December 28, 2025 1st Sunday after Christmas Day



Mission Statement: To Bring People to Christ And Nurture Them in the Faith



Pastor: Rob Bacon

Lay Speaker: Carol Bacon Rev. Jerry Swanberg, Emeritus 501 2nd Street, PO Box 307

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Maxwell Methodist Church

December 28, 2025 – 1st Sunday after Christmas Day

Pastor: Robert Bacon; Lay Speaker: Carol Bacon

Pianist: Deb Mitchell
*Please stand if able

Prelude..... Deb Mitchell

Welcome/Announcements

We Worship as We Rejoice

Praise Team

We Worship as We Gather

*Call to Worship

Leader: Come, let us recount the gracious deeds of the Lord,

The steadfast God, has shown, from generation to generation.

People: The Lord has not abandoned us-

He became our Savior, entering our Sorrow and hearing our burdens.

Leader: Praise the Lord from the Heavens!

Praise Him, sun and moon!
Praise Him, all you shining stars!

People: Let the kings of the earth and all peoples,

Young and old together, lift their voices in praise!

Leader: For in Jesus Christ, God has drawn near –

Not ashamed to call us brothers and sisters But walking with us in joy and in suffering.

People: We come to worship the one who delivers,

Redeems and who leads us home from Egypt.

ALL: Glory to God in the highest! Let heaven and earth rejoice -

Christ is born, and Christ is with us!

We Worship in Prayer

^{*}Lord Jesus, though You came to share our humanity and carry our sorrow, we confess that we have turned from Your way. We have sought comfort over compassion, ignored suffering around us, and failed to praise You in all seasons. Forgive us for the ways we have resisted Your love and neglected Your call. By Your mercy, draw us near again, and help us walk in the light of Your redeeming grace. We pray this in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

We Worship in Song

We Worship Together in Belief

*The Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,

Creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,

Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

and born of the Virgin Mary.

He 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,

And is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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.

We Worship by Hearing the Word

Scriptures (NIV): Isaiah 63:7-9, Psalm 148, Hebrews 2:1-18, Matthew 2:13-23

Old Testament: Isaiah 63:7-9

⁷I will tell of the kindnesses of the LORD,

the deeds for which he is to be praised,

according to all the LORD has done for us-

ves, the many good things

he has done for Israel,

according to his compassion and many kindnesses.

⁸He said, "Surely they are my people,

children who will be true to me";

and so he became their Savior.

⁹ In all their distress he too was distressed,

and the angel of his presence saved them.

In his love and mercy he redeemed them;

he lifted them up and carried them

all the days of old.

¹ Praise the LORD.

Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights above.

² Praise him, all his angels;

praise him, all his heavenly hosts.

³ Praise him, sun and moon;

praise him, all you shining stars.

⁴ Praise him, you highest heavens and you waters above the skies.

⁵ Let them praise the name of the LORD,

for at his command they were created,

⁶ and he established them for ever and ever—

he issued a decree that will never pass away.

⁷ Praise the LORD from the earth,

you great sea creatures and all ocean depths,

8 lightning and hail, snow and clouds, stormy winds that do his bidding,

⁹ you mountains and all hills,

fruit trees and all cedars,

¹⁰ wild animals and all cattle,

small creatures and flying birds,

¹¹ kings of the earth and all nations,

you princes and all rulers on earth,

¹² young men and women,

old men and children.

¹³ Let them praise the name of the LORD,

for his name alone is exalted;

his splendor is above the earth and the heavens.

¹⁴ And he has raised up for his people a horn,

the praise of all his faithful servants,

of Israel, the people close to his heart.

Praise the LORD.

New Testament: Hebrews 2:1-18 Warning to Pay Attention

We must pay the most careful attention, therefore, to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away. ² For since the message spoken through angels was binding, and every violation and disobedience received its just punishment, ³ how shall we escape if we ignore so great a salvation? This salvation, which was first announced by the Lord, was confirmed to us by those who heard him. ⁴ God also testified to it by signs, wonders and various miracles, and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will.

Jesus Made Fully Human

⁵ It is not to angels that he has subjected the world to come, about which we are speaking. ⁶ But there is a place where someone has testified:

"What is mankind that you are mindful of them,

a son of man that you care for him?

⁷You made them a little lower than the angels; you crowned them with glory and honor

8 and put everything under their feet."

In putting everything under them, God left nothing that is not subject to them. Yet at present we do not see everything subject to them. ⁹ But we do see Jesus, who was made lower than the angels for a little while, now crowned with glory and honor because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

¹⁰ In bringing many sons and daughters to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through what he suffered. ¹¹ Both the one who makes people holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So, Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters. ¹² He says,

"I will declare your name to my brothers and sisters;

in the assembly I will sing your praises."

¹³ And again,

"I will put my trust in him."

And again he says,

"Here am I, and the children God has given me."

¹⁴ Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil— ¹⁵ and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. ¹⁶ For surely it is not angels he helps, but Abraham's descendants. ¹⁷ For this reason he had to be made like them, fully human in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸ Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

*The Gospel: Matthew 2:13-23 The Escape to Egypt

¹³ When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. "Get up," he said, "take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him."

¹⁴ So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, ¹⁵ where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: "Out of Egypt I called my son."

¹⁶ When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had

learned from the Magi. 17 Then what was said through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled:

¹⁸ "A voice is heard in Ramah,

weeping and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because they are no more."

The Return to Nazareth

 19 After Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt 20 and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who were trying to take the child's life are dead."

²¹ So he got up, took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. ²² But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning in Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. Having been warned in a dream, he withdrew to the district of Galilee, ²³ and he went and lived in a town called Nazareth. So was fulfilled what was said through the prophets, that he would be called a Nazarene.

We Worship in Prayer

Praises and Requests
Silent Prayer / Pastoral Prayer / The Lord's Prayer

We Worship in Giving

Offering plates are at both doors as you enter or leave and will not be passed.

*Doxology / *Offertory Prayer

We Worship in Song

We Worship in Learning the Word

We Worship in Song

*Hymn........ "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"...... Hymnal #194

Benediction

<u>Announcements</u>

- Pastor's Office Hours: By appointment. Rob 515-460-8885; Carol 515-460-8969
- ➤ <u>Bulletin Announcements</u>: Please forward bulletin announcements to <u>office@maxwellmc.org</u> by Wednesday.
- Fellowship Sign-up: Please sign up to bring refreshments for fellowship time.
- > **SNNOW**: Wednesday from 6:00 7:30 pm
- > January 8th, 2026, @ 6:30pm: Bible Babes Bible Study.