

McFarlin Memorial United Methodist Church
Sanctuary Worship: December 28, 2025

Call to Worship

Veni, Emmanuel - Pietro A. Yon

Galina Brauer, Organ Scholar

Welcome

Wendi Neal

***Hymn # 240**

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

***Responsive Reading for Christmas - Seeing God's Salvation**

Scott Meier

A Litany for Advent based on Simeon's Song (Luke 2: 25-32)

Leader: Simeon saw God's salvation in a little child,

All: a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to the people Israel.

We too long to see God's salvation:

healing for broken bodies, hope for broken lives,

light for those in the darkness of war, warmth for those in the chill of fear

We long to see the glory of angels:

Peace on earth, good news for all,

harbingers of joy, glimpses of grace on earth as it is in heaven.

Simeon saw God's salvation in a little child,

radiant light, glory streaming down, stretching across the centuries to us today.

Our eyes can see God's salvation too:

healing for broken bodies, hope for broken lives, light for those in the darkness of war,

warmth for those in the chill of fear

Open our ears to hear good news of peace today.

Open our eyes to see glimpses of your grace in enemy and friend.

Open our lips to sing with joy.

Open our lives to bear fruit for your reign, on earth as it is in heaven.

Like Simeon, we have seen God's salvation, and his name is Jesus.

~ written by Dr. Sheila Klassen-Wiebe, Associate Professor of New Testament at Canadian Mennonite University in Winnipeg, Manitoba

***Response #245**

The First Noel (refrain)

Noel, noel, noel, noel

Born is the king of Israel!

Congregational Prayer/The Lord's Prayer

Wendi Neal

Children's Time

Scott Meier

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;

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Children's worship for grades K-5 will dismiss following the children's message at the 11:00 service.

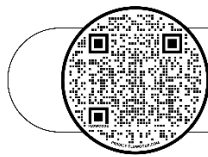
Parents, please pick your children up in the 3rd floor children's area following the service.

***Hymn # 245**

The First Noel

*Invitation to Our Offering

Scott Meier



Scan here to give your offering to support our mission of Changing Lives that Change the World!

Anthem

Seasons - Benjamin Hastings

Kayley Williamson, soloist

*Like the frost on a rose winter comes for us all. Oh, how nature acquaints us with the nature of patience.
So like a seed in the snow I've been buried to grow for your promise is loyal from seed to sequoia*

*Refrain: I know though the winter is long even richer is the harvest it brings.
And though my waiting prolongs even greater is your promise for me.
Like a seed, I believe that my season will come.*

*So like the low winter sun so it is with Your love; as I gaze I am blinded in the light of Your brightness.
So like a fire to the snow I'm renewed in your warmth
oh, melt the ice of this wild soul 'til the barren is beautiful (refrain)*

*I can see the promise, I can see the future. You're the God of seasons. I'm just in the winter.
If all I know of harvest is that it's worth my patience.
Then if you're not done working, God, I'm not done waiting. You can see my promise even in the winter
'cause you're the God of greatness even in a manger.
For all I know of seasons is that you take your time.
You could have saved us in a second; instead, you sent a child. (refrain)*

*For one day I see my tree 'cause I believe there's a season to come.
Like a seed you were sown for the sake of us all, and from Bethlehem's soil grew Calvary's sequoia.*

*Doxology # 94

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Scripture Reading

Luke 2:22-35

Scott Meier

Sermon

What Simeon Sang

Wendi Neal

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

Wendi Neal

*Hymn # 246

Joy to the World

*Sending Forth

Wendi Neal

*Benediction # 246

**Joy to the World
and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.**

Postlude

Adeste Fidelis - Joseph J. McGrath

Galina Brauer, Organ Scholar

Dr. Giovanni Corrodus, Assoc. Dir. of Music Ministries and Director of Choirs
Kayley Williamson, Director of Children's Choirs and Modern Worship
Galina Brauer, Organ Scholar