

## SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

### COMMUNION SUNDAY

January 5, 2025

9:45 AM



MEDITATION: *We can never sneer at the stars, mock the dawn or scoff at the totality of being... ~ Abraham Joshua Heschel*

PRELUDE *Das alte Jahr vergangen ist* Bach

WORDS OF WELCOME Rev. Anne Marie Holloway

\*CALL TO WORSHIP: Rev. Anne Marie Holloway

Gather us in, the brokenhearted and the joyful.

**Gather us in, the weak and the strong.**

Gather us in, the fearful and the brave.

**Gather us in, the young and the young at heart.**

Gather us in, to sing of God's works.

**Gather us in, to praise Jesus Christ.**

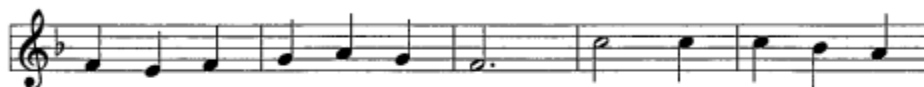
Gather us in, to shine our light, to worship and wonder.  
**Gather us in, to know of God's love. Amen.**

\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #3059 *Love Has Come (see below)*

Love Has Come 3059



1. Love has come — a light in the dark - ness! Love shines  
 2. Love is born! Come, share in the won - der. Love is  
 3. Love has come and nev - er will leave us! Love is



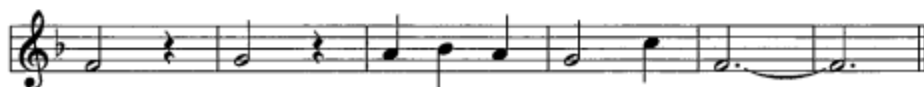
forth in the Beth - le - hem skies. See, all heav - en has  
 God now a - sleep in the hay. See the glow in the  
 life ev - er - last - ing and free. Love is Je - sus with -



come to pro - claim it; hear how their song of joy a -  
 eyes of his moth - er; what is the name her heart is  
 in and a - mong us. Love is the peace our hearts are



ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to you, a Sav - ior!  
 say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the name she whis - pers.  
 seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the gift of Christ - mas.



Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Love! Love! Je - sus, Im - man - u - el. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high! \_\_\_\_\_

\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION

\*SILENT CONFESSION

\*WORDS OF ASSURANCE

\*GLORIA PATRI

GREATOREX

***Glory to the Creator, the Christ, the Holy Spirit Three in One; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, World without end. Amen. Amen.***

*Children are invited to head to Church School after the passing of the Peace of Christ.*

#### THE PEACE

May the peace of Christ be with you all.

***And also with you.*** (Please share the peace of Christ with your neighbor!)

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Please Lord, we also pray for: Those suffering from the effects of flooding, fires and war; healing and comfort for Olive Barrett, Marcia Bibeault, Dick Lane, Michael Martens, Jack Stone.

#### PRAYER RESPONSE

*Fairest Lord Jesus*

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS & CALL TO OFFERING



For your convenience, we have included a QR code for donations. Thank you for your generosity.

#### \*DOXOLOGY #162 *What Child Is This vs. 3*

***So bring him incense, gold and myrrh, come, rich and poor, to own him, the King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him. This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing: hast, haste to bring him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mary.***

#### \*UNISON OFFERING PRAYER

**All good gifts around us come from You, O God. You have given us life and new life in Jesus Christ. As you have given us gifts, so**

**we offer our gifts of time, talent and treasure, that we may be gifts to one another. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

## **SCRIPTURE**

### ***Psalm 147: 12-20 (Chanting)***

Praise the LORD, O Jerusalem! praise your God, O Zion!

For he strengthens the bars of your gates; he blesses your children within you.

He grants peace within your borders; he fills you with the finest of wheat.

He sends out his command to the earth; his word runs swiftly.

He gives snow like wool; he scatters frost like ashes.

He hurls down hail like crumbs - who can stand before his cold?

He sends out his word, and melts them; he makes his wind blow, and the waters flow.

He declares his word to Jacob, his statutes and ordinances to Israel.

He has not dealt thus with any other nation; they do not know his ordinances.

Praise the LORD!

## **Ephesians 1: 3-14**     [\*Joanne Dickey\*](#)

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. In him you also, when

you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

This ends the reading of God's Holy Word.  
For the Word of God in Scripture; for the Word of God among us; for the Word of God within us, **thanks be to God!**

ANTHEM *The gift of Angels* *Peery*

SERMON "In Heavenly Places..." Rev. Anne Marie Holloway

### SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP

HYMN

UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & THE LORD'S PRAYER.

**God of light that shines through all of creation, in response to Your infinite love and boundless grace we rejoice and give you thanks. May the bread broken and the cup shared remind us that it is You who calls to us to serve as your light in the world. May You shine through our lives. May Your hope fill us and send us forth in the name of love. 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**



Dinner, faith formation, and crafts at Allin. January's theme: Light of the World

**Monday, January 20<sup>th</sup>** – Day of Service – 10-1pm - Inhouse

**Friday, February 14<sup>th</sup>** – Messy Friday 6-7:30pm

**February 18 – 21<sup>st</sup>** – “Love Our Earth” February Break Camp

### **Minister's Office Hours**

Rev. Anne Marie would love to visit with you at the church during the week or meet you for coffee! She holds office hours on most Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays between 9:30 and 12:30pm! Drop in or schedule a time to meet! She is available to meet off site Monday and Wednesday afternoons. Just send her an email at [pastorannem@allinchurch.org](mailto:pastorannem@allinchurch.org)

Rev. Anne Marie tries to hold Fridays and Saturdays as her Sabbath, as they are often filled with sermon editing/writing and family appointment days.

### **Allin Congregational Church**

#### ***United Church of Christ***

Gathered November 8, 1638

Minister of Music Emeritus: C. Martin Steinmetz

*Rev. Anne Marie Holloway, Minister*

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Andrew J. Welch, Director of Music

Elizabeth McNamee, Director of Children's Ministry

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Office Hours: Monday through Friday 9:00AM – 12:30PM