

First Sunday of Christmas

December 28, 2025 · 10 am

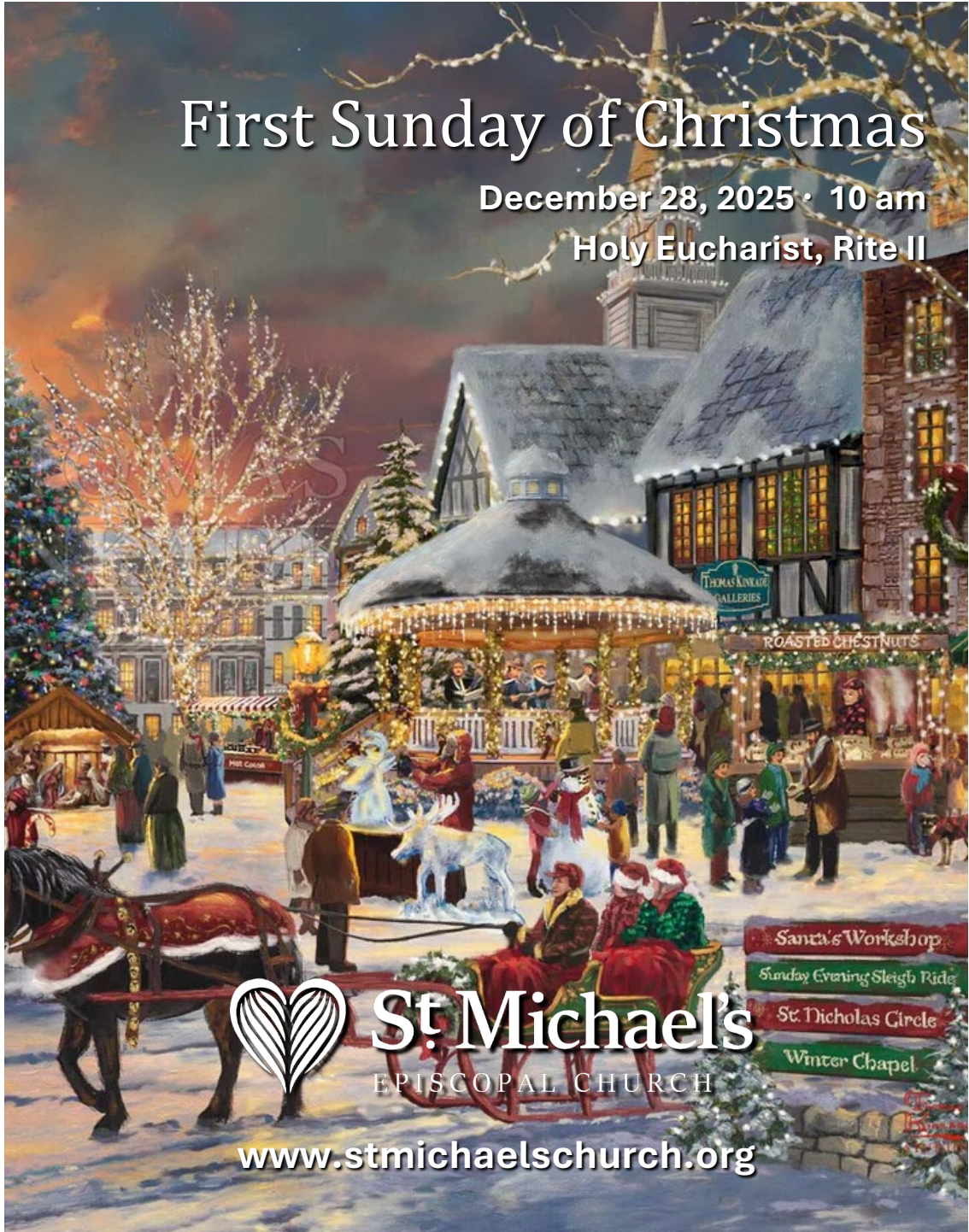
Holy Eucharist, Rite II



St. Michael's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

www.stmichaelschurch.org

- Santa's Workshop
- Sunday Evening Sleigh Ride
- St. Nicholas Circle
- Winter Chapel





Welcome to St. Michael's Episcopal Church!

We are an open, affirming and inclusive parish, worshipping in the Episcopal tradition. No matter where you're from, or what you believe, you are welcome to gather with us, sing with us, pray with us, learn with us, and receive communion with us. We do our best to make our customs accessible to all people, but if anything seems confusing, feel free ask someone for help, or simply sit and observe.

Welcome, Visitors! Tell us about yourself.

If you are visiting today, we invite you to sign the Guest Book. We would love to get to know each other! And if you're seeking baptism, confirmation, or simply a community of healing and hope to belong to, we would be delighted to join you on your journey.



Online Giving

If you wish to make a one-time or recurring donation to St. Michael's, scan the QR code, or visit stmichaelschurch.org/give. Thank you for your generosity!

Service Notes

An asterisk (*) denotes moments when the congregation is invited to stand (as able)
“Hymnal” refers to the Hymnal 1982 located throughout the Nave.

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“Sanctus” Setting: From Deutsche Messe, Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828)

“Eat This Bread”. Words & Music: Jacques Berthier; © 1984 Les Presses de Taize, admin GIA
Publications

First Lesson

Isaiah 61:10—62:3

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the LORD GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations. For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 147:13-21

Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem; *
praise your God, O Zion;
For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; *
he has blessed your children within you.
He has established peace on your borders; *
he satisfies you with the finest wheat.
He sends out his command to the earth, *
and his word runs very swiftly.
He gives snow like wool; *
he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.

He scatters his hail like bread crumbs; *
who can stand against his cold?

He sends forth his word and melts them; *
he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.

He declares his word to Jacob, *
his statutes and his judgments to Israel.

He has not done so to any other nation; *
to them he has not revealed his judgments. Hallelujah.

Second Lesson

Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian.

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

* **Sequence Song**

“Of the Father’s Love Begotten”

Hymnal # 82

* **Holy Gospel**

John 1:1-18

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father’s only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, “This was he of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.’”) From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.

The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

The Rev. Ryan Wiksell

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

* **Prayers of the People**

Daughters of the King *Service for Peace* (adapted)

DOK Intercessor: Almighty and merciful God, whose only Son came to preach peace to the nations: Hear us, we beseech you, and comfort us with your steady hand. Because we trust in you, we dare to believe:

People: Goodness is stronger than evil; Love is stronger than hate; Light is stronger than darkness; Hope is stronger than despair.

Although often lost in grief and overwhelmed by fear and anger, we hear your call to firmer faith and deeper trust. In the midst of doubt and fear you call us to be a people of prayer. Help us, O Lord, to place our confidence in you as we pray for all who have lost loved ones ... to those traumatized by memories and images they cannot forget ... to those who are paralyzed by fear ... to those who seek to do us harm.

Hear us, O Lord, and teach us to pray, for you alone are our refuge and strength.

O God, true source of wholeness and peace, in a world bearing the wounds of suffering and grief, you call us to be a people of healing. Help us to reach out to neighbors in need, to bear one another's burdens, to weep with those who weep. Give us the grace to share the comfort of Christ with all those who long for his healing touch. Surround those who have been shaken by tragedy with a sense of your present love.

Hear us, O Lord, and help us to heal, for you alone are our refuge and strength.

Strong God of love, in a world torn by violence and threatened by revenge and hatred, you call us to be a people of love. Give us strength to love even when love is most difficult. Save us from the desire for vengeance, and from the temptation to rejoice in wrongdoing. So fill us with the love of Christ that we might seek the good for all people. Do not let us be overcome by evil, but help us overcome evil with good.

Hear us, O Lord, and show us how to love, for you alone are our refuge and strength.

God of truth and light, in a world of darkness you call us to bear witness to your light. Guide us by your Spirit, that we might reflect the glory of your Son in his courage in speaking the truth, in his compassion for others, in his willingness to bear suffering, and in his refusal to return evil for evil.

Hear us, O Lord, and guide our witness, for you alone are our refuge and strength.

Almighty and ever-faithful God, in a world of despair you call us to be a people of hope. When we are cast down or dismayed, keep your Spirit alive in us. Grant us faith to look forward with confidence to that day when the whole world will be drawn into willing obedience to your reign and people will come from east and west, from north and south, to sit at one table in your kingdom.

Hear us, O Lord, and fill us with hope, for you alone are our refuge and strength.

You, O Lord, are our refuge and strength, our help in time of trouble. Forgive us, your Church, for the times we have failed in our actions or our inactions, in our words or our silence.

I invite you to add names for remembrance, spoken aloud or in the silence of our hearts.

Help us to hold our hearts and show in our lives what we proclaim with our lips:

Goodness is stronger than evil; Love is stronger than hate; Light is stronger than darkness; Hope is stronger than despair.

Celebrant: Let every heart be filled with a bright reflection of everlasting love, gratefulness, and belonging. Let every heart that offers this prayer, or holds thoughts of hope and love toward all, be filled today with peace and abundance. *Amen.*

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Welcome & Announcements

- End of Year Giving
- Parishioner Surveys
- Annual Meeting
- Announcing Candidates for Vestry
- January Third Thursday
- St. Mike's Hard Questions



CHRISTMASTIME

The Holy Communion

Offertory

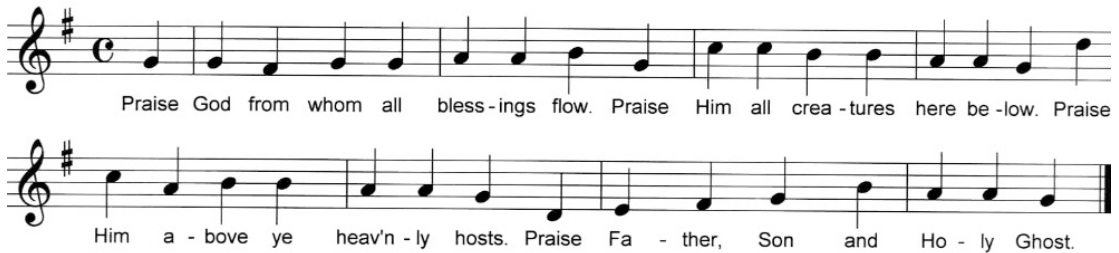
“God Rest You Merry Gentlemen”

Hymnal # 105

The Presentation

“Doxology”

Hymnal # 43 v.4



Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow. Praise Him all crea-tures here be-low. Praise
Him a-bove ye heav'n-ly hosts. Praise Fa-ther, Son and Ho-ly Ghost.

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

Hymnal # S-120

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Celebrant: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

“Holy, Holy, Holy Lord”

Hymnal # S-130

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and
might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
power and might, hea - ven and earth are full,
full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is
he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na
in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Celebrant: We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

All: We remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory.

Celebrant: And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with St. Michael, the Archangel, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus

Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *AMEN.*

* **The Lord's Prayer**

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ taught us, we are bold to say,

All 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, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

* **The Breaking of the Bread**



Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.



Communion Notes: Communion is offered in two kinds: bread and wine. One may receive the bread alone, dip it into the wine, or drink from the chalice after consuming the bread. Sealed, pre-packaged containers of bread and wine are available. Gluten-free bread may be requested by crossing one's hands palms-down. All manners of reception are valid, and all are welcome to come forward to receive Communion or a blessing.

Communion Music

"In the Bleak Mid-Winter"

Hymnal # 112

Celebrant Let us pray.

All Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

* Closing Hymn

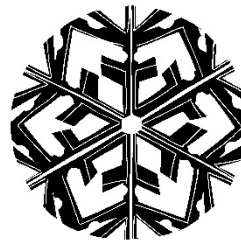
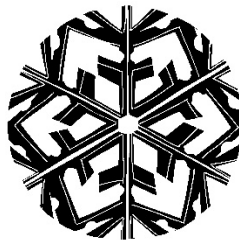
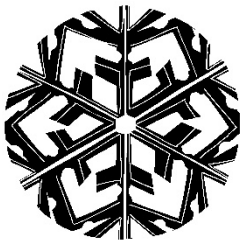
"Go Tell it on the Mountain"

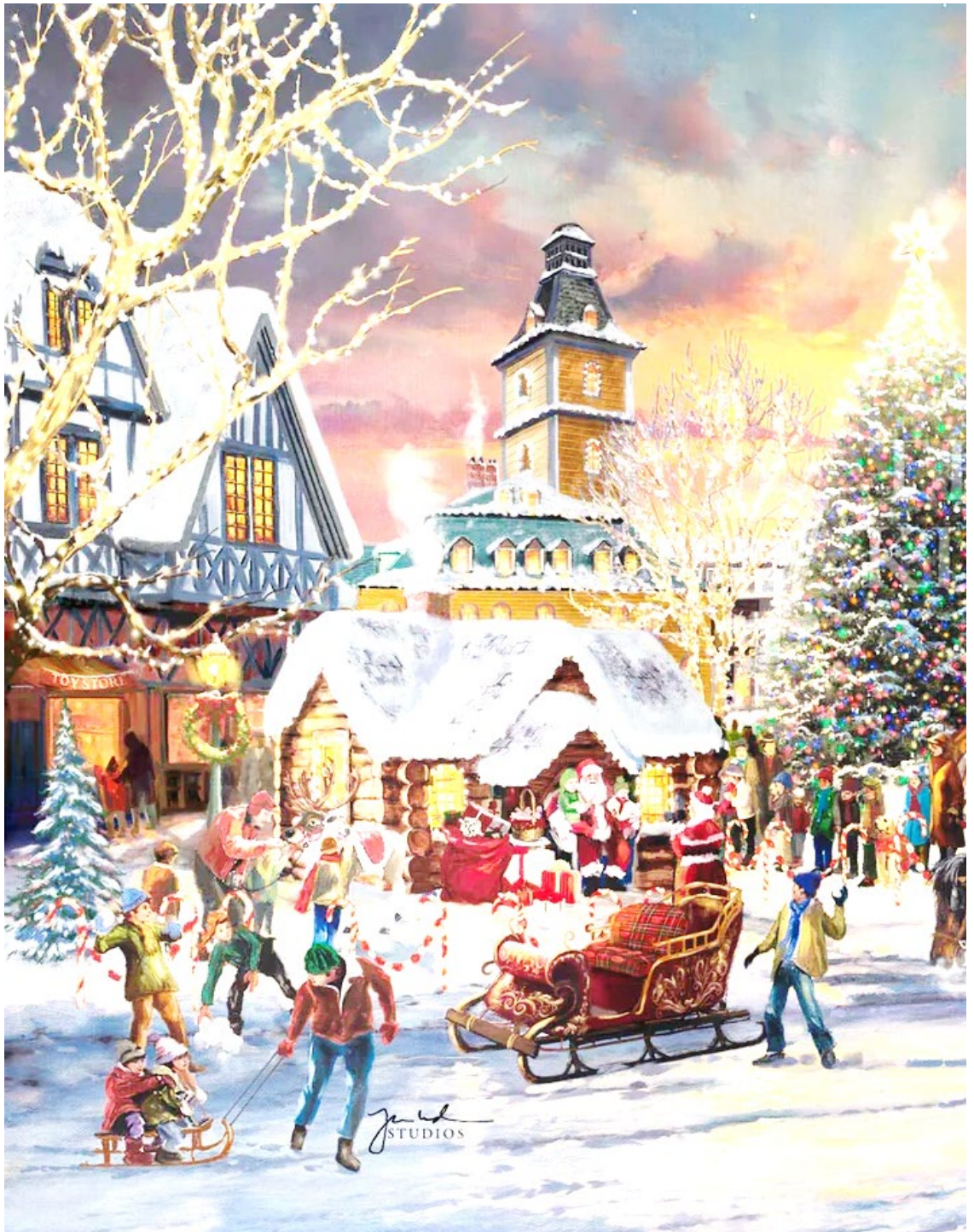
Hymnal # 99

* Dismissal

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia!

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!





John
STUDIOS