



## THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

December 25, 2011 10:00 am

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"Joseph dearest, Joseph mine,  
Help me cradle the child divine;  
God reward thee and all that's thine  
In paradise," so prays the mother Mary.

He came among us at Christmastide,  
At Christmastide, in Bethlehem;  
Men shall bring him from far and wide  
Love's diadem:

Jesus, Jesus,  
Lo, he comes, and loves, and saves, and frees us!  
-traditional German carol

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## WE GATHER TO MEET GOD

**Prelude** | Carol of the Bells *setting by Robert Vandall*

Matthew + Tamera Penning (piano duet)

### Welcome + Announcements

#### \*Call to Worship + Lighting of the Advent Candle

Unto you is born this day a Savior who is Christ the Lord.

**Break out into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem,  
for the Lord has comforted and redeemed his people.**

You shall find the baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.

**The hand of the Lord God is now uncovered before the eyes of all the nations,  
and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.**

\***Gathering Hymn** | Angels, from the Realms of Glory *blue hymnal, #22*

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## WE SEEK RENEWAL IN GOD'S GRACE

#### \*Prayer of Confession

Most Loving God, because you knew how selfish our humanity had become, you sent us your Holy Son.

**We name him Jesus, our Savior, for he has saved his sisters and brothers from their sins.**

Because you have stood in our shoes and understand how difficult it is to live by the rule of love in an often ruthless world.

**We name him Jesus, our Savior, for he is this very day saving us from all our sins.**

Because you have given us a gracious spirit, forgiving those who sin against us,  
and you call us to a ministry of reconciliation in a fractured world.

**We proclaim him Jesus, our Savior, for he will save our world from its many sins.**

God of Christmas, God of unspeakable grace, please forgive and renew us all,  
that our lives may declare the wonders of that Holy Love that has called us out of darkness into glorious light.

**Amen!**



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**ST. ANDREW** | Presbyterian Church  
www.saintandrew-ic.org | 319/338.7523

### \*Words of Assurance

My friends in Christ, Christ did not come to condemn us, but to liberate us from guilt and despair.  
Be cheerful, lift up your hearts, for you are a remarkably loved and forgiven people!  
You are set free to forgive one another and to be agents of peace and joy!  
**Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to all people of goodwill!**

### \*The Peace | time of greeting

Grace, mercy and peace be to you in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.  
**And also with you.**

### \*Congregational Response | Hark! The Herald Angels Sing *blue hymnal, #31*

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## GOD SPEAKS THROUGH HIS WORD

### Old Testament Reading | Isaiah 52:7-10

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

OT Bible, pg. 683

### Musical Response | Comfort Ye My People *from* Messiah *by* G.F. Handel

*text based on* Isaiah 40:1-3

Bruce Floyd (soloist)

### Time for Young Disciples | Rev. Kyle Otterbein

*There is no regular Children's Time today. Children are encouraged to remain in the service with their parents.*

### Congregational Hymn | The First Nowell *blue hymnal, #56*

- 1: all
- 2: women + children
- 4: men
- 6: all

### New Testament Reading | Colossians 1:15-20

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

NT Bible, pg. 200

### Congregational Response | Beautiful Savior *St. Andrew Songbook, #47*

### Gospel Reading | Matthew 1:18-25

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

NT Bible, pg. 1

### Message | The Birth of the Firstborn *Rev. Kyle Otterbein*

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## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

### Worship with Tithes and Offerings

*Prayer requests may be written on a prayer card from the pew rack and placed in the offering plate.*

**Offertory** | Song of the Nativity *setting by* Sigurd Christiansen Elizabeth Ebot + Madelin Otterbein (duet)

**Prayer of Dedication**

### Prayers of the People + The Lord's Prayer

*blue hymnal, pg. 16 - traditional*

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## WE GO OUT TO SERVE THE LORD

\***Sending Hymn** | Good Christian Friends, Rejoice *blue hymnal, #28*

### \*Charge + Blessing

**Postlude** | Gloria *setting by* Timothy Albrecht

*You are invited to be seated for the postlude. Soli Deo Gloria! Glory to God Alone!*

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## WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

**Pastor** | Rev. Kyle Otterbein

**Lay Leader** | Myrna Farraj

**Musicians** | Matthew Penning (organ/piano), Bruce Floyd (soloist), Elizabeth Ebot + Madelin Otterbein (duet)

**Ushers** | Kent, Cheryl + Ally Johnson

**Greeter** | Jackie Stokes

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Children in Worship | All are welcome!

Children's bulletins and worship bags are available in the Narthex as you enter the Sanctuary.  
Nursery care is provided for 2-year-olds and younger during the worship service.

**Flowers** are given by the Ebot family in loving memory of Dr. Moses Tabi Ebot and Rev. Pastor Peter Ebot, father and grandfather of the Ebot Children.

**There is no Christian Education today for children ages 2 - grade 12 |** join us again on January 15.

**Interested in the ministry opportunities of St. Andrew?** | Our weekly *Mini-Messenger* and monthly *Messenger* newsletters are available online at: [www.saintandrew-ic.org](http://www.saintandrew-ic.org) or in paper version in the Narthex.