



Dec. 15, 2024
3rd Sunday of Advent
Christmas Program

Faith Lutheran Church is a family of God built on love: worshiping, welcoming, learning, and serving in Christ's name. All are welcome! Thank you for worshiping with us.

Sunday Worship 9:30 am, Setting 3 Liturgy, ELW p.203
ELW refers to the red hymnal.

*Please write **prayer requests** on the clipboard located on the table in the Narthex. There will also be an opportunity to offer up request aloud or in the silence of your hearts during the Prayers of Intercession.*

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

ELW p.94

Please stand.

P: In the name of the Father,
and of the ✝ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown,

things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

Please be seated.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Advent Candle Lighting Liturgy 2024 BY LISA HANCOCK

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR C

December 15, 2024

Reader One: No matter what troubles overwhelm us today, Isaiah reminds us that in all of our preparation and passionate pursuit of God's coming kin-dom, we must not forget that God's salvation has come and is coming.

“With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation” (Isaiah 12:3). With joy you will remember that God’s salvation is already present among us.

Congregation: Faced with the troubles and the suffering of the world, we choose to live in joyful presence to God and one another. We will not turn away from the pain and the hurt in our world, and we will not stop rejoicing in God, whose salvation fills us to overflowing that God’s love might flow through us and flood our troubled world with hope, peace, and joy.

Reader Two: We light this candle of joy as a sign of our commitment to be present to ourselves, our friends, our families, and our neighbors that in sharing our vulnerable lives we might share in the glorious joy of God’s salvation together.

*Light the **third (pink/rose) candle** of the Advent wreath.*

1st Sunday in Advent: verse 1

2nd Sunday in Advent: verses 1-2

3rd Sunday in Advent: verses 1-3

4th Sunday in Advent: verses 1-4

“Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah” ELW #240

**1 Light one candle to watch for Messiah:
let the light banish darkness.
He shall bring salvation to Israel,**

God fulfills the promise.

2 Light two candles to watch for Messiah:

let the light banish darkness.

**He shall feed the flock like a shepherd,
gently lead them homeward.**

3 Light three candles to watch for Messiah:

let the light banish darkness.

**Lift your heads and lift high the gateway
for the King of glory.**

4 Light four candles to watch for Messiah:

let the light banish darkness.

**He is coming, tell the glad tidings.
Let your lights be shining!**

GATHERING SONG

Please stand.

“Fling Wide the Door”

ELW #259

1 Fling wide the door, unbar the gate;
the King of glory comes in state;
the Lord of lords and King of kings,
the Savior of the world who brings
his great salvation to the earth.
So raise a shout of holy mirth
and praise our God and Lord,
Creator, Spirit, Word.

2 He is the rock of our belief,
the heart of mercy's gentle self.
His kingly crown is holiness;
his scepter is his loveliness;
he brings our sorrows to an end.
Now gladly praise our king and friend,
and worship him with song
for saving us from wrong.

3 Oh, happy towns and blessed lands
that live by their true king's commands.
And blessed be the hearts he rules,
the humble places where he dwells.
He is the rightful Son of bliss
who fills our lives and makes us his,
creator of the world,
our only strength for good.

4 Come, Lord, our Savior, Jesus Christ;
our hearts are open wide in trust.
Oh, show us now your lovely grace,
upon our sorrows shine your face,
and let your Holy Spirit guide
our journey in your grace so wide.
We praise your holy name,
from age to age the same!

GREETING

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

KYRIE

ELW p.138

A: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

A: For the peace from above,
and for our salvation,
let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

A: For the peace of the whole world,
for the well-being of the Church of God,
and for the unity of all,
let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

A: For this holy house,
and for all who offer here their worship and
praise,
let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

A: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

A: The lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

A: Let us pray. ...

C: Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the preaching of John, that, rejoicing in your salvation, we may bring forth the fruits of repentance; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

~~**FIRST READING**~~ **CHRISTMAS PROGRAM**

~~**PSALM**~~

~~**SECOND READING**~~

~~*Response after the readings.*~~

~~L: The word of the Lord.~~

~~C: Thanks be to God.~~

~~KIDS' TIME~~

~~GOSPEL ACCLIMATION~~ _____ ELW p.142

~~*Please stand.*~~

~~Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?~~

~~You have the words of eternal life.~~

~~Alleluia. Alleluia.~~

~~GOSPEL~~ _____ Luke 3:1-6

~~P: The holy gospel according to St. Luke, the 3rd
-chapter.~~

~~C: Glory to you, O Lord.~~

~~*Response after the reading.*~~

~~P: The gospel of the Lord.~~

~~C: Praise to you, O Christ.~~

~~*Please be seated.*~~

~~SERMON~~ **END OF CHRISTMAS PROGRAM**

~~HYMN OF THE DAY~~

~~*Please stand.*~~

“Your Little Ones, Dear Lord”

ELW #286

1 Your little ones, dear Lord, are we,
and come your lowly bed to see;
enlighten ev'ry soul and mind,

that we the way to you may find.

2 With songs we hasten you to greet,
and kiss the ground before your feet.
Oh, blessed hour, oh, sweetest night
that gave you birth, our soul's delight.

3 Oh, draw us wholly to you, Lord,
and to us all your grace accord;
true faith and love to us impart,
that we may hold you in our heart.

4 Until at last we too proclaim,
with all your saints, your glorious name;
in paradise our songs renew,
and praise you as the angels do.

CREED

Nicene Creed

ELW p.104

A: Let us profess our faith together in the words of
the Nicene creed.

**C: 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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin
Mary and became truly human.**

**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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and
glorified,**

who 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.**

Please be seated.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: As we prepare for Emmanuel, God-with-us, let us pray for all people and places that long for God's presence.

A brief silence.

God who reforms, fill your church with courage to do your will. Empower your people in taking risks that bear fruit. Raise up leaders who will proclaim the good news. Lord, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

God who creates, you hold in balance diverse ecosystems. Encourage efforts to protect wild lands from devastation. Care for animals and people in the path of destructive fires, storms, and other disasters (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

God who leads, this world cries out for true justice. Guide legislatures, judges, and lawyers in actions steeped in love and restoration. Increase the desire to advocate for all who are confronted with discrimination and oppression based on race, gender, sexuality, class, or age. Lord, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

God who embraces, help us notice the places where your people are hurting or sick. (*We pray especially for . . . **and those we name aloud or in the silence of our hearts***) Show your compassion and remember your people in love. Lord, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

God who abides, you dwell among the people of this congregation. Deepen our relationships with one another, and make us aware of the diverse talents and gifts present here (*specific ministries may be named*). Lord, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God who consoles, we thank you for the time we have had with loved ones who have died. Comfort us with the promise of everlasting life in you. Lord, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Savior of the nations, come, and receive these prayers and the pleas of our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

Please share the peace of Christ.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING SPECIAL MUSIC BY FLC CHOIR- DURING COLLECTION

Please stand for the offering song.

1st Sunday in Advent: verse 1 (sing 2 times)

2nd Sunday in Advent: verse 2 (sing 2 times)

3rd Sunday in Advent: verse 3 (sing 2 times)

4th Sunday in Advent: verse 4 (sing 2 times)

“He Came Down”

ELW #253

- 1 He came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have love;
hallelujah forevermore.**
- 2 He came down that we may have light;
he came down that we may have light;
he came down that we may have light;
hallelujah forevermore.**
- 3 He came down that we may have peace;
he came down that we may have peace;
he came down that we may have peace;
hallelujah forevermore.**

**4 He came down that we may have joy;
he came down that we may have joy;
he came down that we may have joy;
hallelujah forevermore.**

OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray.

C: God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives.

Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. Amen

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Please be seated.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, ...

... we praise your name and join their unending

hymn:

ELW p.144

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of pow'r and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the
highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of
the Lord.**

Hosanna in the highest.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us
to pray.**

**C: 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**

P: Taste and see that the Lord is good.

COMMUNION

ELW p.146

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
grant us peace.**

COMMUNION SONG(S)

SPECIAL MUSIC/ACCOMPANIST CHOICE

COMMUNION BLESSING

Please stand.

P: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
nourish your soul and fill you with his grace now
and forever!

C: Amen

COMMUNION CANTICLE

“Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise”

ELW #207

Thankful hearts and voices raise;
tell ev'ryone what God has done.
Let ev'ryone who seeks the Lord rejoice
and bear the name of Christ.
Send us with your promises
and lead your people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Let us pray.

C: God for whom we wait, in this meal you give us
a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be
fed with good things. Send us forth to make
known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness
of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and
Lord. Amen

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please be seated.

BLESSING

Please stand.

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you
peace.

C: Amen

SENDING SONG

“Go Tell It on the Mountain”

ELW #290

Refrain

Go tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and ev'rywhere;
go tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born!

1 While shepherds kept their watching
o'er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens
there shone a holy light. *Refrain*

2 The shepherds feared and trembled
when, lo, above the earth
rang out the angel chorus
that hailed our Savior's birth. *Refrain*

3 Down in a lonely manger
the humble Christ was born;
and God sent us salvation

that blessed Christmas morn. *Refrain*

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Share the good news.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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