



GRACE UNITED CHURCH
1st Sunday after Christmas
December 28, 2025 at 10:30 a.m.
Worship Leader: Keith Mayers
Music Director: Don Salfarlie
Presider: Joyce Redford

GATHERING TO WORSHIP GOD

Prelude: Fairest Lord Jesus **Silesian Folk Melody**

Welcome, Announcements
& Traditional Land Acknowledgment **Presider**

Lighting the Christ Candle **Presider**

One: Joy to the World!

All: The Lord has come

One: Let earth receive the King!

All: Let every heart prepare room

One: And heaven and nature sing

All: And heaven and nature sing

One: And all of creation and heaven sing

All: Glory to God, peace, goodwill and salvation ring!

Christmas Greeting **Keith Mayers**

One: Merry Christmas and blessed peace to you

All: And also with you!

One: Greet each other with the peace of Christ.

Christmas Hymn 1: Led by Grace Choir
Joy to the World **Voices United #59**

Opening Prayer (All): **Keith Mayers**

Glory to God, glory in the highest.

For God's love has overcome

The scourge of hate, fear, conflict and sadness

With love, hope, peace, and joy

May the blessed Christ encompass our lives with

Fruits of the Spirit, emanating from the light of Christmas.

Let Christ be all that we are and do,
Abiding in the love of God today and the fellowship
Of the Holy Spirit with us.
Amen.

Special Music: Sylvia Genders and Andy Keay
In the Bleak Midwinter **C. Rossetti & G. Holst**

TO DISCOVER THE WORD OF GOD FOR TODAY

Responsive Reading: Psalm 96 **VU#816 (Refrain Sung)**

Scripture Reading: Titus 2:11-14 **NIV** **Nancy Wilson**

One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

All: Thanks be to God!

Children's Moment: Stone of Hope Monument **Keith Mayers**
Song: Go Tell It on the Mountain **Voices United #59**
Led by Kay Bingham

Children leave for Sunday School

Sermon: From A Mountain of Despair - A Stone of Hope
Keith Mayers

TO RESPOND IN FAITH AND HOPE

Offering Invitation

Offertory Solo: Jasmin Green
Down from His Glory **W. Booth-Clibborn**

Offering Response: As with Gladness Men of Old **VU #81, v. 3**

Offertory Prayer

Prayer Prelude: Holy Spirit Come to Us **MV#75**

Prayers of the People

Prayer Response: O God, Hear Our Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (said)

Christmas Hymn 2: Led by Grace Choir

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

VU#48

THE CHURCH SCATTERS TO LIVE ITS FAITH IN THE WORLD

Commissioning

One: Go forth and proclaim the gospel of Christmas. Embody the fruits of His Spirit, sowing seeds of good will, cheer and love. Even when our flesh denies us temporally, let our spirits press on mindful of eternity with Christ. We live each day nearer to our blessed Lord, in communion with the saints and all creation together.

Benediction

**May the love of God came down at Christmas
The joy of Christ at Christmas
The communion of the Holy Spirit during Christmas
Abide with us always onto the coming of a New Year
And the glorious anticipation of God with us,
Emmanuel throughout. Amen.**

Piano Postlude: Ring Christmas Bells

Mykola Leontovych
