

Sanctuary

THERE IS NO ROOM AT THE INN

ROOM FOR ALL

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7
ROOM IN YOUR HEART



LET US KNOW YOU'RE HERE

Please fill out a connection card online by scanning the QR code to the left & you will be directed to the sign-in page, or by going to: hamlinechurch.org/here

PRELUDE

Sheep May Safely Graze

Johann Sebastian Bach
Eileen Miller, Organist

WELCOME

Rev. Heather Grantham, Associate Pastor of Spiritual Formation

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Jeff Dreisbach

Prepare the way of the Lord!

We come, ready to clear the clutter of our minds and hearts and make room.

In the wilderness, a voice cries out.

We hear the call to repent, to release what weighs us down.

Make room in your hearts, for Christ is drawing near.

Come, Lord Jesus, and dwell among us.

SING: Shine a candle into the darkness

Breathe new peace into our lives.

Wind your blessed love around us

Till the day when Christ arrives.

* ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

Carey Morrison & Jared Pennoyer, and Sabin

Today, we light the candle of Peace. God calls us to prepare the way by uncluttering our hearts and making space for Christ.

In Christ, our burdens are lifted and our paths made straight.

As we light this candle, we welcome the One who is our peace.

Come, Lord Jesus, our Peacemaker.

* CEREMONIAL HANGING OF THE GREENS

Flint and Noah, Wreath Bearers

* HYMN 196

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

*** PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Sharon Fields, Associate Minister of Executive Operations

Prince of Peace, we confess that our lives are full of clutter. We carry grudges that weigh us down. We let divisions grow between neighbors, coworkers, and even family members. We fill our days with noise and hurry, leaving little room for your still, small voice. We resist your call to prepare the way, because preparing requires change, and change feels hard. Forgive us, O Lord. Clear a space in our hearts for your peace to dwell. Teach us to walk in your ways, to seek reconciliation, and to be peacemakers in your world. Amen.

*** SILENT CONFESSION**

*** WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

Hear the good news: Christ himself is our peace. The clutter of sin is cleared away, and the way to God is made open. In Christ, we are forgiven and set free to walk in peace.
Thanks be to God!

*** PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

The Peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**
Share a sign of peace with your neighbors by greeting them in the way most comfortable for you.

TIME FOR THE CHILD IN US ALL

Tove Trelstad-Larsen, Director of Student Ministries

We invite children to come up to the chancel steps for a special message. After the history theater performance, children in Prek-3rd Grade can join staff and volunteers to rehearse for the Christmas Pageant. They will be back for Communion! Childcare is available for ages 5 and under in the Frolic Room.

HISTORY THEATER: COMMEMORATION OF THE 1925 FIRE

*Written by: Jane McClure, Church Historian and Ruby
Readers: Paul Wilcox, Stephanie Engebrecht, Sarah Hagge, and Douglas Gardner
Directed by: Lynn Mullin*

Please be aware: the play includes loud moments, including people shouting 'fire!'

SCRIPTURE

Mark 1:1-8

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ.
As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,
"See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way,
the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
'Prepare the way of the Lord;
make his paths straight,'

So John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And the whole Judean region and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him and were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the strap of his sandals. I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

The word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

Room In Your Heart

Rev. Mariah Furness Tollgaard, Senior Pastor

SONG

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

German, harm. M. Praetorius
Chancel Choir

HOLY COMMUNION

Rev. Tollgaard and Rev. Grantham

May God be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to God.
Let us give thanks to the God we love.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Holy, holy, holy Lord; God of power and God of might.
Holy, holy, holy, Lord; God of power and God of might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Repeat after Leader
In remembrance of all you have done for us, we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

Amen, Amen,
Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our God, 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. Amen.

RECEIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

This is God's table, and everyone without exception may have communion. There are two stations at the front, one in the back, and one for the east transept. Please raise your hand if you'd like to be served at your pew. A gluten free station is available in the front, just indicate that you would like gluten free. If you choose, you may kneel at the rail for prayer.

You're invited to place your offering in the offering boxes or give online during communion.

COMMUNION MUSIC & SILENT PRAYER

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Cynthia Dobrinski
Handbell Choir

ANNOUNCEMENTS

* HYMN 207 Prepare the Way of the Lord

* SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE Jesu, Joy of Our Desiring Johann Sebastian Bach

You are welcome to remain seated or to depart during the postlude.
Please join us after worship downstairs in the community room for coffee and refreshments.

HANGING OF THE GREENS!

Stay after worship for our annual tradition of decorating our beautiful sanctuary for Christmas.
All ages and abilities are welcome!

THIS WEEK AT HAMLINE CHURCH



SACRED STUDIO

Children in prek-5th grade can join staff and volunteers for a quick Christmas Pageant Rehearsal after the history theater and will return to their families for Communion.

Are children welcome here?

Yes! Children are always welcome in worship. Coloring and reading supplies are available near the Commons doors, and in the narthex. We have a quieter space available to all in the chapel off the narthex.

Where is the nursery?

Children 5 and under are welcome in the nursery, located in Room 8 in the upstairs Sunday school hallway. Our service is streamed in the nursery, if you would like to join your child. Nursing spaces include: the rocking chairs in the sanctuary, the Frolic room 8, or the chapel off the narthex.

Children's Christmas Pageant

Next Sunday, December 14 at 10:00am
We hope you'll join us for this year's Christmas pageant on December 14. Our children have the opportunity to tell the incredible story of Jesus coming into the world on this special Sunday in a number of ways. Contact Tove for more information (ttrelstad-larsen@hamlinechurch.org).

SUN	10:00AM	WORSHIP - HANGING OF THE GREENS
	11:00AM	COFFEE HOUR Community Room HANGING OF THE GREENS! YOUTH UKULELE BAND Room 7
	11:15AM	GRIEF & LOSS SUPPORT GROUP Green Room
	11:30AM	YOUTH GROUP SERVICE: HANGING OF THE GREENS Youth Room
	4:00PM	MUSIC & ARTS: HAMLINE UNIVERSITY A CAPPELLA WINTER CONCERT
WED	12:30PM	CENTERING PRAYER via text message Contact Julie Dahlke (jlddvm@usfamily.net)
	1:00PM	MAHJONG Room 7
	4:00PM	HANDBELL CHOIR REHEARSAL
	5:30PM	FREE WEDNESDAY COMMUNITY DINNER Community Room
	6:00PM	ADVENT SMALL GROUP & ART WORKSHOP Room 7
	7:00PM	HOUSE BAND REHEARSAL CHANCEL CHOIR REHEARSAL
SAT	9:00AM	CHRISTMAS PAGEANT REHEARSAL
	1:00PM	COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CAROLING Commons
NEXT SUN	8:55AM	CENTERING PRAYER Chapel
	9:00AM	FAITH AND FELLOWSHIP BOOK GROUP Parlor
	9:15AM	CENTERING PRAYER via text message (above)
	10:00AM	WORSHIP - CHRISTMAS PAGEANT
	11:00AM	COFFEE HOUR Community Room UMW COOKIE WALK Community Room YOUTH UKULELE BAND Room 7
	11:30AM	CONFIRMATION Youth Room
	4:30PM	FICTION AND FELLOWSHIP Green Room

HAMLINE UNIVERSITY A CAPPELLA CHOIR WINTER CONCERT

Today at 4:00pm in the Sanctuary
Hamline University's A Cappella Choir presents seasonal music of joy and delight featuring selections from Vivaldi's Gloria performed by the choir and Hamline's orchestra. Dr. Shekela Wanyama and Dr. Yali You, conductors. *Freewill offering.*

CHRISTMAS EVE POINSETTIAS

Orders Due Tomorrow, Monday, December 8
You're invited to purchase a poinsettia to decorate the Sanctuary on Christmas Eve. Head to Sign Up Central (hamlinechurch.org/sign-up/central) to order! Please indicate if your poinsettias are given in honor or memory of a loved one. You may then pick up your flower after worship on Christmas Eve. On the form, once completed, copy and paste the link to our Hamline Church giving form in Realm to make a payment or pay in the church office. Please contact the church office with questions (651-645-0667).

FREE WEDNESDAY COMMUNITY DINNER

Wednesdays, December 10 and 17, 5:30pm - 7:00pm
Hamline Church is extending the table of our Wednesday night suppers to include our friends, neighbors, and anyone looking for a warm smile, a listening ear, and a hot meal. Participate by contributing food, helping host, and attending these meals. To learn more about how you can help, visit Sign Up Central: hamlinechurch.org/sign-up-central/

BLUE CHRISTMAS: A SERVICE OF COMFORT AND HOPE

Monday, December 15 at 6:00pm
Join folks in the Hamline Church community for this contemplative worship of healing and wholeness for those who mourn and grieve (and hold all the emotions) during this holiday season. We will gather to share one another's burdens as we walk to the vulnerable Christ Child in the manger. Contact Pastor Heather with questions (hgrantham@hamlinechurch.org).

A LITTLE BIT ABOUT WORSHIP TODAY...

When do I stand?

* Please stand if you are able for titles marked with a star *

When do I speak?

Words in "Bold" print are for everyone.

Where is this hymn?

Hymns with 2 or 3 numbers are in the hard cover UMC hymnal. Hymns with 4 numbers are in the soft-cover *The Faith We Sing* hymnal.

Where is the restroom?

There are restrooms just through the commons at the top of the stairs. There are more restrooms downstairs below the front doors, including an all gender restroom.

A quiet low sensory space is available to all in the chapel off the narthex.



Assistive listening devices are available for use, or you can connect through wifi and use your own hearing aid or headset. Please see a greeter if you need assistance.

WAYS TO GIVE

Your offering helps support the mission and ministry of Hamline Church. There are many ways to make your contribution:

- Place offerings in the baskets after worship.
- Online giving: hamlinechurch.org/give (scan the QR code!)
- Checks can be mailed to the church.
- Text to Give: Text HamlineChurch1514G\$100 to 73256. Give in any increment you choose by entering the amount after the \$.

Thank you for your generosity!

Questions? Please visit hamlinechurch.org/give



HAMLINE CHURCH

UNITED METHODIST

1514 Englewood Avenue | Saint Paul, MN 55104



All are welcome | hamlinechurch.org | 651.645.0667