



**Family Service**  
**Christmas Eve Worship**  
10:00 am

# Welcome to Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church.

We're glad you are worshipping God with us!

## PASTORAL STAFF

Rob Carlson, Interim Senior Pastor  
Lindsey Bina  
Peter Harrits  
Julie Wright

## VISITATION PASTOR

Linda Lund

## WORSHIP SERVICES

**Sunday**, 8:30 & 9:45 am—  
Organ/Piano-Led Worship with  
Communion served on first and  
third weekends.  
**Sunday**, 11:00 am—Band-Led  
Worship with Communion

## MUSIC MINISTRIES

Deacon Mark Ertl, Director of  
Worship & Music

## LARGE PRINT & CHILDREN'S

### BULLETINS

Large print and children's bulletins  
are available from the ushers.

## ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICES

Personal hearing assistance  
headphones can be obtained at the  
production booth.

## SOTV PROGRAM MINISTRIES

The website lists activities, classes,  
worship times, and special events  
([www.sotv.org](http://www.sotv.org)). Please call the  
church office (952.432.6351) for  
more information or stop at the  
Welcome Center.



Shepherd of the Valley is a member  
congregation of the Evangelical  
Lutheran Church in America

## Leading Worship Today

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### Worship Leaders

Pastor Peter Harrits

Andrew Kane

*Children's Ministry Director*

Katie Strand

*Family Ministry Director*

### Organist/Pianist

Deacon Mark Ertl

*Director of Worship & Music*

### Lighthouse Singers, Children's Choirs

Kari Anderson, *director*

Kirsten Levorson, *piano*

### Valley Vibrations, Chapel Chimers, Grace Notes

Bonnie Tranby, *director*

### Readers

Reading 1: Jensen Family

Reading 2: Ziegler Family

Reading 3: Maddy Nord, Irene Perkins,  
Laurel Strand

Reading 4: Bentley and Shaffer Families

Reading 5: Engen Family

Reading 6: Airhart-Swanson Family

*Special Thank You goes to 6th-9th grade  
'Service Track' confirmation students for  
their help with props for the service.*

# Gathering

Prelude

Lighthouse Singers, “Noel”—Chris Tomlin

Word of Welcome

Special Music

Chapel Chimers, “I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve”

*The assembly stands.*

Gathering Song

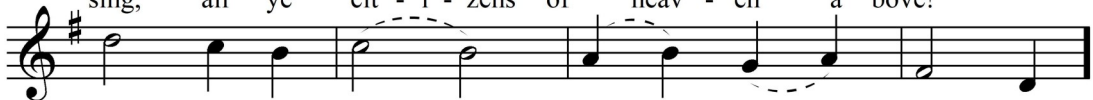
ELW #283 “O Come, All Ye Faithful”



1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O  
2. Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,



come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;  
sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a bove!



come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:  
Glo - ry to God in the high - est.



O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,



O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

## Invocation and Prayer of the Day

On this holy day we worship in the name of the Father, the Son, † and the Holy Spirit.

**\*Amen.**

Holy God, we’ve heard this story a million times—Mary and Joseph, the angels, the shepherds. We’ve heard it a million times, but we want to hear it like it’s the first. So, move among us. Circle back. Draw close. Crack open our hearts and fill them with your goodness. Help us to hear what it is you might be saying to us with curiosity, joy, and hope. This is an invitation. Come be here with us. Gratefully we pray. **Amen.**

**\*Bold type = All**

*The assembly is seated.*

Children's Choirs, "Born to Bring Us Joy" — Angie Killian

## Special Music

# Word

## First Reading

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

In God's house, there is hope—

**For God loves us too much to leave us just as we are.**

*The first advent candle is lit.*

## Second Reading

Micah 5:4-5a

In God's house, there is peace—

**For all that separates us from God falls away.**

*The second advent candle is lit.*

## Special Music

Grace Notes, "An English Christmas"—arr. Michael Helman

## Third Reading

Isaiah 11:1-3a

In God's house there is joy—

Because God created music, and coffee, and dance floors, and laughter that is contagious, and endless rounds of peek-a-boos with babies; and if those things have God's fingerprints, **then God's house surely exudes joy.**

*The third advent candle is lit.*

## Fourth Reading

Luke 1:68-71, 78-79

In God's house, there is love—

**Because God is love from start to finish, and that love exists for us all.**

*The fourth advent candle is lit.*

## Fifth Reading

Luke 1:26-38, Matthew 1:18-21

In the center of our hope,

In the center of our peace,

In the center of our joy,

In the center of our love is God, who came to this earth to dwell among us.

**So today, we light the Christ candle, for God's love just could not stay away.**

*The Christ candle is lit.*

## Hymn

ELW #270 "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

*During this song, children are invited forward.*



1. Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, — "Glo - ry to the new - born king;  
2. Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righ - teous - ness!



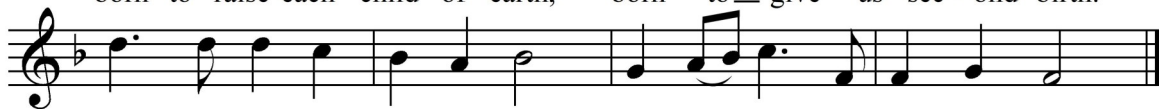
peace on earth, and mer - cy mild — God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled."  
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;  
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!"  
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!"

## Christmas Reading

Luke 2:1-20

## Good News for Kids

## Hymn

ELW #290 "Go Tell It on the Mountain"

*During this song, children return to their seats.*

*All sing:*

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

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

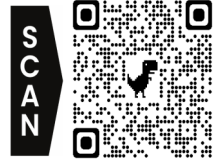
# Thanksgiving

## Offering

Valley Vibrations, “The Friendly Beasts”—arr. Sandra Eithun

*An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.*

- Visit [sotv.org/give](http://sotv.org/give) or scan the QR code.
- Text: “SOTV” to 73256.
- Place an offering or giving card in the plate during worship or in the black kiosk in the Narthex.



*The assembly stands.*

## Prayers of the Church

Filled with good news of great joy, let us offer our prayers for the church, the earth, and all people.

Angels sing with praise, and shepherds run with haste. As we glorify and praise you in this place, send us into the world, proclaiming the salvation you have revealed this night. God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**

The seas roar, and the trees of the forest sing for joy. As creation resounds with praise, inspire us with awe, reverence, and a renewed care for all that fills the fields, skies, and seas. God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**

The nations declare your glory. Uphold the leaders of the earth with your justice and righteousness. Break the rod of the oppressor in every land, and bring peace where there is conflict. God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**

The holy family finds shelter around the animals’ manger. Draw near to persons experiencing homelessness, those who are alone this holiday season, and all for whom this world makes no room. Wrap all your children in bands of love and mercy. God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**

A child is born for us and light shines on the weary. Watch over those who give birth this night and attend to those who are dying. Be present in our joys and in our sorrows. God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**

We commend these prayers to you, O God, trusting your grace made known to all, through the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

# Sending

## Sending Song

ELW #267 "Joy to the World"



1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -  
2. He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the



ceive her king; let ev' - ry\_\_ heart\_\_ pre - pare him  
na - tions prove the glo - ries of\_\_ his right - eous -



room\_\_ and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture  
ness\_\_ and won - ders of his\_\_ love, and won - ders of his\_\_



sing, and heav'n, and heav'n\_\_ and na - ture sing.  
love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

## Blessing

God bless you and keep you, † Jesus grant you grace and truth,  
and the Spirit send peace upon you, now and forever.

Amen.

## Dismissal

Christ the Savior is born!

Go in peace. The Word of God dwells in you richly.

Thanks be to God.

## Postlude

Invocation and Advent Candle Lightings by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org  
Portions of the Order of Service are adapted from "Celebrate! Worship for Every Festival."  
"Celebrate! Worship for Every Festival" liturgies are part of the Nourishing Vocation with Children Project at St.  
Olaf College, Northfield, MN. This liturgy was created by Rev. Dr. Charlene Rachuy Cox.  
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NOURISHING  
VOCATION  
WITH CHILDREN







# THANK YOU!

Our thanks to the several hundred people who have given of their time, abilities, and talents to make our Christmas worship possible and meaningful: ushers, lectors, altar service, musicians, greeters, communion assistants, and the volunteers who decorated the church both inside and out.

The pastors and staff of Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church wish you a blessed Christmas and safe holiday travels.



**WORSHIP**

## SOTV HAS TWO STYLES OF WORSHIP: ORGAN/PIANO-LED AND BAND-LED.

Each includes an inspiring message, prayer, and great music.

- Children's activity bags Family Supported Worship Space available
- Livestream 9:45 am service at [sotv.org/livestream](http://sotv.org/livestream)

[SOTV.ORG/WORSHIP](http://SOTV.ORG/WORSHIP)



**LEARN**

## GROWING IN FAITH THROUGH CURIOSITY.

- Classes and events for preschool, elementary, middle school, high school, and adults.
- Bible studies, book discussions, classes, and more.

[SOTV.ORG/LEARN](http://SOTV.ORG/LEARN)



**CONNECT**

## CONNECTING THROUGH FELLOWSHIP, SERVICE AND OUTREACH.

Find meaningful Christian community through a variety of opportunities.

[SOTV.ORG/GROUPS](http://SOTV.ORG/GROUPS)  
[SOTV.ORG/SERVE](http://SOTV.ORG/SERVE)



**CARE**

## WE CARE FOR YOU.

We support people in all seasons of life through prayer, pastoral visits, and a variety of support groups.

[SOTV.ORG/WE-CARE](http://SOTV.ORG/WE-CARE)

**Main office:** 952.432.6351

**Children, Youth, & Family office:** 952.432.6385

**Office hours:** Monday - Thursday, 8:00 am - 4:00 pm  
12650 Johnny Cake Ridge Road, Apple Valley, MN 55124

## Welcome Home! Gathered. Loved. Sent.

### Worship Schedule:

**Saturday: 5:00 pm** Organ/Piano-led

**Sunday: 8:30 & 9:45 AM** Organ/Piano-led

**Sunday: 11:00 am** Band-led

### Livestreaming is available.

View this weekend & past services at  
[sotv.org/livestream](http://sotv.org/livestream).

### Connect with us!

Visit the Welcome Center to pick up a News for the Flock catalog and Woven Words stories publication. Join us on any of the following platforms to keep informed about the happenings at SOTV.

 [www.sotv.org](http://www.sotv.org)

 Facebook/SOTVorg

 @shepherdofthevalleyav

 Vimeo.com/SOTV

 Soundcloud.com/shepherd-of-the-valley

 [onrealm.org/sotv](http://onrealm.org/sotv)



Available during worship. Ask an usher for assistance.