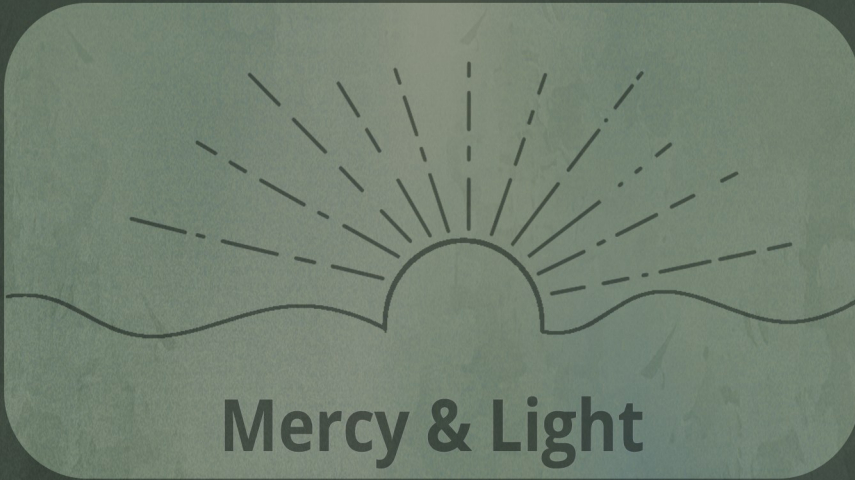




THE SONGS OF ADVENT

Zechariah's Song



Mercy & Light

December 7, 2025

WELCOME

Thank you for joining us for worship this morning. We invite you to experience the meaning of the Gospel through this service, which reflects both ancient and modern elements of Christian worship. When we gather as a worshipping community, we enter into a dialogue with the living God. God calls us into worship, we rejoice in the hope of the Gospel, confess our sins, lament the brokenness of our world, give our offerings, and hear God's Word read and preached. We hope that by worshipping with us, you will experience joy and hope from a community of people who love Jesus.

At Lexington Presbyterian Church, for God's glory, we are making disciples of Jesus as we worship, love, and serve.

Complete our Connect Card at lexpreschurch.com/connect to join us on mission!

General inquiries: hello@lexpreschurch.com

LORD'S DAY WORSHIP

Reflections for Worship

He by whom all things were made was made one of all things. The Son of God by the Father without a mother became the Son of man by a mother without a father. The Word Who is God before all time became flesh at the appointed time. The maker of the sun was made under the sun. He Who fills the world lays in a manger, great in the form of God but tiny in the form of a servant; this was in such a way that neither was His greatness diminished by His tininess, nor was His tininess overcome by His greatness.

— Augustine of Hippo

In our secret yearnings
we wait for your coming,
and in our grinding despair
we doubt that you will.
And in this privileged place
we are surrounded by witnesses who yearn more than do we
and by those who despair more deeply than do we...
Give us the grace and the impatience
to wait for your coming to the bottom of our toes,
to the edges of our fingertips.
Come in your power
and come in your weakness
in any case
and make all things new.
Amen.

— Walter Brueggemann

* Congregation, please stand if able

Prelude

Updates | Following Christ Together

Second Sunday in Advent: the Peace Candle | Luke 2:14

Luke told of the Angels singing, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!”

LITURGY OF THE WORD

* **Call to Worship** | Isaiah 60:1-3

Leader: Arise, shine, for your light has come,

All: and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

*Leader: For behold, darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the LORD will arise upon you,
and his glory will be seen upon you.*

*All: And nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your rising.*

* Come, Though Long-Expected Jesus—Trinity Hymnal No. 196

1. Come, thou long - ex - spect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;
 2. Joy to those who long to see thee, Day-spring from on high, ap - pear;
 3. Come to earth to taste our sad - ness, he_ whose glo - ries knew no end;
 4. Born thy peo - ple to_ de - liv - er, born a child and yet_ a king,

9

from our fears and sins_ re - lease us; let_ us find our rest in thee.
 come, thou prom - ised Rod_ of Jes - se, of_ thy birth we long to hear!
 by his life_ he brings us glad - ness, our Re - deem - er, Shep - herd, Friend.
 born to reign in us_ for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.

17

Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all_ the earth thou art,
 O'er the hills_ the an - gels sing - ing news, glad tid - ings of_ a birth:
 Leav - ing rich - es with - out num - ber, born with - in_ a cat - tle stall;
 By thine own_ e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all_ our hearts a - lone;

25

dear De - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.
 "Go_ to him, your prais - es bring - ing; Christ the Lord has come to earth."
 this_ the ev - er - last - ing won - der, Christ was born the Lord of all.
 by_ thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it, raise us to_ thy glo - rious throne.

Words: 1, 4 Charles Wesley, 1744; 2, 3 Mark Hunt, 1978.

Text of stanzas 2 & 3 © 1978, InterVarsity Christian Fellowship. Used by permission.

Music: Rowland Hugh Pritchard, 1855

* Prayer of Adoration and the Lord's Prayer

Leader: *This we pray in the name of the One Who taught us to pray, saying:*

All: 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.

Scripture Reading | Isaiah 9:1-7 | Pew Bible p. 573

But there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
 on them has light shone.
You have multiplied the nation;
 you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
 as with joy at the harvest,
 as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
For the yoke of his burden,
 and the staff for his shoulder,
 the rod of his oppressor,
 you have broken as on the day of Midian.
For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult
 and every garment rolled in blood

will be burned as fuel for the fire.
For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,
and his name shall be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
Of the increase of his government and of peace
there will be no end,
on the throne of David and over his kingdom,
to establish it and to uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time forth and forevermore.
The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Call to Confession | 1 John 1:9

Leader: If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Corporate Confession of Sin

All: Almighty God, Maker of all things,
we have sinned against you by thought, word, and deed.
Have mercy upon us.
Since you sent your Son, Jesus Christ, for us,
since he bore all our sins on the cross,
since the record against us was nailed to his cross,
forgive us now in his name, Amen.

* Lord, Have Mercy (For What We Have Done)



1. For what we have done and left un - done, we fall on Your count - less
 2. For what You have done Your life of love, You per - fect - ly lived, we



mer - cies. For sins that are known and those un - known, we call on Your name so
 praise You. Though tempt - ed and tried, You fixed Your eyes, You fin - ished the work God



ho - ly. For en - vy and pride, for clos - ing our eyes, for scorn - ing our ver - y
 gave You. And there on the tree, a King a - mong thieves, You bled for a world's be -
 3. For hearts that are cold, for seiz - ing con - trol, for scorn - ing our ver - y



neigh - bor. In thought, word and deed we've failed You, our King; how deep - ly we need a
 tray - al. You loved to the end, our mer - ci - ful Friend; how pure and for - ev - er
 Mak - er. In thought, word and deed, we've failed You, our King, how deep - ly we need a



Sav - ior. Lord, have mer - cy, Christ have mer - cy, Lord have mer - cy on — us.
 faith - ful.
 Sav - ior.



Lord have mer - cy, Christ have mer - cy, Lord have mer - cy on — us.

Words and Music by Matt Papa, Matt Boswell, Aaron Keyes, and James Tealy
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 10000 Fathers (Admin by Capitol CMG Publishing)
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*** Words of Comfort | Micah 7:18-20**

*Leader: Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity
and passing over transgression
for the remnant of his inheritance?
He does not retain his anger forever,
because he delights in steadfast love.
He will again have compassion on us;
he will tread our iniquities underfoot.
You will cast all our sins
into the depths of the sea.
You will show faithfulness to Jacob
and steadfast love to Abraham,
as you have sworn to our fathers
from the days of old.*

* Affirmation on Faith | Nicene Creed

All: We believe in one God, the Father Almighty;
Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only begotten Son of God,
Begotten of the Father before all worlds;
God of God, Light of Light,
Very God of Very God,
Begotten, not made,
Being of one substance with the Father;
By whom all things were made;
Who, for us men and for our salvation,
Came down from heaven,
And was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary,
And was made man;
And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
He suffered and was buried;
And the third day he rose again,
According to the Scriptures;
And ascended into heaven,
And sitteth on the right hand of the Father;
And he shall come again, with glory,
To judge both the living and the dead;
Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life;
Who proceeds from the Father and the Son;
Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified;
Who spoke by the prophets.

And we believe in one holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;
And we look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Friendship Register

Kindly remember to give your neighbor the Friendship Register. Once it reaches the end of the pew, then please pass it back. Making acquaintances with guests and fostering friendships within the larger church family is the goal of this register. Starting from the middle aisle, the register is located at the head of each pew. Please, make sure to write your name legibly.

Giving of Firstfruits

The offering is a way for members and friends who call Lexington Presbyterian their “spiritual home” to present the substance of their whole lives to God. Please feel no pressure to give.

Ways to give:

- You may use the offering plates.
- Go to “Giving” on your Church Center mobile app or lexpres.churchcenter.com.
- Text2Give: text any dollar amount to 84321.

You Are the Light | Choir Anthem

You are the Light we see.
You are the Truth we know.
You are the Life we live.
You are the Hope, You are the Joy,
You are the Song we sing.

Living God, loving God,
We glorify Your name.
High and Holy One come down,
We lift our hearts in praise.
Prince of Peace, Immanuel,
Jesus, Lord of Love.

Within our hearts Your light.
Within our minds Your truth.
Within our lives Your love;
Living Your hope,
spreading Your joy,
Singing Your beautiful song;
Singing Your beautiful song,
Your song.

Words by David Steele
Music by Tom Fettke
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* Doxology

Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow; praise him all crea-tures here be - low; praise
5
him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

Words: Thomas Ken, 1709
Music: Louis Bergeois, 1551

* Offertory Prayer

* Passing of the Peace

Leader: *The peace of Christ be with you.*

All: *And also with you.*

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Corporate Prayer

* **Scripture Reading** | Luke 1:57-80 | Pew Bible pp. 856-857

⁵⁷ Now the time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. ⁵⁸ And her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her. ⁵⁹ And on the eighth day they came to circumcise the child. And they would have called him Zechariah after his father, ⁶⁰ but his mother answered, "No; he shall be called John." ⁶¹ And they said to her, "None of your relatives is called by this name." ⁶² And they made signs to his father, inquiring what he wanted him to be called. ⁶³ And he asked for a writing tablet and wrote, "His name is John." And they all wondered. ⁶⁴ And immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue loosed, and he spoke, blessing God. ⁶⁵ And fear came on all their neighbors. And all these things were talked about through all the hill country of Judea, ⁶⁶ and all who heard them laid them up in their hearts, saying, "What then will this child be?" For the hand of the Lord was with him.

⁶⁷ And his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied, saying,

⁶⁸ "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,

for he has visited and redeemed his people

⁶⁹ and has raised up a horn of salvation for us

in the house of his servant David,

⁷⁰ as he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets from of old,

⁷¹ that we should be saved from our enemies

and from the hand of all who hate us;

⁷² to show the mercy promised to our fathers

and to remember his holy covenant,

⁷³ the oath that he swore to our father Abraham, to grant us

⁷⁴ that we, being delivered from the hand of our enemies,

might serve him without fear,

⁷⁵ in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.

Ordination and Installation of Officers

Ruling Elders:

- Chad Barrett
- Arlan Brady
- Patrick Ward

Deacons:

- Stephen Gamble
- Yuriy Petrenko
- Joel Rimer

Questions to Elders and Deacons:

1. Do you believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, as originally given, to be the inerrant Word of God, the only infallible rule of faith and practice?
2. Do you sincerely receive and adopt the *Confession of Faith* and the *Catechisms* of this Church, as containing the system of doctrine taught in the Holy Scriptures; and do you further promise that if at any time you find yourself out of accord with any of the fundamentals of this system of doctrine, you will, on your own initiative, make known to your Session the change which has taken place in your views since the assumption of this ordination vow?
3. Do you approve of the form of government and discipline of the Presbyterian Church in America, in conformity with the general principles of biblical polity?
4. Do you accept the office of ruling elder (or deacon, as the case may be) in this church, and promise faithfully to perform all the duties thereof, and to endeavor by the grace of God to adorn the profession of the Gospel in your life, and to set a worthy example before the Church of which God has made you an officer?
5. Do you promise subjection to your brethren in the Lord?
6. Do you promise to strive for the purity, peace, unity and edification of the Church?

Question to the Congregation:

Do you, the members of this church, acknowledge and receive these brothers as ruling elders or deacons, and do you promise to yield them all that honor, encouragement and obedience in the Lord to which their office, according to the Word of God and the Constitution of this Church, entitles them?

Prayer of Installation

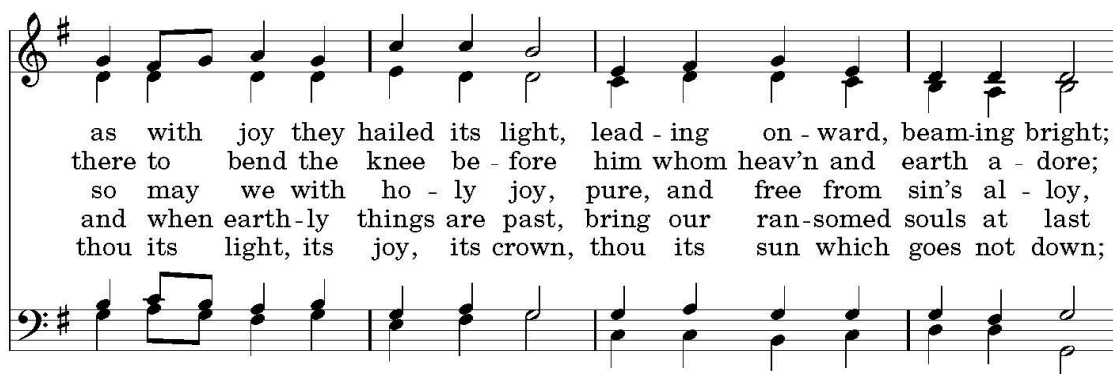
Charge to Officers

Charge to Congregation

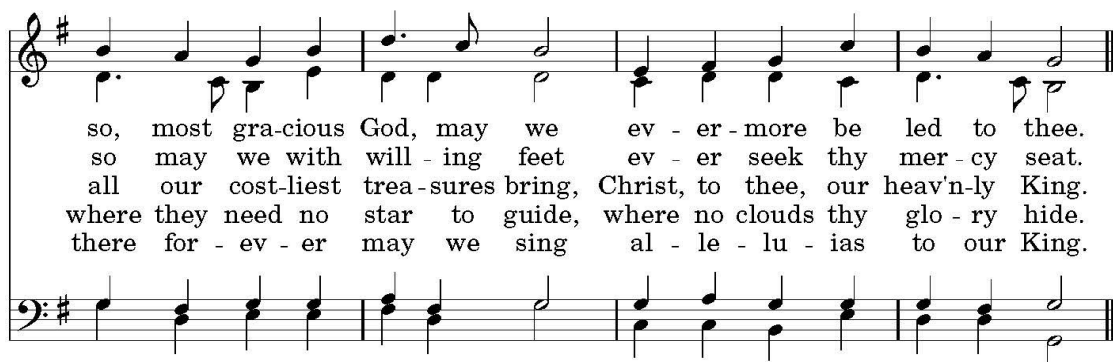
* As with Gladness Men of Old—Trinity Hymnal No. 226



1. As with glad-ness men of old did the guid-ing star be-hold;
 2. As with joy-ful steps they sped to that low-ly cra-dle-bed,
 3. As they of-fered gifts most rare at that cra-dle rude and bare;
 4. Ho-ly Je-sus, ev-'ry day keep us in the nar-row way;
 5. In the heav'n-ly coun-try bright need they no cre-at-ed light;



as with joy they hailed its light, lead-ing on-ward, beam-ing bright;
 there to bend the knee be-fore him whom heav'n and earth a-dore;
 so may we with ho-ly joy, pure, and free from sin's al-loy,
 and when earth-ly things are past, bring our ran-somed souls at last
 thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down;



so, most gra-cious God, may we ev-er-more be led to thee.
 so may we with will-ing feet ev-er seek thy mer-cy seat.
 all our cost-liest trea-sures bring, Christ, to thee, our heav'n-ly King.
 where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glo-ry hide.
 there for-ev-er may we sing al-le-lu-ias to our King.

Trinity Hymnal 226
 TEXT: William Chatterton Dix, 1860; Alt. 1861
 TUNE (DIX): Conrad Kocher, 1838; Arr. by William H. Monk, 1861
 CCLI License # 668805

* **Benediction** | Numbers 6:24-26

Elders will be available to pray with you in the front of the sanctuary at the conclusion of the worship service.

*Leader: The LORD bless you and keep you;
 the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;
 the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.*

* **Postlude**

Newly Elected Women's Ministry Leaders:

Kelly Lewis—President

Katie Drayton—President-Elect

Sue Skelly—Congregational Care Chair

Sharon Rogers—Special Events Chair

Elsa Gantt—Hospitality Chair

Christy Spurgeon—Bible Study/Discipleship Chair

Cindy Thompson—Encouragement Chair

Rachel Caldwell—Circle One Leader (permanent position)

Flo Wright—Circle Four Leader (permanent position)

Women's Ministry Leaders Rolling Off:

Melody Shafer—President

Genie Graham—Hospitality Chair

Natalia Petrenko—Special Events Chair

Questions to help the good news sink in:

1. In Luke 1:57-66, we saw that profound faith is demonstrated and experienced in simple ways: rejoicing in community, obedience to God's Word, and proclaiming the excellencies of God. How can we grow in this "simplicity" of profound faith in our own lives?
2. "Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all." This line from When I Survey the Wondrous Cross encapsulates well the Promised Mercy of God—salvation (from enemies) so that we might serve him fearlessly. What areas of your life (job, family, friends, hobbies, etc.) are hard for you to see how they are a part of your life of service? How can you bring those areas into joyful service of God?
3. Darkness of heart is a reality not just for unbelievers, but for believers as well. Though we have the light of Christ, we are still plagued by the darkness of sin and hopelessness. How, and in what circumstances, has Jesus, the Sunrise, visited you and given you light as you walk with him?

Resources Used for Study in Luke:

1. Luke, Focus on the Bible Commentary, Dale Ralph Davis
2. Luke, Baker Exegetical Commentary on the New Testament, Darrell L. Bock
3. Luke, Zondervan Exegetical Commentary on the New Testament, David E. Garland
4. Echoes of Scripture in the Gospels, Richard B. Hays
5. Reading Luke: Interpretation, Reflection, Formation, Scripture and Hermeneutics Series, eds. Bartholomew, Green, and Thiselton
6. A Theology of Luke-Acts, Darrell L. Bock

Serving This Morning:

Updates, Liturgist and Pastoral Prayer: Keith Boland

Reader: Courtneylove Gowans

Musicians: Esther Baarendse, Heather Coleridge, Vicki Bowles, Barb Howell, and Josiah Rogers

Audio/visual and livestream: Jim McFarland, Jason Waters

Invitations for Christmas Eve worship are available for pickup at the back of the Sanctuary or on the Welcome Desk.

Faith Promise Giving:

LPC fiscal budget year is July 1st to June 30th.

Through the end of October 2025:

General Fund transfer to missions	\$40,000
Carryover for Outreach Committee	\$20,500
Faith Promise Giving:	\$22,831
Missions Disbursements	\$61,424
Outreach Committee Disbursements	\$12,902

Stewardship

Through the end of October 2025:

Budget FYTD	\$382,088
Received FYTD	\$390,600
Expenditures FYTD	\$348,990

NOTES:

NOTES:

Connect Card

Thanks for joining us today.
We would love to come alongside you in your walk with Jesus, whether you're new to our community or you've been here a while.

Visit lexpreschurch.com/connect or scan the QR code to fill out our Connect Card!

If you're not familiar with QR codes, we're here to help!



1. Open your smartphone's camera and point it at the QR code so that it shows clearly on your screen.
2. Wait for the camera to recognize and scan the QR code.
3. Click the link banner or notification when it pops up on your screen. Our Connect Card will automatically load in your browser.

Women's Ministry website and Facebook group:

<https://lexpreschurch.com/womens-ministry/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/LPCWomen>

Youth Ministry Newsletter Subscription

Please, scan this QR Code with your phone camera.





Children's Christmas Extravaganza

Sunday, December 7th | 3:00 - 5:00pm
 age 5 - 5th grade

Come and enjoy a Christmas Movie, Games,
 Cookies, Hot Cocoa and other surprises!

Bring a friend
 *Parents are NOT required to stay



Register by Dec 3rd



Christmas Eve Nativity Play
December 24, 2025 | 4:00 pm

5K - 5th grade
 Practices are
 December 3, 10, & 17
 from 6:00 - 7:00 pm

Scan for more information
 and to register your child!



THE SONGS OF ADVENT

<p>Mary's Song</p>  <p>Humility & Promise</p>	<p>Zechariah's Song</p>  <p>Mercy & Light</p>	
<p>God's Song</p> 		
<p>Angels' Song</p>  <p>Peace & Glory</p>	<p>Covenant & Kingship Christmas Eve 4:00 pm</p>	<p>Simeon's Song</p>  <p>Poverty & Redemption</p>



ACTIVE SHOOTER RESPONSE TRAINING
 Learn how to survive a shooting event
 December 14th | 2:00 - 4:00 pm | Tomlin Hall
 The LPC Safety Team is encouraging all adults (especially Elders, Deacons, Greeters, CE Teachers and Nursery Workers) to attend active shooter training. New conceal carry policy will be communicated. Childcare will be provided for 1 month – 5th grade.



- Please register by Nov 30
- We need a count for materials as well as childcare workers.

*Mentor Moms
 Winter/Spring 2026
 Begins January 13th*



register here



SOAR SPRING SOCCER

FEBRUARY 2 - MARCH 28



Why SOAR?

- Family friendly
- Choose your practice night
- Weekly Saturday morning game
- Character Development
- Focus on community involvement

Who Can Join?

- Youth ages 3 to 18

Early Bird Discount:

- Opens 11/28/25
- Register by 1/12/26 for \$10 off



Register here

We will celebrate the Lord's Supper on December 14, 2025 during the worship service.

Please prayerfully prepare for our meeting with Jesus at His table.



Promotions Request Form



Scan here to request to have an event promoted through our various channels.

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