

Second Sunday of Christmas, Year C

January 5, 2025 Hymns

Gathering Hymn (ELW 300) “The First Noel”

- 1 The first Noel the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
in fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel!
Born is the King of Israel.

- 2 They looked up and saw a star
shining in the east beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night. *Refrain*
- 3 And by the light of that same star
three wise men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent,
and to follow the star wherever it went. *Refrain*
- 4 This star drew near to the northwest,
o'er Bethlehem it took its rest;
and there it did both stop and stay
right over the place where Jesus lay. *Refrain*
- 5 Then entered in those wise men three,
full rev'rently upon their knee,
and offered there in his presence
their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense. *Refrain*

Sermon Hymn (ELW 510) “Word of God, Come Down on Earth”

- 1 Word of God, come down on earth,
living rain from heav'n descending;
touch our hearts and bring to birth
faith and hope and love unending.
Word almighty, we revere you;
Word made flesh, we long to hear you.
- 2 Word eternal, throned on high,
Word that brought to life creation,
Word that came from heav'n to die,
crucified for our salvation,
saving Word, the world restoring,
speak to us, your love outpouring.

- 3 Word that speaks God's tender love,
one with God beyond all telling,
Word that sends us from above
God the Spirit, with us dwelling,
Word of truth, to all truth lead us;
Word of life, with one bread feed us.

Offering Hymn

“O Word of God Incarnate”

By W. How and Felix Mendelssohn

- 1 O Word of God incarnate,
O Wisdom from on high,
O Truth, unchanged, unchanging,
O Light of our dark sky,
we praise You for the radiance
that from the hallowed page,
a lantern to our footsteps,
shines on from age to age.
- 2 The church from You, our Savior,
Received the gift divine,
And still that light is lifted
O'er all the earth to shine.
It is the sacred vessel
Where gems of truth are stored;
It is the heaven-drawn picture
Of Christ, the living Word.
- 3 The scripture is a banner
Before God's host unfurled;
It is a shining beacon
Above the darkling world.
It is the chart and compass
That o'er life's surging tide,
'Mid mists and rocks and quick sands,
To You, O Christ, will guide.
- 4 O make your church, dear Savior,
A lamp of purest gold,
To bear before the nations
Your true light as of old.
O teach your wandering pilgrims
By this their path to trace,
'Till clouds and darkness ended,
They see you face to face.

Communion Hymn (ELW 474)
“Bread of Life from Heaven”

Refrain

Bread of life from heaven,
your blood and body given,
we eat this bread and drink this cup
until you come again.

- 1 Break now the bread of Christ's sacrifice;
giving thanks, hungry ones, gather round.
Eat, all of you, and be satisfied;
in Christ's presence the loaves will abound.

Refrain

- 2 Seek not the food that will pass away;
set your hearts on the food that endures.
Come, learn the true and the living way,
that the fullness of life may be yours. *Refrain*

- 3 Love as the one who, in love for you,
gave himself for the life of the world.
Come to the one who is food for you,
that your hunger and thirst be no more. *Refrain*

- 4 Dwell in the one who now dwells in you;
make your home in the lifegiving Word.
Know only Christ, Holy One of God,
and believe in the truth you have heard. *Refrain*

- 5 Drink of this cup and declare his death;
eat this bread and believe Easter morn;
trust his return and, with ev'ry breath,
praise the one in whom you are reborn. *Refrain*

Sending Hymn (ELW 881)
“Let All Things Now Living”

- 1 Let all things now living
a song of thanksgiving
to God the creator triumphantly raise,
who fashioned and made us,
protected and stayed us,
who still guides us on to the end of our days.
God's banners are o'er us,
God's light goes before us,
a pillar of fire shining forth in the night,
till shadows have vanished
and darkness is banished,
as forward we travel from light into light.

- 2 God rules all the forces:
the stars in their courses
and sun in its orbit obediently shine;
the hills and the mountains,
the rivers and fountains,
the deeps of the ocean proclaim God divine.
We too should be voicing
our love and rejoicing;
with glad adoration a song let us raise
till all things now living
unite in thanksgiving:
"To God in the highest, hosanna and praise!"