom of the Magnolia Bridge. This is the perfect opportunity to clean out those closets of your old winter coats and warm gear. Emphasis here is on gently used. They do not need to be new! Our neighbors living in the tiny houses just need clothes to stay warm!! There has already been an overwhelming response! Thank you so much for your continued generosity!



NOTE FOR THE ATRIUM

The Atrium is Magnolia's Montessori-based faith formation program for children, located upstairs in the big education room. We welcome children starting at age 3.

THERE WILL BE NO ATRIUM DECEMBER 24TH

For more information or to register, please contact Marcia Bates at 206-604-7888.



If we have inadvertently removed someone whom you wish to remain on the list or if you wish to add someone new, please contact the church office.

Last Week's Attendance December 17



8:15 am — 16
10:00 am — 91



MAGNOLIA LUTHERAN CHURCH

Share your God-given gifts by giving generously

Options for sharing God's gifts:

- Sunday offering
- Estate planning, stock/bond gifts
- Online banking through your financial institution

Payee – Magnolia Lutheran Church
2414 31st Ave W, Seattle, WA
98199

Telephone – 206-284-0155

- Computer or smartphone
online giving:
⇒ Credit, Debit, Checking account
⇒ One-time or recurring gifts



Set up online giving on our website

MLC Has WiFi!

For those of you who may not know, MLC has wifi available for all who wish to use it! Select “MLC Guest” on your device, the password is:

TumbleRibs398

(Not for use during church of course)

Financial Update

As of November 30, 2023

*Income — \$ 324,102

Expenses—\$ 339,774

*Includes some prepaid pledges

Congregation Council 2022-2023

Council Officers:

President -- Lyle Morse
Vice President -- Megan Hamshar
Secretary -- Robert Bergeron
Treasurer -- Dwight Dively
Financial Secretary -- Alice Pease

Council members:

The year listed is when the member's term ends, in June.

Audit Committee

Victoria Watson (2024)

Columbarium Committee

Robert Bergeron (2025)

Fellowship Committee

Kimberly Milham (2023)

Finance Committee

Shane Ruegamer (2024)

Nominating Committee

TBD

Outreach Committee

TBD

Personnel Committee

Kay Thoreson (2024)

Property Committee

Johnny Searle (2025)

Social Action Committee

Shane Ruegamer (2024)

Lyle Morse (2025)

Stewardship Committee

All Council

Women of the ELCA

TBD

Worship & Music Committee

Kay Thoreson (2024)

Faith Formation

TBD



MAGNOLIA LUTHERAN CHURCH



2414 31ST AVENUE WEST
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98199
206-284-0155

ParishAdmin@MagnoliaLutheranChurch.com
www.MagnoliaLutheranChurch.com

OUR CORE VALUES

- All are welcome here.
- Everybody does something.
- There is no minimum, or maximum, age for ministry.
- This is a safe place for all God's children.
- We are good stewards of God's creation.

Altar flowers today are given to the Glory of God and through donations from the congregation.

SERVANTS TODAY

Assisting Minister — Noah Wittner

Lector — Noah Wittner

Flute—Olivia Simonson

Cello and Violin—Doug Yassen

Ushers — Mike Olden & Cliff Kurtzweg

Altar Guild — Nancy Searle

Audio—Johnny Searle

Live Stream —Aaron Stevens

Coffee Hour Host(s) — No Coffee Hour Christmas Eve

Pastor — Kevin Bates

Director of Music Ministry — Ann Simonson

Parish Administrator — Nancy Searle

Caretaker — Mara Meloy

Ministers — All the Baptized Children of God

Affirmation of Welcome

Magnolia Lutheran Church is a place where everyone can find a welcoming, caring, friendly home. Here is a sanctuary filled with the love and grace of our Lord and modeled by our Savior, Jesus Christ.

We believe God's love is for everyone and so commit to provide inclusive acceptance, spiritual nourishment, inspiring kindness and a gracious and loving faith community.

We believe all of God's creations are holy and welcome to receive the sacraments, and to share in fellowship and service here. All people of every ability, race, family or marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, economic condition and background belong here, **Reconciling In Christ**, as children of God.

All are beautiful as they are.
All are part of God's masterpiece.
All are loved as they are.
All are welcome here.

