

# Countryside Community Church WORSHIP



*Stay With Me* © T. Denise Anderson  
Inspired by Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23 ~ [sanctifiedarts.org](http://sanctifiedarts.org)

## December 28, 2025

† Indicates those places where those who are able are invited to stand.  
Text in **bold** indicates places where the congregation is invited to join in response.

## *Gathering*

**COMMUNITY TIME (9:55)**

Adam Witte

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME**

**OPENING HYMN**

Hymn #148 *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

**FIRST READING**

Psalm 31:19-24

**HYMN OF RESPONSE**

Hymn #125 *Come, O Long-Expected Jesus*

**MEDITATION**

**SECOND READING**

Matthew 2:1-2, 9-12

**HYMN OF RESPONSE**

Hymn #172 *We Three Kings*

**THIRD READING**

Isaiah 11:6-9

**HYMN OF RESPONSE**

Hymn #153 *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear*

**†PASSING OF THE PEACE**

One: The Peace of God be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

All are invited to share signs of peace and Christmas greetings with one another.

**FOURTH READING**

Luke 2:8-20

**HYMN OF RESPONSE**

Hymn #151 *The First Noel*

**MEDITATION**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

## HYMN OF RESPONSE

*Hymn #164 Good Christian Friends, Rejoice!*

## SHARING OUR GIFTS

*Please find the QR code on the back of your bulletin or at the Spotlight table in the narthex for more information about CIRA, Center for Immigrant and Refugee Advancement, Countryside's chosen community partner for December. You can also contribute to Countryside's annual mission spending plan (budget) by scanning the QR code on the back of your bulletin (also found at the spotlight table.) Countryside is 100% dependent on member giving to support the mission and ministries of our church. We are grateful for all the ways you give to sustain our vibrant and welcoming community!*

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Unison)

**Thank you, God of love, for the promise of this season. We are grateful for the generosity inspired in us by Christ's coming into the world. May these gifts represent a new spirit of joyous sharing among us, for the sake of all your children everywhere. Amen.**

## MEDITATION

## FIFTH READING

1 John 4:9-17

## MUSICAL RESPONSE

*Of Eternal Love Begotten*

Adam Witte

## SIXTH READING

Isaiah 40:3-5

## MEDITATION

## HYMN OF RESPONSE

*Hymn #147 Away In A Manger*

## SEVENTH READING

John 1:1-5

## FINAL MEDITATION

## †SENDING HYMN

*Hymn #143 Joy To The World*

**POSTLUDE**

Alex Ritter, organ and piano - Adam Witte, baritone

**Sunday Flowers This Week**

Flowers were given today by Susie Owens.

*Joys & Concerns*

*Join us as we pray for our congregation members and their loved ones who are on our Joys and Concerns list every week on Thursdays at 9 am in the Sanctuary. If you have someone who would benefit from prayer, want to share a joy or be included on the bulletin list, and /or be included on Countryside's Prayer Chain, contact the church office at 402.391.0350 or email [office@countrysideucc.org](mailto:office@countrysideucc.org).*

***Prayers of Gratitude for the following Joys:***

As 2025 comes to a close, we give thanks for quiet moments of connection with family and for the resilience we've found amid unexpected change. As we move into 2026, we commit to cultivating presence—perhaps through daily walks or journaling—and to nurturing our creativity by releasing the need for perfection. In the New Year, each sunrise offers a fresh invitation to embrace both joy and inevitable challenges with open arms.

***Please join in praying for the following new and ongoing concerns:***

Prayers for **Tim Ekberg and Margaret Hayford**. Tim is having deep brain stimulator surgeries. Margaret had a cervical spinal fusion.

Prayers for **Derek (Sarah) Miller**. Derek was recently diagnosed with testicular cancer. He had surgery on December 19. A treatment plan will be developed after the biopsy report comes back. We pray for strength and comfort during this difficult time.

**2025 Contribution Deadline**

To make sure your 2025 gifts are tax-deductible, please have your contributions postmarked or received at the church office by December 31, 2025. Remember, the date on your check isn't enough—timing matters for IRS purposes.

Give a little, help a lot! Scan the QR code to support CIRA and Countryside's mission. Your generosity keeps our community warm, welcoming, and full of life!

