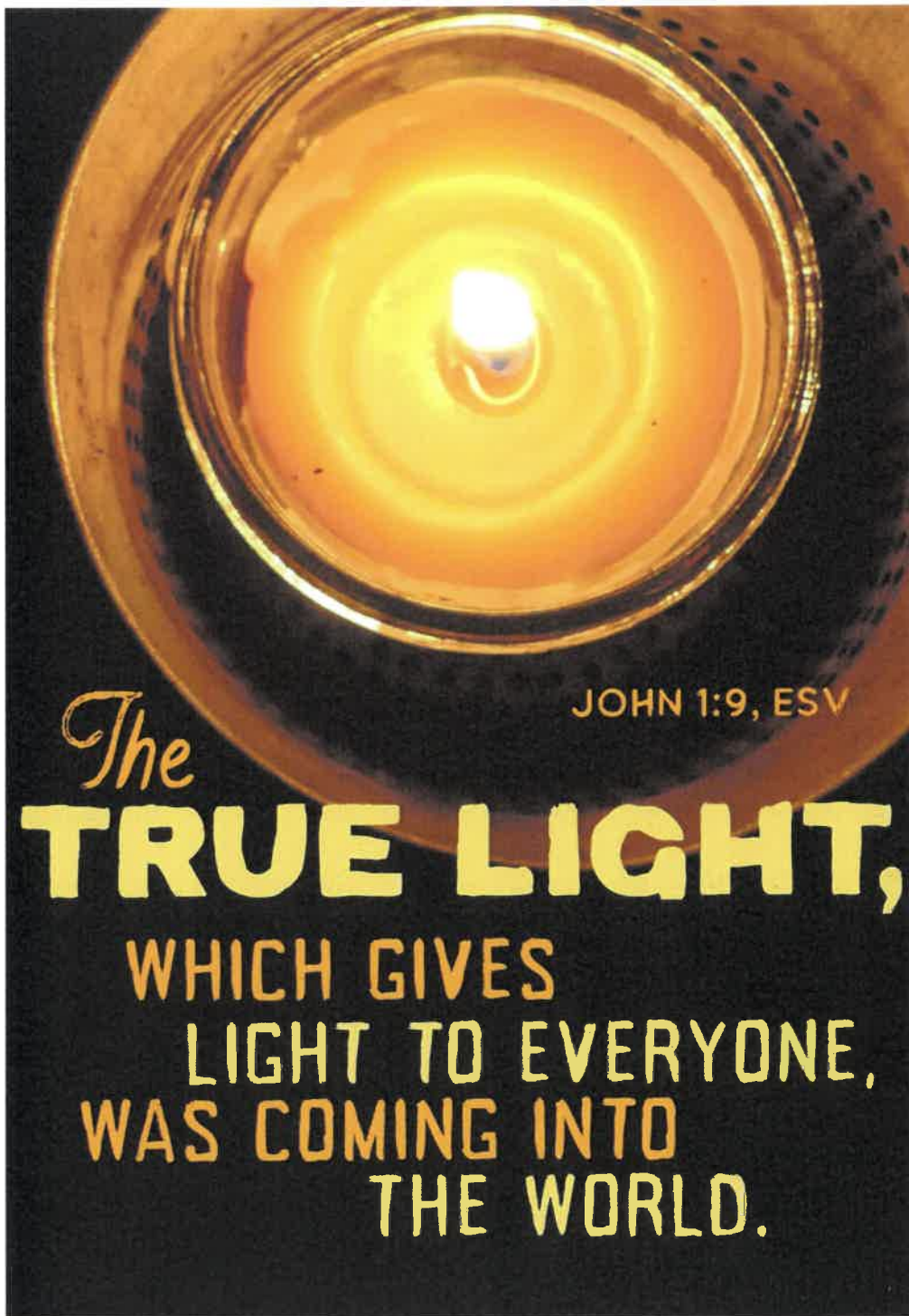


Valley of Peace Lutheran Church

Second Sunday of Christmas

January 4, 2026



JOHN 1:9, ESV

The
TRUE LIGHT,
WHICH GIVES
LIGHT TO EVERYONE,
WAS COMING INTO
THE WORLD.



WELCOME to Valley of Peace.

We are glad you are here.

We give thanks to God for all people and want all people to feel comfortable participating in worship. If you need any assistance please let our Ushers know. We are happy to offer hearing assistance devices, move chairs to make worship feel more accessible for you, and offer any other support that would be meaningful for you in this space.

All ages are welcome to worship at Valley of Peace and we give thanks for the voices of our littlest ones. If you feel that your little one is wiggly, you are welcome to go with them to stretch their legs in the narthex where there is a small area with books and toys and you can hear the worship service. There are also bags available for you to put toys and books in and bring them into the sanctuary space.

And again, welcome to worship this day. This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Interested in becoming a Member? Let Pastor Ashley know by **March 9, 2026**

Our next New Member Class is: Sunday, March 15, 2026 after worship.

SENSORY ACTIVITIES AND SPACES AT VOP

Sensory integration is the process by which individuals receive information through our senses, (Vision, Hearing, Smell, Taste, Touch, Vestibular/Movement, and Proprioception/Body Position), organize this information, and use it to participate in activities.

Each person reacts to sensory information differently. People of all ages can have sensory issues that make it more difficult to participate depending on the environment. Sensory issues are very complex because a person's sensory system could be a mixture of over reactive, under reactive, or actively engaged.

After assessing need, Emilie Moravec has been working with a few community members to make our space more welcoming for those with sensory needs. The following items are now available at the Welcome Center for individuals with sensory needs:

- Ear defender headphones
- Earplugs
- Sunglasses
- Weighted lap pads
- Battery powered fans
- Fidget blanket

Please speak with an usher or volunteer at the Welcome Center to find these items. Additional fidget supplies are available near the "busy bag" tree in the narthex outside of the sanctuary. These sensory tools are intended to promote regulation, improve focus, increase participation, and make our space more accessible and welcoming to children, teens, and adults with sensory processing needs.

If you are in need of change of environment while at Valley of Peace, the following areas are available:

- Narthex- provides space for movement right outside of the sanctuary. The worship service can still be seen and heard.
- Fireside Room - Near the top of the staircase, on the same level as the sanctuary. This space provides comfortable seating where the worship service can still be heard.
- Youth Room - The Youth room is located on the lowest level of the church and will contain a "quiet corner" with soft lighting and no worship sounds.

Sources: Mailloux Z & Smith Roley S. Sensory Integration Development and Early Signs of Difficulties. July 2013

Valley of Peace Lutheran Church
January 4, 2026
10:15 a.m.

Welcome to Worship.

Just a few things to note as you prepare to worship.

*You are invited to participate in worship by reading the **BOLD** print.*

When you see +, please stand in body or in spirit.

*ELW is the red hymnal and ACS is the purple hymnal,
both located in the bottom of the pew in front of you.*

If you need any assistance please ask an usher. They are happy to help.

GATHERING MUSIC

Voluntary in G

by Henry Heron

WORDS OF WELCOME

PRELUDE

Andante

by Ch. H. Rinck

+CALL TO WORSHIP

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

On this Epiphany Sunday, we gather to welcome the Light who still breaks into the world.

We come to see the Light that nothing can overcome.

The Word became flesh and lived among us, full of grace and truth,
revealing God's heart for all of creation.

**We open our eyes to the glory of Christ, shining with hope for every people
and every place.**

Come, let us follow the Light that leads us, guides us, and renews us.

We worship with wonder and gratitude, for the Light has come and dwells among us.

Amen.

+OPENING HYMN

Red ELW #314 *Arise, Your Light Has Come*

++CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, Wonderful Counselor, Mighty Savior,
Prince of Peace. **Amen.**

Trusting in God's steadfast love and faithfulness, let us confess our sin.

Brief silence for personal reflection.

Reconciling God, we yearn for your presence to transform our grief, pain, and despair. We
confess that we have not always prepared room in our hearts for your love; we have not
always recognized your presence among us; we have not always embraced your message of
peace. We cry out, weary with the burden of violence, oppression, and fear. Be born in us
today and teach us to sing the joyful song of your salvation. **Amen.**

God's grace upon grace flows over you. +Christ's presence redeems the whole
creation. Your sins are forgiven. Let the earth rejoice and be glad! **Amen.**

314

Arise, Your Light Has Come!

1 A - rise, your light has come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;
 2 A - rise, your light has come! Fling wide the pris - on door;
 3 A - rise, your light has come! All you in sor - row born,
 4 A - rise, your light has come! The moun - tains burst in song!

show forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day.
 pro - claim the cap - tive's lib - er - ty, good tid - ings to the poor.
 bind up the bro - ken - heart - ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.
 Rise up like ea - gles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947
 Music: William H. Walter, 1825–1893
 Text © 1992 GIA Publications, Inc.

FESTAL SONG
 SM

315

How Good, Lord, to Be Here!

1 How good, Lord, to be here! Your glo - ry fills the night;
 2 How good, Lord, to be here, your beau - ty to be - hold
 3 Ful - fill - er of the past and hope of things to be,
 4 Be - fore we taste of death, we see your king - dom come;
 5 How good, Lord, to be here! Yet we may not re - main;

Text: Joseph A. Robinson, 1858–1933, alt.
 Music: W. Mercer, *The Church Psalter and Hymn Book*, 1854

POTSDAM
 SM

+GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

+PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

FAITH MOMENT

SCRIPTURE READING.....John 1:1-18

Before the reading: The holy gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord**

After the reading: The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

+HYMN OF THE DAY Red ELW #815 *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*

+APOSTLES' CREED

We confess our faith with the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

815 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

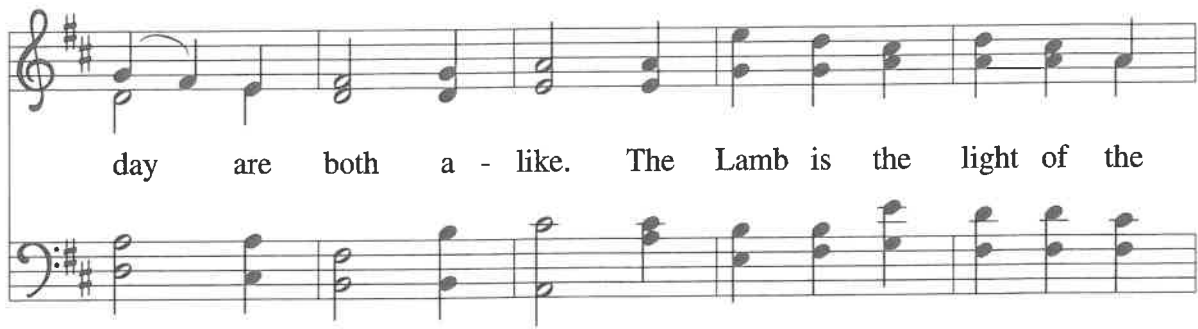
1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to
 2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to
 3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to

fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give
 look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous-ness,
 be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with

light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.
 shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.
 pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

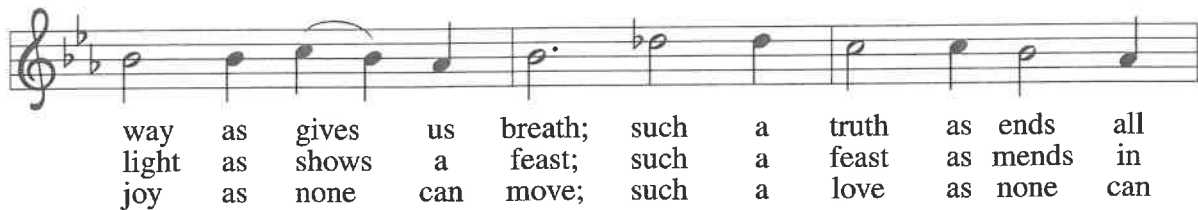
Refrain

In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life

816



PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Response— Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

+SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING SPECIAL MUSIC

Let There Be Light by McDonald & Rosser

Come and illumine our loves with Your love;
Come and redeem us from sin;
Come and be, body our Maker above,
Make Your home within.

Let there be light, let there be light;
Let there be hope to illumine the night.
Rest for the weary, peace for each home;
Marantha; Our Lord, come.

Let there be light, let there be light,
Let a new day follow each night.
Joy in Your presence, Love of Your Son;
To Your children, quickly come!

Let there be light! Come, First-born Light!
Rescue our world from darkness of night.
You who composed the bright Morning Star's song.
We, Your children, bid You: Come!

O come to my heart, Lord Jesus;
There is room in my heart for You!
There is room in my heart for You!



Electronic Giving

+OFFERTORY RESPONSE

Red ELW #512 *Let us Go Now to the Banquet* refrain

Refrain / Estribillo

Va - mos to - dos al ban - que - te, a la
Let us go now to the ban - quet, to the

me - sa de la crea - ción; ca - da cual con su ta - bu -
feast of the u - ni - verse. The ta - ble's set and a place is

re - te tie - ne un pues - to y u - na mi - sión.
wait - ing; come, ev - 'ry - one, with your gifts to share.

+OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. God of glory, **great are your wonders among us and many are the blessings you bestow. Use us and these your gifts for the needs of the world, that all the ends of the earth may rejoice in your saving grace, through Christ our Savior. Amen.**

+HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

+PREFACE

It is our duty and delight.... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

+EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Holy are you, O God, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Word made flesh, your light revealed to the world. You made yourself known not in power, but in a child born in a stable. You drew wise ones from distant lands, guided by a star, revealing a Savior for all.

At the waters of the Jordan, the heavens opened, the Spirit descended, and your voice named Jesus as Beloved. Through those same waters, you claim us and call us into lives shaped by your grace. Jesus revealed your glory in healing and welcome, in truth spoken with love, in light that shines in the shadows.

On the night in which he was betrayed....

Remembering his life, death, and resurrection, we proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine. Open our eyes to see Christ among us, and send us out, like the wise ones, to follow your light and reflect your love in the world, through Jesus Christ and by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

+LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray as Jesus first taught us:

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.**

**Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen**

+COMMUNION INVITATION

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

All are welcome to receive communion at Valley of Peace. We serve communion every Sunday by intinction. After the pastor speaks the words of distribution to online worshippers, the ushers will then invite worshippers physically present to receive communion.

If you are receiving communion by intinction, there will be bread and gluten-free wafers available. As you come forward to receive communion, a communion server will serve you your preference. Please take the bread or wafer and dip it into your preference of either wine or juice. The first chalice will contain red wine and the second chalice will contain white grape juice.

If you prefer to not receive communion by intinction there are pre-packaged communion kits with a gluten-free wafer and grape juice. You may pick this up on your way to communion.

*If you prefer not to receive communion at all,
please come forward with your hands across your chest and you will receive a blessing.
If you are unable to come forward or do not want to be visible on the live-stream,
please let an usher know and communion will be brought to you.*

+COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. Incarnate God, you are among us at this table. May we treasure this gift and ponder in our hearts the mystery of your presence. Move us to discover the wonders of your love in everyday moments of our lives, through Christ born in us. **Amen.**

+BLESSING

+SENDING HYMN Purple ACS #914 *Jesus, the Light of the World*

+DISMISSAL

**Glory to God in the highest! And peace to God's people on earth.
Go in joy. Embody God's redeeming grace. Thanks be to God! Amen!**

POSTLUDE

The Light of the World is Jesus

arr. by Mark Hayes

914

Jesus, the Light of the World

Capo 5: C
FG⁷
C⁷C
FF/C C
B^b/F FG
C

1 Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, Je-sus, the Light of the world;
 2 Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; Je-sus, the Light of the world;
 3 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Je-sus, the Light of the world;
 4 Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace! Je-sus, the Light of the world;

C
FG⁷
C⁷C
FC/G
F/CG⁷
C⁷C
F

"Glo - ry to the new-born king," Je-sus, the Light of the world.
 join the tri - umph of the skies; Je-sus, the Light of the world.
 Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord! Je-sus, the Light of the world.
 Hail the Sun of right-teous-ness! Je-sus, the Light of the world.

Refrain

C
FF/C C
B^b/F FD⁷
G⁷G
C

We'll walk in the light, beau-ti-ful light, come where the dew-drops of mer-cy are bright.

C
FF
B^bC/G
F/CG⁷
C⁷C
F

Shine all a-round us by day and by night, Je-sus, the Light of the world.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, stanzas; George D. Elderkin, 1845-1928, refrain
 Music: Traditional; arr. George D. Elderkin

WE'LL WALK IN THE LIGHT
 7 7 7 7 and refrain

915

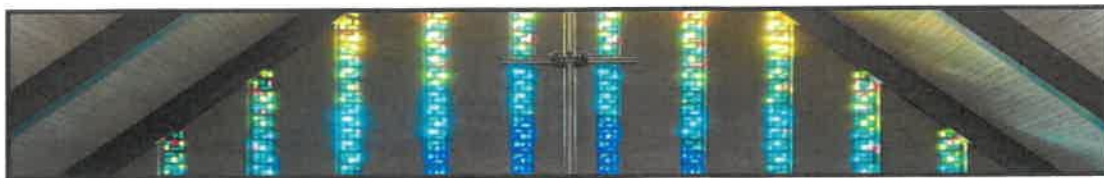
When a Star Is Shining

Capo 4: G
BC
EAm⁷
C[#]m⁷F
AC
E

1 When a star is shin-ing o - ver east - ern hills,
 2 Where the world is wait-ing for an un - known day,
 3 Lead us on, O Day-star, in the qui - et night;

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993
 Music: Bob Moore, b. 1962
 Text © 1995 GIA Publications, Inc.
 Music © 2003 GIA Publications, Inc.

WHERE THE PROMISE SHINES
 11 11 11 11 and refrain



In Worship Today

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Preacher & Presider | Pastor Ashley Osborn |
| Pianist/Organist..... | Beth Brandt |
| Special Music..... | One & Done Choir |
| Opener/Closer..... | Ruth & Jon Larson |
| Greeter..... | Diane Hinderlie |
| Welcome Center..... | Diane Hinderlie |
| Ushers..... | Pam & Wes Syverson, Shennon Jay, Dee Kendall |
| Faith Moment..... | Darcie Rodman |
| Reader..... | Dan Johnson |
| Worship Assistant..... | Darcie Rodman |
| Communion Servers..... | Ruth & Jon Larson |
| Coffee Cart..... | Nancy Rogness |
| Tech..... | Melissa Dellwo |
| Altar Care..... | Steve Collin |

The Altar Flowers are given by Leslie and Dave Gilyard in loving memory of Dave's parents, Lloyd and Ruth Gilyard.

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In Worship on Sunday, January 11, at 10:15 a.m.

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Presider/Preacher..... | Pastor Elizabeth Hermeier |
| Pianist/Organist..... | Beth Brandt |
| Opener/Closer..... | Jim Jasper |
| Greeters..... | Barb & Paul Mikelson |
| Welcome Center..... | Sally Daniels Herron |
| Ushers..... | Jim Jasper, Laurie Eaton, Gina Privratsky, Lisa Thanghe |
| Faith Moment..... | Barry Terrass |
| Reader..... | Barb Mikelson |
| Worship Assistant..... | Sara Blood |
| Communion Servers..... | Kari Roll, Mary Hovden, Diane Hinderlie, Carolyn Rask |
| Coffee Cart..... | Jim Jasper |
| Tech..... | Steve Collin |
| Altar Care..... | Steve Collin |

**For more information and a calendar of activities visit
www.valleyofpeace.org**

Valley of Peace Staff

Pastor

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 (she/her/hers)

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Interim Ministry Support Coordinator

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 (she/her/hers)

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Interim Director of Children, Youth and Family &

Pastor Ashley Osborn
 (she/her/hers)

cyf@valleyofpeace.org

Reconciling In Christ Statement

We recognize that each person is a unique creation of God and, by grace, is called a child of God, without exception and regardless of gender, race, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical or mental ability, age, station in life, or political affiliation.

