



# FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

## JANUARY 1, 2023

*Welcome to what is called “The First Sunday After Christmas” in the church year. We are doing things a little differently today, recognizing that it’s New Year’s Day and we still have people traveling for the holidays. It’s an informal worship gathering; a time to get together, share some stories, sing some “unsung” carols, hear about the Naming of Jesus, and join in the Wesley Covenant Prayer. We’re taking it a little easy and just enjoying being with each other. We’re glad you’re here today.*

### Gathering

Welcome/Announcements/Passing the Peace

Prelude Terri Schimmack, Pianist

Call to worship & Lighting Advent Wreath

We celebrate Jesus

**Born to be our Savior**

We celebrate Jesus

**He is Christ the Lord**

Singing some “unsung” carols

#236 “While Shepherds Watched...”

#244 “Twas in the Moon of Wintertime”

#249 “There's a Song in the Air”

*Question: What Christmas songs (religious or secular) do you appreciate but don't think they are sung enough?*

### Time for Prayer

Praying through a poem by Rev. Sarah Speed |  
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### “Everywhere and Always”

Right here.

That’s where God is.

In the sun that turns our bedroom gold,  
in the creaks of this old house, and in birthday  
candles on the cake;

in clean sheets, sock feet, and porch-sitting;  
in pancakes for breakfast and pancakes for  
dinner;

in the swell of a lit candle, in fireplace  
conversations;

in your grandmother’s carrot cake, and the smell  
of evergreen.

God is in the seed-starters on the porch,  
and the space between my bones;

in garlic butter, early mornings, and twinkle  
lights.

Certainly in dancing and laughing, in cups of  
coffee,

in the art hung on the fridge, snail mail, long  
phone calls,

and *oh how I love yous*. God is right here.

God pulled up a seat. God has traveled all the  
way to the heart.

Tell the next generation.

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Lifting up joys and concerns

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

**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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever. Amen.**

*Question: During Advent we prayed using artwork (along the wall and in our online study) and with poetry in worship. What methods of prayer do you find meaningful? How do plan on praying in the new year?*

Singing a couple more carols

## The Word is Read & Proclaimed

Luke 2:15-21 (NRSV)

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them, and Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, just as it had been told them.

When the eighth day came, it was time to circumcise the child, and he was called

Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

Message: "He Was Called Jesus"

*Question: What is your name? What does it mean? What other names are you called?*

## Response & Going Forth

Offering our Tithes & Offerings

Last chance for carols

Closing With the Wesley Covenant Prayer

**I am no longer my own, but thine. Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt. Put me to doing, put me to suffering. Let me be employed by thee or laid aside for thee, exalted for thee or brought low for thee. Let me be full, let me be empty. Let me have all things, let me have nothing. I freely and heartily yield all things to thy pleasure and disposal. And now, O glorious and blessed God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, thou art mine, and I am thine. So be it. And the covenant which I have made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven. Amen.**

## Go in Peace

*Coming up...*

- Next week we have Epiphany Sunday with the passing out of "Star Words" for the year.
- Next week the Supreme Bean will be open again
- Next week we need help "taking down Christmas"
- Monday night study resumes Jan. 9th