

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.138 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

Please stand.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,

our creator,

our protector,

our wellspring of life.

C: Amen

P: Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin. *Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Merciful God,

C: you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp.

Show us your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.

P: God proclaims these words of assurance:
"Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.
I have called you by name. You are mine."
In + Christ, you are forgiven.
In the Spirit, you are made free.
Refreshed by the waters of mercy,
live anew as beloved children of God.
C: Amen

GATHERING SONG

"Rise, Shine, You People!" ELW #665
1 Rise, shine, you people! Christ the Lord has entered our human story; God in him is centered.
He comes to us, by death and sin surrounded, with grace unbounded.

2 See how he sends the pow'rs of evil reeling; he brings us freedom, light and life and healing. All men and women, who by guilt are driven, now are forgiven.

- 3 Come, celebrate; your banners high unfurling, your songs and prayers against the darkness hurling.
 To all the world go out and tell the story of Jesus' glory.
- 4 Tell how the Father sent the Son to save us.
 Tell of the Son, who life and freedom gave us.
 Tell how the Spirit calls from ev'ry nation
 God's new creation.

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.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

ELW p.140

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Power, riches, wisdom and strength,

and honor, blessing, and glory are his.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

A: The lord be with you.

- C: And also with you.
- A: Let us pray. ...

C: Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do,

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.

<u>WORD</u>

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

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 31:7-14

God promises to bring Israel back to its land from the most remote parts of exile. In Zion Israel will rejoice over God's gift of food and livestock. Young women will express their joy in dancing; God will give gladness instead of sorrow.

⁷ Thus says the LORD:

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,

and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;

proclaim, give praise, and say,

"Save, O LORD, your people,

the remnant of Israel."

⁸ See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,

among them the blind and the lame,

those with child and those in labor, together;

a great company, they shall return here.

⁹ With weeping they shall come,

and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water,

in a straight path in which they shall not stumble;

for I have become a father to Israel,

and Ephraim is my firstborn.

¹⁰ Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away;

say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock."

¹¹ For the LORD has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.

¹² They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD, over the grain, the wine, and the oil,

and over the young of the flock and the herd;

their life shall become like a watered garden,

and they shall never languish again.

¹³ Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry.
I will turn their mourning into joy,

I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. ¹⁴ I will give the priests their fill of fatness,

and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty,

PSALM: 147:12-20

¹² Worship the LORDO Jerusalem; praise your God, O Zion,

- ¹³ who has strengthened the bars of your gates and has blessed your children within you.
- ¹⁴ God has established peace on your borders and satisfies you with the finest wheat.
- ¹⁵ God sends out a command to the earth, a word that runs very swiftly.
- ¹⁶ God gives snow like wool, scattering frost like ashes.
- ¹⁷ God scatters hail like bread crumbs. Who can stand against God's cold?
- ¹⁸ The LORD sends forth the word and melts them; the wind blows, and the waters flow.
- ¹⁹ God declares the word to Jacob, statutes and judgments to Israel.
- ²⁰ The LORD has not done so to any other nation; they do not know God's judgments. Hallelujah!

SECOND READING

Ephesians 1:3-14

In Jesus, all of God's plans and purposes have been made know as heaven and earth are united in Christ. Through Jesus, we have been chosen as God's children and have been promised eternal salvation.

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴ just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵ He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸ that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹ he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰ as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹ In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹² so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³ In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴ this is

the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

Response after the readings.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

KIDS' TIME

GOSPEL ACCLIMATION

Please stand.

ELW p.142

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.

GOSPEL

John 1:[1-9] 10-18

P: The holy gospel according to St. John, the 1st chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴ in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸ He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹ The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.]

¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹² But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴ 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. ¹⁵ (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.'") ¹⁶ From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷ The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ 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.

Response after the reading.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

Please stand.

"The First Noel"

ELW #300

1 The first Noel the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay; in fields where they lay, keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel! Born is the King of Israel.

2 They looked up and saw a star shining in the east beyond them far; and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night. *Refrain*

- 3 And by the light of that same star three wise men came from country far; to seek for a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went. *Refrain*
- 4 This star drew near to the northwest, o'er Bethlehem it took its rest; and there it did both stop and stay right over the place where Jesus lay. *Refrain*
- 5 Then entered in those wise men three, full rev'rently upon their knee, and offered there in his presence their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense. *Refrain*

CREED Apostles' Creed ELW p.105

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

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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.

Please be seated.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: Filled with good news of great joy, let us offer our prayers for the church, the earth, and all people.

A brief silence.

O God, you reveal yourself in this assembly. In water, wine, and bread, show us again and again your grace upon grace, that your church boldly testifies to your love. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

You reveal yourself in creation. In seedlings and planets, microorganisms and galaxies, awaken us to the cry of the earth. As you nourish your people like a watered garden, empower us to nourish our creaturely companions. God of grace,

receive our prayer.

You reveal yourself in every land and in the farthest parts of the earth. Deliver peoples who suffer under oppressive regimes. Thwart the foolish plans of unjust leaders. Give wisdom to our elected officials (*local leaders or governing bodies may be named*). God of grace,

receive our prayer.

You reveal yourself in every human being. Help us recognize your image in our siblings in Christ who are in the strong grip of addiction, depression, anxiety, hopelessness, or other illness (*especially...and those we name aloud or in the silence of our hearts*). Grant us compassion in our care for your people. God of grace,

receive our prayer.

You reveal yourself anew every day. In this new year, renew this congregation and its ministries in our witness to the good news of the incarnation (*specific ministry areas may be named*). Transform the way we have always done things into your new future for us. God of grace,

receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

You reveal yourself in the lives of your holy ones. We give you thanks for those who set their hope on you, trusting the inheritance we receive in you. God of grace,

receive our prayer.

We commend these prayers to you, O God, trusting your grace made known to all, through the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Please share the peace of Christ.

<u>MEAL</u>

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

Please stand for the offering song.

"Create in Me a Clean Heart" ELW #186

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.

OFFERING PRAYER

A: God of grace,

C: your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas.
Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts.
Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. 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: The joy of the Lord is our strength.Come, eat this meal of gladness.

COMMUNION

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)

"This Little Light of Mine"

ELW #677

ELW p.146

- 1 This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine; this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine; this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
- Ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
 ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
 ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine,

let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

ELW #487

"What Feast of Love"
1 What feast of love is offered here, what banquet come from heaven?
What food of everlasting life, what gracious gift is given?
This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heaven.
Oh, taste and see and sing!
How sweet the manna given!

What light of truth is offered here, what covenant from heaven?
What hope of everlasting life, what wondrous word is given?
This, this is Christ the king, the sun come down from heaven.
Oh, see and hear and sing!
The Word of God is given! What wine of love is offered here, what crimson drink from heaven?
What stream of everlasting life, what precious blood is given?
This, this is Christ the king, the sweetest wine of heaven.
Oh, taste and see and sing!
The Son of God is given!

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: Nourishing God,

C: at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink.Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world.In the name of Christ we pray, Amen.

SENDING

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please be seated.

BLESSING

Please stand.

P: The Spirit of the triune God

🕂 bless you with joy,

anoint you with compassion,

and send you in love.

C: Amen

SENDING SONG

"Shine, Jesus, Shine"

ELW #671

Words unavailable, please use the red hymnal.

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Live in hope.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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