

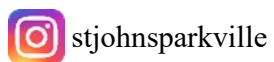
STAFF

Rev. Mathew Berger, Pastor <a href="mailto:mathew.berger@stjohnsparkville.org">mathew.berger@stjohnsparkville.org</a>	Rev. Amy Berger, Pastor <a href="mailto:amy.berger@stjohnsparkville.org">amy.berger@stjohnsparkville.org</a>
Martha Requard, Director of Music	Carol Erpenstein, Office Administrator
Scott Becker, Sexton	

For emergencies call 443-844-9314  
\*\*\**The Pastors are off on Fridays*\*\*



**Notice of live streaming:**  
Today's worship service is being live streamed to YouTube with video coverage of leaders and worshippers.



# Christmas Eve Worship

## December 24, 2025

4:00 pm



Christmas Eve  
Family Service

**St. John's Lutheran Church of Parkville**  
[www.stjohnsparkville.org](http://www.stjohnsparkville.org)  
(410) 665-1234  
[office@stjohnsparkville.org](mailto:office@stjohnsparkville.org)

Text SJPARKVILLE to 22828 to join our email list

Welcome to St. John's—we are glad you're here! Whether you have worshiped with us many times, or this is your first time, there is a place for you here. Your presence among us is a gift.

## Introduction to the Day

Today we celebrate that God came down from heaven to be with us as a tiny baby, Jesus Christ. We join in with the songs of the angels, the shepherds, Mary and Joseph, and all the animals to share this good news of God's love with everyone at Christmastime!

*(Please take a moment to silence all electronics. Thank you!)*

*(Hymns are taken from Evangelical Lutheran Worship, the red book in the pew rack.)*

### TOLLING THE BELL AND WELCOME

**PRELUDE** *Carol of the Manger* Dale Wood  
(© 1990 The Sacred Music Press)

*(Please stand as you are able.)*

### GREETING

You are children of God!  
**We are children of God!**  
God has something to say.  
**And we are listening.**  
God hears our voices.  
**So we sing and pray.**  
Come, let us worship.  
**Come, let us worship!**

**GATHERING HYMN** *O Come, All Ye Faithful* ELW 283  
(Text and music: attr. John Frances Wade, 1711-1786; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802-1880)

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

God, you shine your light in every place. You came as a baby in a manger. You know our hurts and you know our joys. And you call us your children! Give us faith to see you and help us share your light everywhere. In Jesus' name we pray.  
**Amen.**

**LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE** *Love Has Come* ELW 292 (v. 1)

*Love has come- a light in the darkness! Love shines forth in the Bethlehem skies.  
See, all heaven has come to proclaim it; hear how their song of joy arises:  
Love! Love! Born unto you, a Savior! Love! Love! Glory to God on high.*

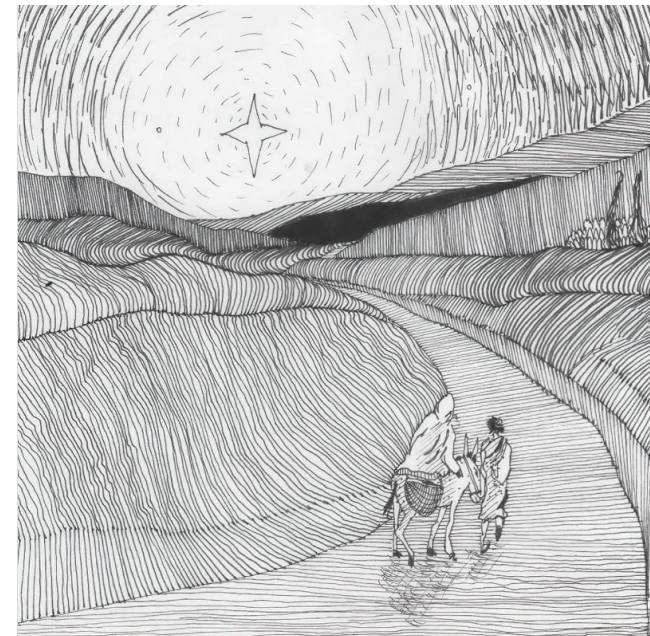
(Text: Ken Bible, b. 1950; Music: F. Seguin, Recueil de noels composees en langue provencale, 1856; Text © 1996 Integrity's Hosanna Music)

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Those Serving Today	4:00 pm
Assisting Minister	Vickie Jasinski
Crucifer	Gabby G.
Lector	Donna McDonough
Communion Assistant	Donna McDonough

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Merry Christmas from the Pastors and Staff!



## Announcements

### Join us tomorrow at 10:00 am for our Christmas Day Service.

- † The beautiful flowers gracing our worship service today are given in honor of His love and light as we gather to celebrate and remember the birth of Our Savior Jesus Christ. May these blooms symbolize the hope, peace, joy and love that Christmas brings to our hearts and homes. We dedicate these flowers in loving memory of those we hold dear, and in gratitude for the blessings we have received, sharing the love of God with one another, today and always by the Evans family.
- † Thank you Altar Guild & Friends for all the time and work you put into the greening of our Sanctuary and for all the additional preparations you do for our Christmas Eve Services – you give us a special gift of Christmas beauty!
- † Please leave your poinsettias until after the 8:30 pm service tonight. If you are unable to pick them up at that time, you may pick them up after the 10 am Christmas Day service, or please call the church office at 410-665-1234 to make arrangements to pick them up.
- † The church office will be closed on Thursday, December 25<sup>th</sup> and Friday, December 26<sup>th</sup>.
- † Join us on Sunday, December 28<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am for our Lessons and Carols Service. There will be no Sunday School or Faith & Fellowship this day.
- † The pastors will be away from December 26<sup>th</sup>—January 8<sup>th</sup>. In case of an emergency during this time, please call the emergency number at 443-844-9314.

## PSALM 96:1-2, 9-13

- <sup>1</sup>Sing to the LORD a new song;  
sing to the LORD, all the earth.
- <sup>2</sup>**Sing to the LORD, bless the name of the LORD;  
proclaim God’s salvation from day to day.**
- <sup>9</sup>Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness;  
tremble before the LORD, all the earth.
- <sup>10</sup>**Tell it out among the nations: “The LORD is king!  
The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will judge the  
peoples with equity.”**
- <sup>11</sup>Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;  
let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that is therein.
- <sup>12</sup>**Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your coming, O LORD,  
for you come to judge the earth.**
- <sup>13</sup>You will judge the world with righteousness  
and the peoples with your truth.

## CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT “Welcome to Bethlehem!”

### MEAL

**OFFERTORY MUSIC**  
(© 2013 Lorenz Publishing Co.)

*The Sussex Carol*

*Robert Lau*

### OFFERING HYMN

*What Child is This*

*ELW 296 (vv. 1, 3)*

(Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898, Music: English Ballad, 16<sup>th</sup> cent.)

### OFFERING PRAYER

Holy God:

You came as a baby to a manger.

You slept on straw and greeted shepherds.

You came again as bread and wine.

Remind us how good you are at blessing everyday things.

And then, through these gifts,

help us bless the lives of others.

**Amen.**

### GREAT THANKSGIVING

