

December 24, 2024



Christmas Eve



14940 62nd St. N - Stillwater, MN 55082

651-439-7831

www.salemlutheran.org



Christmas Eve

*God Gives Heaven's Best Gift in
Earth's Unlikeliest Place*

Welcome! Thank you for joining us for worship today. In our services we gather before our almighty God to receive his gifts and to offer him our worship and praise. Through God's powerful Word and sacraments he renews our faith and strengthens us to serve in joy.

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP: Father, open my heart to hear and believe your word, so that through faith your Son may take his rightful place not just in the manger, but also within my heart. In his name I pray. Amen.

THE GIFT OF GOD: When parents put gifts under the Christmas tree, it is not to compensate children for doing their chores. That would make those wrapped packages a wage, not a gift. A gift is given simply so the giver can show favor to the one receiving the gift, without expecting repayment. In the season of Christmas, we receive the gift of God. But we don't just receive a gift that God gives. When we look into the manger we see that God *is* the gift.

In the person of Jesus, God gave us himself. Because God became true man and did everything necessary to save us, we have other Christmas gifts too: forgiveness, hope, peace, a place in his family, and eternal life in paradise. However, none of these things are wages. We did not, and never could, earn them. Instead, they are gifts given by our gracious God to show us his favor.

In the Twelve Days of Christmas, our worship follows this pattern.

Christmas Eve	<i>God Gives Heaven's Best Gift in Earth's Unlikeliest Place</i>
Christmas Day	<i>God Gives Himself As One of Us</i>
Christmas 1 (Dec 29)	<i>God Gives Both Substitute and Sacrifice</i>
Christmas 2 (Jan 5)	<i>God Gives Satisfaction to Those Who Wait</i>
Epiphany (Jan 12)	<i>The Gift of God Is for All People</i>

SERVING GOD, SERVING US:

Preacher: Pastor Ryan Wolfe Pianist: Madison Boerner
Choir Director: Luke Dorn Handbell Director: Jessie Wolfe
Praise Group: Brian Shult, Luke and Allison Dorn, Madison Boerner

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Order of Worship



About Tonight's Service

Our worship this evening is an adaptation of the *Lessons and Carols* service traditionally held at King's College, Cambridge, England, on December 24th every year. *Lessons and Carols* was first held on Christmas Eve, 1918. It was planned by Eric Milner-White, who at the age of thirty-four had just been appointed Dean of King's College after experience as an army chaplain.

Introduction and Welcome

Men's Chorus Anthem

Sing We Now of Christmas

Arr. Kyle Pederson

Sing we now of Christmas, Noel sing we here.
Hearts in expectation, Noel drawing near.
Sing we now of Christmas, Sing we now Noel.

In stillness lays the world in silent reverie;
longing for the birth of love and mercy.
Yearning for hope, good news to fill our souls;
Turning to the manger that grounds all mystery. Noel.

Angels bending low, shepherds bend their knee,
Wisemen from the east, all have come the child to see.
All of creation where love has come to dwell;
Sing we now of Christmas, the good news that we tell,
Sing Noel!

Please stand.

EXHORTATION AND PRAYER

Minister: Beloved in Christ: In this Christmas season it is our duty and delight to hear again the message of the angels and, in heart and mind, to go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which has come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us, the Christ-child, lying in a manger.

Let us read and learn in Holy Scripture the story of the loving purposes of God from the first days after our fall, and into the birth and glorious redemption brought to us by this Holy Child. Let us hear how peace was lost, and how peace is restored.

But first, let us pray, for this is good and right.

M: Heavenly Father, we pray for ourselves and all people who worship you and your Son this Christmas Eve. By your holy Word, lead us to say with the angels,

C: Glory to God in the highest!

M: We pray for your blessing upon the people of our city, our state, our nation, and our world.

C: Glory to God in the highest!

M: We pray for the poor and helpless, the cold and hungry, the sick and sad, that you would give them the joy of your salvation and the comfort of your presence.

C: Glory to God in the highest!

M: We pray for unbelievers and enemies of the Church, that through your Law and Gospel you would lead them to recognize your Son as their only hope for eternal life.

C: Glory to God in the highest!

M: Finally, we remember before you all those who rejoice with us in heaven, who live in greater light and beauty than we, that multitude which no one can number, who died in faith, and now praise you in your heavenly temple. We confess that we are united with them and with one another.

C: Glory to God in the highest!

M: We humbly offer up these prayers and praises in the words that Christ himself taught us.

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Prayer of the Day

M: Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true light. Grant that as we have known on earth the wonder of that light, we may also behold him in all his glory in the life to come; through your only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Please be seated.



The Greatest Gift

Hymn: O Come, All Ye Faithful

CW 354 sts. 1, Ref, 2



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
2 God from true God, and Light from Light e - ter - nal,



come ye, O come_ ye to Beth - le - hem!
born of a vir - gin, to earth he comes!



Come and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels:
On - ly - be - got - ten Son of God the Fa - ther:



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



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

First Reading

Genesis 3:8-24

Mankind rebelled against their loving Creator and forfeited the gift of paradise. God responds by promising a descendant of Eve would bring the gift of salvation.

⁸Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹But the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?" ¹⁰He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid."

¹¹And he said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?" ¹²The man said, "The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it."

¹³Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

¹⁴So the LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and all wild animals! You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life. ¹⁵And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel."

¹⁶To the woman he said, "I will make your pains in childbearing very severe; with painful labor you will give birth to children. Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you."

¹⁷To Adam he said, "Because you listened to your wife and ate fruit from the tree about which I commanded you, 'You must not eat from it,' cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat food from it all the days of your life. ¹⁸It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field. ¹⁹By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return."

²⁰Adam named his wife Eve, because she would become the mother of all the living. ²¹The LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them. ²²And the LORD God said, "The man has now become like one of us, knowing good and evil. He must not be allowed to reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life and eat, and live forever." ²³So the LORD God banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken. ²⁴After he drove the man out, he placed on the east side of the Garden of Eden cherubim and a flaming sword flashing back and forth to guard the way to the tree of life.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Hymn: Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising CW 362 sts. 1-2, 5-6

All will sing verses 1 and 6, Men will sing verse 2, Women will sing verse 5



1 Come, your hearts and voices rais - ing, Christ the
2 Christ, from heav'n to us de - scend - ing and in
5 Oh, the joy be - yond ex - press - ing when by
6 Gra - cious Child, in mer - cy hear us, from your



Lord with glad - ness prais - ing; loud - ly sing his
love our race be - friend - ing, in our need his
faith we grasp this bless - ing, when, O Christ, we
low - ly man - ger cheer us, gent - ly lead us



love a - maz - ing, wor - thy folk of Christ - en - dom.
help ex - tend - ing, saved us from the wi - ly foe.
come ad - dress - ing thanks to you and high - est praise!
and be near us till we join th'an - gel - ic choir.

Second Reading

Genesis 22:15-18

God promised that not only would Abraham's descendants become a great nation, but through his people the gift of salvation would come to all nations on earth.

¹⁵The angel of the LORD called to Abraham from heaven a second time ¹⁶and said, "I swear by myself, declares the LORD, that because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, ¹⁷I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies, ¹⁸and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me."

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Hymn: From Heaven Above to Earth I Come

CW 331 sts. 1-5, 13

All will sing verses 1, 3, 5, and 13, Women will sing verse 2, Men will sing verse 4



1 "From heav'n a - bove to earth I come to bear good
2 "To you this night is born a child of Mar - y,
3 "This is the Christ, our God most high, who hears your
4 "He will on you the gifts be - stow pre - pared by



news to ev - 'ry home; glad ti - dings of great
cho - sen vir - gin mild; this lit - tle child of
sad and bit - ter cry; he will him - self your
God for all be - low, that in his king - dom,



joy I bring, where - of I now will say and sing:
low - ly birth shall be the joy of all the earth.
Sav - ior be from all your sins to set you free.
bright and fair, you may with us his glo - ry share.

5 "These are the signs which you shall mark:
the swaddling clothes and manger dark.
There you will find the infant laid
by whom the heav'ns and earth were made."

13 Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child,
prepare a bed, soft, undefiled
within my heart, made clean and new,
a quiet chamber kept for you.

Third Reading

Isaiah 9:2,6-7

To those living in the darkness of sin and death, God promises the gifts of light, salvation, and life.

²The people walking in darkness have seen a great light;
on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.

⁶For to us a child is born, to us a son is given,
and the government will be on his shoulders.
And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end.
 He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom,
 establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness
 from that time on and forever.
 The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn: The People Who in Darkness Walked

CW 381 sts. 1-3



1 The peo - ple who in dark - ness walked have seen a glo - rious
 2 To us a child of hope is born, to us a son is
 3 His name shall be the Prince of Peace, the Ev - er - last - ing



light; the heav'n - ly dawn broke forth on those who
 giv'n, and on his shoul - ders ev - er rests all
 Lord, the Won - der - ful, the Coun - sel - or, the



dwelt in death and night, who dwelt in death and night.
 pow'r in earth and heav'n, all pow'r in earth and heav'n.
 God by all a - dored, the God by all a - dored.

Fourth Reading

Luke 2:1-7

The gift of God is given in the unlikelyest of places.

¹In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. ²(This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) ³And everyone went to their own town to register. ⁴So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. ⁵He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, ⁷and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn: To Shepherds as They Watched by Night CW 335 sts. 1-3



1 To shep - herds as they watched by night ap - peared a
2 "At Beth - le - hem, in Da - vid's town, as Mi - cah
3 O then re - joice that through his Son God is with



host of an - gels bright; "Be - hold the ten - der
did of old make known. It is the Christ, your
sin - ners now at one; made like your - selves of



babe," they said, "in yon - der low - ly man - ger laid,
Lord and King, who will to all sal - va - tion bring."
flesh and blood, your broth - er is th'e - ter - nal God.

Fifth Reading

Luke 2:8-20

The gift of God is announced to those whom much of the world would have considered the unlikeliest of people.

⁸And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. ¹¹Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

¹³Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, ¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." ¹⁶So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart.

²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

Hymn: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

CW 350



1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King;
2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
3 Hail, the heav'n - ly Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Right-eous-ness!



peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"
late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful, all ye na - tions rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God - head see, hail th' in - car - nate De - i - ty!
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that man no more may die,



with th' an - gel - ic host pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
Pleased as man with man to dwell, Je - sus, our Im - man - u - el!
born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them sec - ond birth.

Refrain



Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King!"

Sixth Reading

Matthew 2:1-12

By miraculously leading Magi from afar to the Christ Child, God proved that his gift of salvation is intended for all people.

¹After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem ²and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him."

³When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers

of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵“In Bethlehem in Judea,” they replied, “for this is what the prophet has written:

⁶“ But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for out of you will come a ruler
who will shepherd my people Israel.”

⁷Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. ⁸He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.”

⁹After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. ¹¹On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Choir Anthem

Away in a Manger (Forever Amen)

Phil Wickham

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed;
The little Lord Jesus lay down His sweet head.
The stars in the sky look down where He lay;
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the Baby awakes,
The dawn of salvation beginning to break.
I love Thee, Lord Jesus, O gift from above,
The King of the heavens forever with us.

I worship You, Jesus for all of my days,
The highest of praises be unto Your name.
My God and my Savior, my King and my Friend,
For Yours is the glory forever, amen.

Please stand for the Christmas Gospel.

Seventh Reading

John 1:1-14

God gives us the gift of himself as one of us.

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was with God in the beginning. ³Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. ⁴In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. ⁸He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

⁹The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. ¹¹He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. ¹²Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—¹³children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

¹⁴The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Please be seated.

Anthem: Joy Has Dawned

Keith and Kristin Getty

Praise Group will sing verse 1, congregation may join afterwards

Joy has dawned upon the world promised from creation
God's salvation now unfurled hope for every nation
Not with fanfares from above not with scenes of glory
But a humble gift of love Jesus born of Mary

**Sounds of wonder fill the sky with the songs of angels
As the mighty Prince of Life shelters in a stable
Hands that set each star in place shaped the earth in darkness
Cling now to a mother's breast vulnerable and helpless**

Shepherds bow before the Lamb gazing at the glory
Gifts of men from distant lands prophesy the story
Gold a King is born today incense God is with us
Myrrh His death will make a way and by His blood He'll win us

Son of Adam Son of heaven given as a ransom
Reconciling God and man Christ our mighty Champion!
What a Savior what a Friend What a glorious mystery
Once a babe in Bethlehem now the Lord of history

Refrain: Gloria, in excelsis deo, Gloria, in excelsis deo

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains
And the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strain (*Refrain*)

Come to Bethlehem and see, He whose birth the angels sing
Come, adore on bended knee, Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
(*Refrain*)

Offering



Connect Card

Our members give offerings to support God's work in our church. Offerings can be put in the basket or made online by scanning the code. Visitors may give, but aren't expected to.

We ask members and visitors alike to fill out the connection card and place it in the basket now or as you leave. Please share your prayer requests that we can pray for you.



Give Online

Handbell Offertory

Love Came Down at Christmas

Cynthia Dobrinski

Lighting of the Christmas Candles

We light our individual candles at this time. The pastor lights his candle from the white candle on the Advent wreath. This is the Christ candle, which symbolizes Christ, the Light of the world. The ushers light their candles from the pastor's candle, then light the candle of each worshiper nearest the aisle. In this way the light of Christ is shared with all who worship here tonight. The lighted candle is never tilted, but is always held upright when giving light to another.



Choir Anthem

All Praise to Thee

Elaine Hagenberg

All praise to Thee, eternal God, who, clothed in garb of flesh and blood,
Dost' take a manger for Thy throne, while worlds on worlds are Thine alone.
Alleluia!

Thou comest in the darksome night to make us children of the light,
To make us in the realms divine, like Thine own angels, round Thee shine.
Alleluia!

A little Child, Thou art our Guest that weary ones in Thee may rest;
Forlorn and lowly in Thy birth that we may rise to heav'n to earth
Alleluia! Amen.

Christmas Prayer

M: O God, who makes us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of your only Son, Jesus Christ; grant that, as we joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, so may we also behold him with sure confidence when he shall come to be our judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Blessing

M: May he who by his incarnation gathered things earthly and heavenly into one, fill us with such joy that comes with the knowledge of the forgiveness of sins and the hope of eternal life.

And the blessing of God Almighty— Father, Son ✠, and Holy Spirit—be upon you and remain with you always.

C: **Amen.**

Hymn: Silent Night, Holy Night

CW 337 sts. 1-3



1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm,
2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake
3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God,



all is bright round yon vir - gin moth - er and child.
at the sight. Glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far,
love's pure light ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face



Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in heav - en - ly
heav'n - ly hosts— sing, Al - le - lu - ia! Christ, the Sav - ior, is
with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy



peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
birth, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.



Silent Prayer & Announcements

Candles may be extinguished at this time and returned to the ushers as you leave church. We leave worship tonight with the quiet joy of a promise kept. When we gather again tomorrow morning we will sing with full praise as the whole world rejoices in our Savior's birth.

Acknowledgments

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Good News!

THE **12** DAYS OF  CHRISTMAS 

We thank you for joining us this evening. You are probably familiar with the song *The Twelve Days of Christmas*. It is aptly named. The early Christian church would celebrate Christmas for twelve days. The Season of Christmas begins on December 25th with the great Festival of the Nativity. On January 6th, the Festival of Epiphany brings the season of Christmas to an end.

Wednesday, December 25 at 10:00AM

The Gift of God—God Gives Himself as One of Us

We ponder some of the most profound words in Scripture, teaching us the meaning of this baby in the manger. Worship includes the celebration of Holy Communion for our members. Join us at 9:45am to sing some of our favorite Christmas carols.

Weekend of December 29th (Regular service times)

The Gift of God—God Gives Both Substitute and Sacrifice

The Son of God took on flesh for two reasons: to be our substitute and our sacrifice. In life AND in death Jesus is the only gift who could have given us peace and forgiveness.

Weekend of January 5th (Regular service times)

The Gift of God—God Gives Satisfaction to Those Who Wait

Humanity waited centuries after God's promise for the gift of a Savior to be born. When the waiting was over, the faithful found joy in God's perfect timing. We too will be satisfied in God's perfect time.

Weekend of January 12th (Regular service times)

The Gift of God is for All People

The season of Christmas ends on January 6th, known as Epiphany, "the Gentile Christmas." On Sunday morning, January 12th we'll consider the way God guided the wise men to Jesus and made it clear that salvation in Jesus is for us Gentiles too.



Christmas Poinsettias

IN LOVING MEMORY

Michael Miller

Herb & Catherine

Harold & Mabel Zolldan

Amanda & Charlie

Monthie

Bernice Roth

Dahlke

Kent Hadrits

Paul Roth

Victor Prescott

Johanna & Alfred Stoller

Connie Sweeny

Collin Fitzgerald

Tracy & Ella Berdan

David Richert

Zaylee Lucy Fitzgerald

Gilbert & Rosella Ecker

Linda Wyland

George & Mardell

Kay Berdan

Linda McKean

Hackler

Stan Vetsch

Lyle Doerr

Merlyn & Arayla Rogge

Howard Jr. & Pearl Elder

Arlyn Kunze

Brenda Ross

Verna & Franklin

Beatrice & Evan

Fran Schubkegel

Gruetzmacher

Thompson

Donald Roettger

Darliene & Maynard Ask

Carol Lange

Geraldine Roettger

Burdette Vrieze

Bruce Boerner

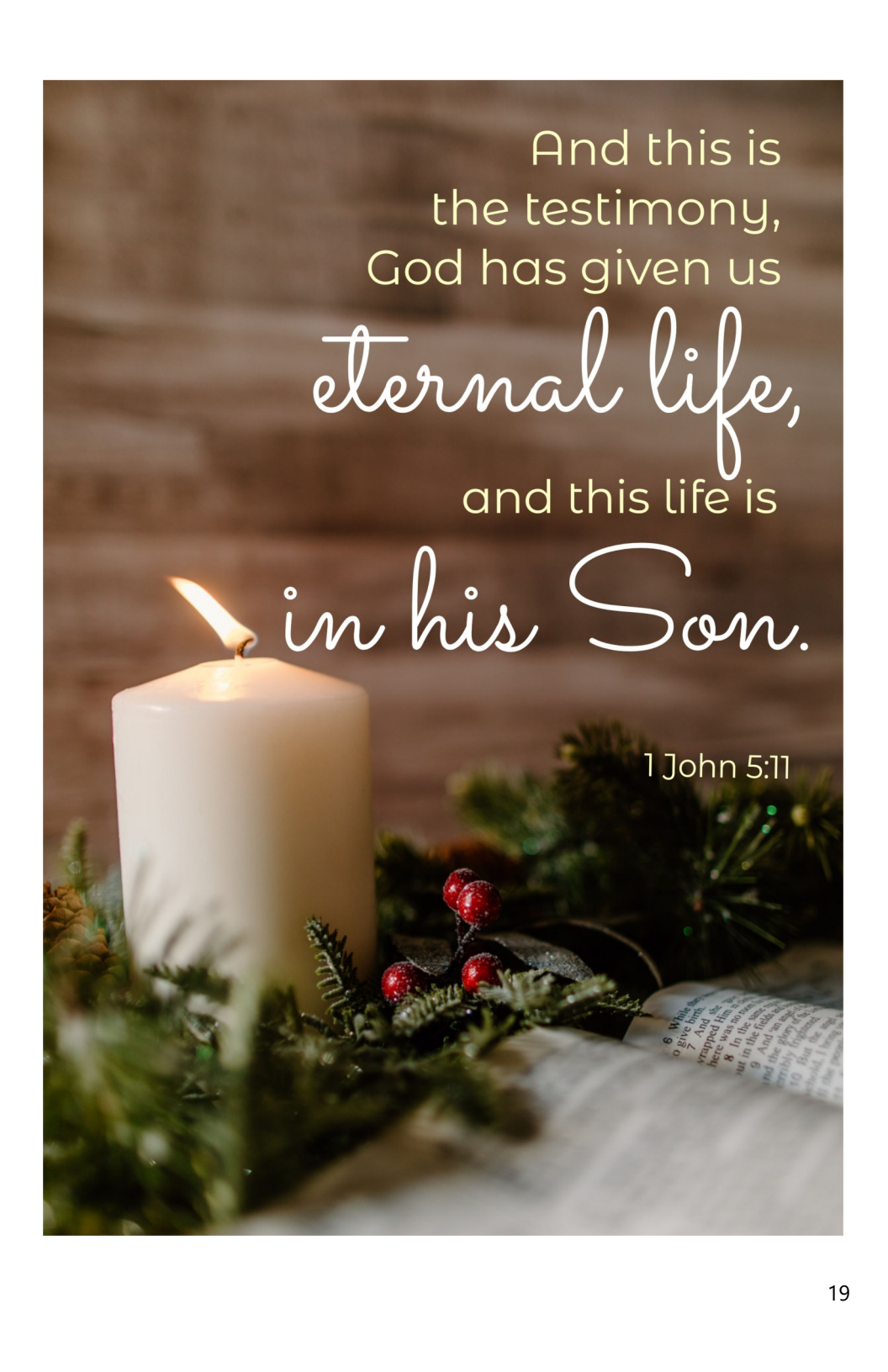
Carl & Emma Bourman

Richard Kerr

Gene Hartsock

Leonard LeMay

Family that are in heaven

A lit candle is the central focus, surrounded by greenery and red berries. In the foreground, an open Bible is visible, with some text from 1 John 5:11 visible. The background is a warm, textured brown.

And this is
the testimony,
God has given us
eternal life,
and this life is
in his Son.

1 John 5:11

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

For our guests

We are glad that you joined us to worship our Savior today. If you have questions about our church or service simply ask an usher or someone near you. We're happy to help!

Please take note of a few helpful things:

- ✦ Restrooms with diaper-changing tables are located straight down the hall opposite the sanctuary entrance.
- ✦ Our sanctuary is equipped with a "loop" system for hearing assistance. Please set hearing aids to the "T" position or ask an usher for a headset.
- ✦ You will find a connection card in your pew. Please share names, contact information, and prayer requests.
- ✦ Salem members give an offering to support the work we do for the Lord. Guests are not expected to give anything, but if you wish to donate you can place it in a basket as it's passed during the service or give online.
- ✦ Our services are streamed live on our YouTube channel. If you would prefer not to be on camera, please sit in the seats located beneath the balcony.

For those with young children

We love to see families worship together and we welcome children to sing, pray, and grow with us in our services.

We provide a few special worship aids and helps for families:

- ✦ Children's bulletins & activity bags are available in the entry, just to the left of the office hallway. Ask an usher if you need help finding them.
- ✦ If you or your child needs a quiet space, you can use the fireside room down the hallway across from the restrooms. The service is streamed live on a TV in the room.
- ✦ On Sunday mornings, children of all ages are invited to come to the front of church for the children's message. Parents are welcome too!

**Salem Lutheran Church exists to glorify God
by teaching his timeless Truth, that all may
grow in grace and faith to share tomorrow's eternity.**

