



Third Sunday in Advent

December 17, 2023

Divine Setting 3

WELCOME TO FAITH

We are celebrating the Lord's Supper. The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence, that as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust in His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes.

Because those who eat and drink of our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, are asked first to speak with a Pastor. For further study, see Matt. 5:23ff; 10:32ff; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 11:17-34. [Also, page 329 in the hymnal can be helpful](#) (click to view on-line).

If you have a physical condition that would prohibit you from taking wine in the Lord's Supper, please note that a few individual cups of white grape juice, instead of wine, are placed there in the center of each tray for you.

Our Mission

Our mission is to proclaim the Gospel to all people so they may know and trust in Jesus as their savior for eternal life, grow in knowledge and faith, and show this faith in their daily lives.

Upon entering the sanctuary, please use this time to prepare for worship; suggested prayers can be found in the front page of Lutheran Service Book and on page 308 of the LSB. ("Be still and know that I am God." – Psalm 46:10a)

Relax! God put the wiggle in children; don't feel you have to suppress it in God's house. All are welcome!

PRELUDE "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

Young

+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

HYMN OF INVOCATION

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus (Isaiah) LSB 338

- 1 Come, Thou long-expected Jesus,
Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us;
Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth Thou art,
Dear desire of ev'ry nation,
Joy of ev'ry longing heart.

- 2 Born Thy people to deliver;
Born a child and yet a king!
Born to reign in us forever,
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all-sufficient merit
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

Text: Public domain

(The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.)

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

(Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.)

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

INTROIT

Psalm 85:8–9, 12–13; antiphon: v. 7

Show us your steadfast love, | O LORD,*
and grant us your sal- | vation.

Let me hear what God the | LORD will speak,*

for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints; but let them
not turn back to | folly.

Surely his salvation is near to those who | fear him,*
that glory may dwell | in our land.

Yes, the LORD will give | what is good,*
and our land will yield its | increase.

Righteousness will go be- | fore him*
and make his foot- | steps a way.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Show us your steadfast love, | O LORD,*
and grant us your sal- | vation.

KYRIE

LSB 186

☐ Lord, have mercy upon us.
☐ Christ, have mercy upon us.
☐ Lord, have mercy upon us.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

☐ The Lord be with you.

☐ And with thy spirit.

A Let us pray.

C **Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

ANTHEM "The King Shall Come"
Parish Adult Choir

Keesecker

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 61:1–4, 8–11

¹The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,
because the LORD has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor;
he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and the opening of the prison to those who are bound;
²to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor,
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;
³to grant to those who mourn in Zion—
to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit;
that they may be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the LORD, that he may be glorified.
⁴They shall build up the ancient ruins;
they shall raise up the former devastations;
they shall repair the ruined cities,
the devastations of many generations. . . .

⁸For I the LORD love justice;
 I hate robbery and wrong;
 I will faithfully give them their recompense,
 and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.
⁹Their offspring shall be known among the nations,
 and their descendants in the midst of the peoples;
 all who see them shall acknowledge them,
 that they are an offspring the LORD has blessed.
¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD;
 my soul shall exult in my God,
 for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation;
 he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
 as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful
 headdress,
 and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.
¹¹For as the earth brings forth its sprouts,
 and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up,
 so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise
 to sprout up before all the nations.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL

Zechariah 9:9; Psalm 118:26, alt.

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of | Zion.*

Shout aloud, O daughter of Je- | rusalem.

Behold, your king is com- | ing to you;*

righteous and having sal- | vation.

Blessèd is he who comes in the name | of the Lord.*

From the house of the Lord we | bless you.

EPISTLE

1 Thessalonians 5:16–24

¹⁶Rejoice always, ¹⁷pray without ceasing, ¹⁸give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

¹⁹Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰Do not despise prophecies, ²¹but test everything; hold fast what is good. ²²Abstain from every form of evil.

²³Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

LSB 190

C **Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

HOLY GOSPEL

John 1:6–8, 19–28

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.

C **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light....

¹⁹This is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?” ²⁰He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, “I am not the Christ.” ²¹And they asked him, “What then? Are you Elijah?” He said, “I am not.” “Are you the Prophet?” And he answered, “No.” ²²So

they said to him, “Who are you? We need to give an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?” ²³He said, “I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, ‘Make straight the way of the Lord,’ as the prophet Isaiah said.”

²⁴(Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.) ²⁵They asked him, “Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?” ²⁶John answered them, “I baptize with water, but among you stands one you do not know, ²⁷even he who comes after me, the strap of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie.” ²⁸These things took place in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

NICENE CREED

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven

and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the
living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is
worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic
Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Mr. Michael Yurk, D.C.E.

HYMN OF THE DAY

LSB 336

Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending (I Thessalonians)

1 Lo! He comes with clouds descending,
Once for ev'ry sinner slain;
Thousand thousand saints attending

Swell the triumph of His train:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Christ the Lord returns to reign.

- 2 Ev'ry eye shall now behold Him
Robed in glorious majesty;
Those who set at naught and sold Him,
Pierced and nailed Him to the tree,
Deeply wailing, deeply wailing, deeply wailing,
Shall their true Messiah see.

- 3 Those dear tokens of His passion
Still His dazzling body bears,
Cause of endless exultation
To His ransomed worshipers.
With what rapture, with what rapture, with what rapture
Gaze we on those glorious scars!

- 4 Yea, amen, let all adore Thee,
High on Thine eternal throne;
Savior, take the pow'r and glory,
Claim the kingdom as Thine own.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Thou shalt reign, and Thou alone!

Text: Public domain

SERMON "Life Is Hard!"

OFFERTORY

LSB 192

- ☐ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.**

**Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me
with Thy free spirit. Amen.**

OFFERING “Angels from the Realms of Glory”

Berg

Bethany Olsen, Alto, Kim Neas, soprano

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

A In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A For the Church, preparing to celebrate the incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ, that remembering John the Forerunner’s preaching of the baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, we, too, may die to sin and rise to new life, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A For the Church, that the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world would richly and daily forgive our sins and the sins of all believers; and for Matthew, our Synod president; James, our district president; Marc, our circuit visitor; and all pastors in Christ, that they would remain faithful to not deny but confess Him, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A For the children of our school and church families, that every darkness would be lightened by Christ’s gracious visitation; and that God would preserve them from dangers to body and soul, guide them by His Word in wise paths, and keep them firm in the faith until life’s end, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

A For all in authority, that they would be given wisdom and insight until the day when Christ comes again in glory to usher in His kingdom, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

A For those afflicted with pain, sickness, trials and difficulties, that they may be granted health and the certainty that our bodies will be incorruptible and immortal when Christ returns to make all things new, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

A For the Church, as she eagerly awaits the return of her Bridegroom, that we would not grow weary, but be strengthened through the Word and Sacraments to ever hold fast to Christ's promise of salvation, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

A O Lord, heavenly Father, we gratefully remember the sufferings and death of Your dear Son, Jesus Christ, for our salvation. Rejoicing in His victorious resurrection from the dead, we draw strength from His ascension before You, where He ever stands for us as our own High Priest. Gather us together from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us, for to You alone we give all glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

PREFACE

LSB 194

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with thy spirit.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

C **It is meet and right so to do.**

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You
and saying:

SANCTUS

LSB 195

C **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

LORD'S PRAYER

LSB 196

P 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.

C For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

LSB 197

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed,
took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and
gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠
body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when
He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it,
all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which
is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often
as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PAX DOMINI

LSB 197

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

DISTRIBUTION

VOLUNTARY

*"Lo, How a Rose"
Chris Olsen, trombone*

Floeter

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

LSB 359

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

- 1 Lo, how a rose e'er blooming
 From tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming
 As prophets long have sung,
It came, a flow'ret bright,
 Amid the cold of winter,
When half-spent was the night.

- 2 Isaiah 'twas foretold it,
 The rose I have in mind;
With Mary we behold it,
 The virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright,
 She bore to us a Savior,
When half-spent was the night.

- 3 This flow'r, whose fragrance tender
 With sweetness fills the air,
Dispels with glorious splendor
 The darkness ev'rywhere.
True man, yet very God,
 From sin and death He saves us
And lightens ev'ry load.

- 4 O Savior, child of Mary,
 Who felt our human woe;
O Savior, King of glory,
 Who dost our weakness know:
Bring us at length we pray
 To the bright courts of heaven,
And to the endless day.

Text: Public domain

NUNC DIMITTIS

LSB 199

- C** Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word,
for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people,
a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

THANKSGIVING

LSB 200

- P** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
C and His mercy endureth forever.

- P** Let us pray.
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C Amen.

SALUTATION

LSB 201

- P** The Lord be with you.
C And with thy spirit.

BENEDICAMUS

LSB 202

P Bless we the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

BENEDICTION

LSB 202

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.

C **Amen, amen, amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers (I Thesssalonians)

LSB 515

- 1 Rejoice, rejoice, believers,
And let your lights appear;
The evening is advancing,
And darker night is near.
The Bridegroom is arising
And soon is drawing nigh.
Up, pray and watch and wrestle;
At midnight comes the cry.

- 2 The watchers on the mountain
Proclaim the Bridegroom near;
Go forth as He approaches
With alleluias clear.
The marriage feast is waiting;
The gates wide open stand.
Arise, O heirs of glory;
The Bridegroom is at hand.

3 The saints, who here in patience
 Their cross and suff'rings bore,
Shall live and reign forever
 When sorrow is no more.
Around the throne of glory
 The Lamb they shall behold;
In triumph cast before Him
 Their diadems of gold.

4 Our hope and expectation,
 O Jesus, now appear;
Arise, O Sun so longed for,
 O'er this benighted sphere.
With hearts and hands uplifted,
 We plead, O Lord, to see
The day of earth's redemption
 That sets Your people free!

Text: Public domain

**✠ THE WORSHIP IS ENDED.
LET THE SERVICE BEGIN. ✠**

**✠ We Go in Peace to Serve the Lord ✠
✠ Trust ✠ Grow ✠ Show ✠**

THOSE ASSISTING IN THE SERVICE

Preacher	Rev. Marc A. Kappel, M.Div.
Assistant	Mr. Timm Leikip
Children's Message	Mr. Michael Yurk, D.C.E.
Music Director	Mr. Michael Neas, M.M.
Acolyte	Jacob Olsen
Lector	Jeff Lanning
Communion Assistant	Elder Chris Olsen

The altar flowers today have been placed by Susan Ashcraft in memory of her grandmother, Myrtle Gentry.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AT FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Celebration (Contemporary) Worship – Saturdays, 5 p.m.

Traditional Worship – Sundays, 10 a.m.

Helpful Links

On-line Giving: bit.ly/FaithEustisGiving

Church Facebook www.facebook.com/FaithEustis

Pastor Kappel's Sermons <https://anchor.fm/marc86>

Have you checked in for worship today?
Scan this code with your cellphone camera,
tap the link and fill in the form. It's that easy!
Thank you for joining us today!





(352)589-5433 church
www.faitheustis.org
(352)589-5683 school
www.faitheustis.com



2023 Advent and Christmas Worship Opportunities at Faith

December 16	Worship with Communion	5:00 pm
December 17	Worship with Communion	10:00 am
December 19	Middle School Christmas Program	6:30 pm
December 20	Advent worship	6:30 pm
December 23	Worship	5:00 pm
December 24	Worship with Communion	10:00 am
December 24	Candlelight worship	7:00 pm
December 24	Candlelight worship with Communion	11:00 pm
December 25	Worship with Communion	10:00 am
December 30	Worship	5:00 pm
December 31	Worship	10:00 am

