



### Christmas Worship at Faith

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

## **Fourth Sunday in Advent**

**December 24, 2023**

**Divine Setting 4**

## 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!*

**+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +**

*HYMN OF INVOCATION*

**What Child Is This**

(2 Samuel)

LSB 370

- 1 What child is this, who, laid to rest,  
On Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet  
While shepherds watch are keeping?  
This, this is Christ the king,  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,  
The babe, the son of Mary!
  
- 2 Why lies He in such mean estate  
Where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here  
The silent Word is pleading.  
Nails, spear shall pierce Him through,  
The cross be borne for me, for you;  
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,  
The babe, the son of Mary!
  
- 3 So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh;  
Come, peasant, king, to own Him.  
The King of kings salvation brings;  
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.  
Raise, raise the song on high,  
The virgin sings her lullaby;  
Joy, joy, for Christ is born,  
The babe, the son of Mary!

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** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** **who made heaven and earth.**

**P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

**C** **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

**P** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

**C** **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and

ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore 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 19:1, 4c, 5–6; antiphon: Isaiah 45:8a, b

Shower, O heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain down | righteousness;\*

let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may | bear fruit.

The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his | handiwork.\*

In them he has set a tent | for the sun,  
which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his | chamber,\*  
and, like a strong man, runs its | course with joy.

Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the | end of them,\*

and there is nothing hidden | from its heat.

**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.**

Shower, O heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain down | righteousness;\*

let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may | bear fruit.

## KYRIE

- A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.**
- A** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; 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; Christ, have mercy; 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; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.**
- A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.**

## SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

- A** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- A** Let us pray.
- C** **Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*ANTHEM "Still, Still, Still" Biemesdorfer  
Parish Adult Choir, Carol Allen, Theresa Barnes, soloists*

<sup>1</sup>Now when the king lived in his house and the LORD had given him rest from all his surrounding enemies, <sup>2</sup>the king said to Nathan the prophet, “See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a tent.” <sup>3</sup>And Nathan said to the king, “Go, do all that is in your heart, for the LORD is with you.”

<sup>4</sup>But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan, <sup>5</sup>“Go and tell my servant David, ‘Thus says the LORD: Would you build me a house to dwell in? <sup>6</sup>I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent for my dwelling. <sup>7</sup>In all places where I have moved with all the people of Israel, did I speak a word with any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, “Why have you not built me a house of cedar?”’ <sup>8</sup>Now, therefore, thus you shall say to my servant David, ‘Thus says the LORD of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel. <sup>9</sup>And I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you. And I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. <sup>10</sup>And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more. And violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly, <sup>11</sup>from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel. And I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. . . .

<sup>16</sup>And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever.’”

**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*

Romans 16:25–27

<sup>25</sup>Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages <sup>26</sup>but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith— <sup>27</sup>to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

*ALLELUIA AND VERSE*

**C** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**C** These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.

**C** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.



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

**G** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>26</sup>In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, <sup>27</sup>to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup>And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" <sup>29</sup>But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup>And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup>And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. <sup>32</sup>He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, <sup>33</sup>and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

<sup>34</sup>And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

<sup>35</sup>And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. <sup>36</sup>And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. <sup>37</sup>For nothing will be impossible with God." <sup>38</sup>And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**G** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

*APOSTLES' CREED*

**C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the  
dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life † everlasting. Amen.

*CHILDREN'S MESSAGE*

Mr. Michael Yurk, D.C.E.

*HYMN OF THE DAY*

**Once He Came in Blessing** (Luke)

LSB 333

1 Once He came in blessing,  
All our sins redressing;  
Came in likeness lowly,  
Son of God most holy;

Bore the cross to save us;  
Hope and freedom gave us.

2 Now He gently leads us;  
With Himself He feeds us  
    Precious food from heaven,  
    Pledge of peace here given,  
Manna that will nourish  
Souls that they may flourish.

3 Soon will come that hour  
When with mighty power  
    Christ will come in splendor  
    And will judgment render,  
With the faithful sharing  
Joy beyond comparing.

4 Come, then, O Lord Jesus,  
From our sins release us.  
    Keep our hearts believing,  
    That we, grace receiving,  
Ever may confess You  
Till in heav'n we bless You.

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SERMON “*Let the Secret Loose*”

OFFERING “*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*”

Callahan

*Beth Leech, clarinet*

## *PRAYER OF THE CHURCH*

**A** Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

O Lord, our God, nothing is impossible with You. Grant us faith to believe Your Word and follow the example of Your servant Mary, to receive the miraculous gift of Your Son, our Immanuel. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**A** Eternal God, Your Word has been sent forth into the world to the joy and edification of Your holy people. Encourage, comfort and strengthen all who hear it. Grant faith to those who do not know You, both here and abroad, that all peoples may sing to Your name and extol Your goodness. By the power of the Holy Spirit, fill all who hear Your Word with joy and peace in believing. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**A** O Lord, our God, bless Matthew, our Synod president; James, our district president; Marc, our circuit visitor and our pastor, that like the angel Gabriel, they may be faithful messengers of Your Good News. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**A** O Lord, our God, let Your favor rest upon all pregnant women and mothers of young children, that they may rejoice in the blessing of new life You give. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**A** Lord of lords, by the reign of Your Son You govern all things in heaven and earth. Raise up true Davids among us to

govern our land in faithfulness and in humble strength to do Your will. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**A** O Lord, our God, uphold all who suffer in mind or body. Give them the knowledge of Christ, their Immanuel, who is with them in their trials. Grant them health and healing in accord with Your perfect will. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**A** O Lord, our God, give us joy that as surely as Your Son was conceived in blessed Mary at Your Word, so He comes to abide in us also at Your Word in the blessed Sacrament. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**A** O God, You make us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of Your only begotten Son, Jesus Christ. Grant that as we joyfully receive Him as our Redeemer, we may with sure confidence behold Him when He comes to be our Judge; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

## **+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +**

*PREFACE*

LSB 208

**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 Him thanks and praise.**

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

*SANCTUS*

LSB 208

**C** **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;  
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of  
Your name.  
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;  
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!**

Text: Stephen P. Starke

*LORD'S PRAYER*

**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.**

*THE WORDS OF OUR LORD*

**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*

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**C** Amen.

*DISTRIBUTION*

*VOLUNTARY: "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing"*  
*Lois Ford, flute*

Floeter

*DISTRIBUTION HYMN*

**What Hope! An Eden Prophesied**

LSB 342

- 1 What hope! An Eden prophesied  
Where tame live with the wild;  
The lamb and lion side by side,  
Led by a little child!
- 2 A shoot will sprout from Jesse's stem,  
A branch from David's line,  
A Prince of Peace in Bethlehem:  
The fruit of God's design.
- 3 As banner of God's love unfurled,  
Christ came to suffer loss,  
That by His death a dying world  
Would rally to the cross.
- 4 Come, Jesus, come, Messiah Lord,  
Lost Paradise restore;  
Lead past the angel's flaming sword—  
Come, open heaven's door.

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*NUNC DIMITTIS*

LSB 211

- ☐ 1 O Lord, now let Your servant  
Depart in heav'nly peace,  
For I have seen the glory  
Of Your redeeming grace:**



**A light to lead the Gentiles  
Unto Your holy hill,  
The glory of Your people,  
Your chosen Israel.**

**2 All glory to the Father,  
All glory to the Son,  
All glory to the Spirit,  
Forever Three in One;  
For as in the beginning,  
Is now, shall ever be,  
God's triune name resounding  
Through all eternity.**

*POST-COMMUNION COLLECT*

**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.

*BENEDICAMUS*

LSB 212

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*BENEDICTION*

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**G Amen.**

*CLOSING HYMN*    ***Joy to the World***    (*Romans*)    LSB 387

- 1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
    Let earth receive her King;  
    Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room  
    And heav'n and nature sing,  
    And heav'n and nature sing,  
    And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.
  
- 2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!  
    Let men their songs employ,  
    While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
    Repeat the sounding joy,  
    Repeat the sounding joy,  
    Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
  
- 3 No more let sins and sorrows grow  
    Nor thorns infest the ground;  
    He comes to make His blessings flow  
    Far as the curse is found,  
    Far as the curse is found,  
    Far as, far as the curse is found.
  
- 4 He rules the world with truth and grace  
    And makes the nations prove  
    The glories of His righteousness  
    And wonders of His love,  
    And wonders of His love,  
    And wonders, wonders of His love.

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## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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**✠ 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	Lorelei Leech
Lector	Craig Biddle
Communion Assistant	Elder Patrick Barnes

*The altar flowers today have been placed by the Lowell family in honor of the celebration of our Savior's birth.*

### 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](https://bit.ly/FaithEustisGiving)

**Church Facebook** [www.facebook.com/FaithEustis](https://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!



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