



WELCOME TO FAITH

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 on the inside cover of this folder (as found in the front page of Lutheran Service Book) and on the back pages of this folder (as found 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!

FIRST WEEKEND AFTER CHRISTMAS

December 30, 2023 — 5:00PM & December 31, 2023 — 10:00AM
In Every Generation

As We Gather

How long is a generation? Keepers of statistics suggest that a generation is between twenty and thirty years and note that at the present time there are six distinct generations living in the United States. The current generations range from our oldest citizens, known as the *Greatest Generation* through our youngest, given the group name of *Generation Z*. In the account of the presentation of our Lord in the temple at Jerusalem, we see Jesus as a baby from the youngest generation and we meet Anna the prophetess, well advanced into the most elderly generation, and Simeon, who is often portrayed as an older man. The temple is the place for all generations to experience the presence and blessing of God! The psalmist exults in praise to God: “One generation shall commend Your works to another, and shall declare Your mighty acts” (Psalm 145:4). As we worship, we continue that praise in this generation.

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

SONG OF PRAISE: What Child Is This

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

† PREPARATION †

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES

Psalm 89:1, 52; 71:19, 23

Pastor: I will sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, forever;

People: **with my mouth I will make known Your faithfulness to all generations.**

Pastor: Your righteousness, O God, reaches the high heavens.

People: **You who have done great things, O God, who is like You?**

Pastor: My lips will shout for joy, when I sing praises to You;

People: **my soul also, which You have redeemed.**

Pastor: Blessed be the LORD forever!

People: **Amen and Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: People redeemed by the Lord, let us now make confession of our sins to God, our heavenly Father.

People: **Merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We repent of having sinned in thought, in word, and in deed. So often we have left undone those things which we ought to have done and have done those things which we ought not to have done. We sincerely repent of our sins and humbly ask for the grace and**

forgiveness that we know to be ours in Jesus, our Savior. By the renewing work of the Holy Spirit, lead us, heavenly Father, to change what is sinful in our lives so that each day we grow in righteousness and godly living to the glory of Your holy name.

Pastor: God has promised pardon, life, and salvation because of the atoning sacrifice of His beloved Son, who has replaced slavery to sin with a priceless inheritance of freedom and joy. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. As you believe, so may it be.

People: Amen.

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

People: Gracious God of endings and beginnings, we commit to Your grace and forgiveness the year now being completed and commend to Your kindness and love the year about to begin. Throughout the coming weeks and months make the presence of Your Holy Spirit known in our lives, drawing us ever closer to Jesus and uniting all generations of Your faithful people in bonds of love and care, as we continue to grow in our baptismal grace and await the joy of eternal life in Your glorious presence. This we ask for the sake of Jesus, our Savior. Amen.

† SERVICE OF THE WORD †

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 61:10—62:3

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.

¹For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet,
until her righteousness goes forth as brightness,
and her salvation as a burning torch.

²The nations shall see your righteousness,
and all the kings your glory,
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the LORD will give.

³You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE:

Galatians 4:4–7

⁴When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman,
born under the law, ⁵to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might
receive adoption as sons. ⁶And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his
Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” ⁷So you are no longer a slave, but a
son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, chapter two.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

²²When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, [Mary and Joseph] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”) ²⁴and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.” ²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. ²⁶And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ. ²⁷And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, ²⁸he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

²⁹“Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace,
according to your word;

³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation

³¹that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and for glory to your people Israel.”

³³And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. ³⁴And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, “Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed ³⁵(and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.”

³⁶And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, ³⁷and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise be to You, O Christ.

CONFESSION OF FAITH – Apostles’ Creed

**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: Gentle Mary Laid Her Child

LSB 374

1 Gentle Mary laid her child

Lowly in a manger;

There He lay, the Undeiled,

To the world a stranger.

Such a babe in such a place,

Can He be the Savior?

Ask the saved of all the race
Who have found His favor.

2 Angels sang about His birth,
Wise Men sought and found Him;
Heaven's star shone brightly forth
Glory all around Him.
Shepherds saw the wondrous sight,
Heard the angels singing;
All the plains were lit that night,
All the hills were ringing.

3 Gentle Mary laid her child
Lowly in a manger;
He is still the Undefined
But no more a stranger.
Son of God of humble birth,
Beautiful the story;
Praise His name in all the earth;
Hail the King of glory!

Text: Public domain

SERMON: *“Sinners Need A Savior”*

OFFERING *(When we worship God with our offerings, we recall the words of Jesus: “For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.” Matthew 6:21)*

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Assistant: Friends in Christ, I urge you all to lift up your hearts to God and pray with me as Christ our Lord has taught us and freely promised to hear us.

God, our Father in heaven, look with mercy on us, Your needy children on earth, and grant us grace that Your holy name be hallowed by us and all the world through the pure and true teaching of Your Word and the fervent love shown forth in our lives. Graciously turn from us all false doctrine and evil living whereby Your precious name is blasphemed and profaned. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Assistant: May Your kingdom come to us and expand. Bring all transgressors and those who are blinded and bound in the devil's kingdom to know Jesus Christ, Your Son, by faith that the number of Christians may be increased. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Assistant: Strengthen us by Your Spirit according to Your will, both in life and in death, in the midst of both good and evil things, that our own wills may be crucified daily and sacrificed to Your good and gracious will. Into Your merciful hands we commend all who are in need, praying for them at all times: Thy will be done. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Assistant: Grant us our daily bread, preserve us from greed and selfish cares, and help us trust in You to provide for all our needs. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Assistant: Forgive us our sins as we also forgive those who sin against us so that our hearts may be at peace and may rejoice in a good conscience before You, and that no sin may ever frighten or alarm us. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Assistant: Lead us not into temptation, O Lord, but help us by Your Spirit to subdue our flesh, to turn from the world and its ways, and to overcome the devil with all his wiles. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Assistant: And lastly, O heavenly Father, deliver us from all evil of both body and soul, now and forever. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Assistant: We trust, O Lord, in Your great mercy to hear and answer us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

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

BENEDICTION

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: Angels We Have Heard on High

LSB 368

1 Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply,
Echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain

Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

2 Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heav'nly song? (Refrain)

3 Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn King. (Refrain)

Text: Public domain

ANNOUNCEMENTS & DISMISSAL

Christmas Carols in the courtyard by string trio following Sunday worship service.

(Laurie Stevens, Christian Menard, and Martin Schubert)

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

† We Go in Peace to Serve the Lord †
† Trust † Grow † Show †

THOSE ASSISTING IN THE SERVICES

Preacher	Rev. Marc A. Kappel, M.Div.
Assistant	Mr. Timm Leikip
Children's Message	Mr. Michael Yurk, D.C.E.
Music	Mrs. Amanda Yurk
Acolytes	Christian Menard – 5 pm Dominic Herrick–10 am
Lectors	Adrienne Davis – 5 pm, Jeff Albright– 10am

The altar flowers today have been placed by Timm and Janet Leikip in memory of loved ones.

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AT FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

Traditional Worship – Sundays, 10 a.m.

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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!




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