



*St. Matthew's Evangelical Lutheran Church*  
Christmas Eve, December 24, 2025

*"In response to God's love, St. Matthew's is a faith community welcoming all to grow in faith, to worship Christ and to reach out to everyone."*

***Welcome!***

We hope our worship will be a blessing to you and we wish you and your family a Blessed Christmas. Tonight's hymns are located in the cranberry coloured hymnal (Evangelical Lutheran Worship).

## GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God*

*I will light candles this Christmas.*

*Candles of joy, despite all  
the sadness.*

*Candles of hope where despair  
keeps watch.*

*Candles of courage where fear is ever present.*

*Candles of peace for  
tempest-tossed days.*

*Candles of grace to ease  
heavy burdens.*

*Candles of love to inspire  
all of my living.*

*Candles that will burn all  
the year long.*

*(written by the Rev. Dr. Howard Thurman)*

**Hymn ELW# 283 O Come, All Ye Faithful**

Prayer of the Day

## WORD

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching  
and song*

First Reading ..... Isaiah 9:2-7

Psalm 96 (found in the hymnal)

Second Reading ..... Titus 2:11-14

Gospel ..... Luke 2:1-20

Sermon

**Hymn ELW #270 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing**

The Nicene Creed page 104

Prayers of Intercession

Sharing the Peace

*MEAL*

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ*

Great Thanksgiving ELW page 152

*Presider concludes...."And so, with all the choirs  
of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of  
heaven, we praise your name and join their  
unending hymn"*

**All Sing: Holy, Holy-**

**(tune: Angels We Have Heard on High).**

Holy, Holy, Lord of All

Praises sung from heav'n and earth

*Ancient Promise you recall,*

*on this night, a Saviour's birth*

*Glo-ria In excelsis deo,*

*Glo-ria In excelsis deo*

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Communion

Hymns During Communion #296,294

Prayer after Communion

*Sanctuary candles are lit*

Hymn ELW 281 "Silent Night, Holy Night"

**SENDING**

*God blesses us and sends us in mission  
to the world*

Blessing

Sending Song ELW# 267 *Joy To the World!*

Dismissal: Christ the Saviour is born! Go in  
peace. Proclaim this good news.

**All: Thanks be to God**

---

*If you missed last week's sermon, it is available on  
our website.*

St Matthew's Lutheran Church

57 Griffith Street Welland, Ontario L3B 4G6

905-734-4746 email: [bartsterc@gmail.com](mailto:bartsterc@gmail.com)

• website: [stmatthewswelland.com](http://stmatthewswelland.com)

Pastor: Rev. Bart Coleman (call or text) 289-821-9025

Email [bartsterc@gmail.com](mailto:bartsterc@gmail.com)

Council Chairperson: Bobbye Goldenberg

Vice-Chairperson: Marilyn Schultz

Church Secretary: Rona Devreese

905-734-4746

Organist: Lily Jasinskas