



Faith Family Christmas Celebration December 13, 2020

Serving us in worship today:

FLY Students; Music: Annette Stout, Chancel Singers, Hand Bell Choir, Joyful Noise, Sunday School Children; Ushers: Terry Freeman, Kristy Serold, Joan Vanbeek, and Ron Vanbeek; AV: Chase White, Diane Gwyther

Welcome to Worship!

Welcome to Faith Lutheran Church, a people who love and follow Jesus Christ our Lord! We are blessed and honored that you chose to be with us today!

As we worship inside today, we encourage you to fellowship with other believers while maintaining a safe distance, wearing your face covering at all times, and observing our COVID-19 protocols. Children's Church for ages pre-K through third grade will meet their leader during the hymn of the day. Please keep your mask on during the service and as you are ushered out. We ask that you join in fellowship OUTSIDE and do not congregate in the Narthex before or following the service.

WELCOME AND PRAYER

Andrew Cave

Please stand as you able.

OPENING HYMN: "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

1) Oh come, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant!
Oh come ye, Oh come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him,
Born the king of angels:

Refrain:

Oh come, let us adore him,
Oh come, let us adore him,
Oh come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!

3) Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God
in the highest *Refrain*

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:

The sign of the cross may be made in remembrance of your Baptism.

A: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

A: 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.

A: *If we claim we have no sin, we are only fooling ourselves and not living in the truth. But if we confess our sins to him, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all wickedness. (1 John 1: 8-9, NLT)*

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

A: Most Merciful God,

C: We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

A: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all of our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ he gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

You may be seated.

SPECIAL MUSIC: *"O Come to Us, Emmanuel"*

Chancel Singers

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE – JOY – "The Shepherds Candle"

"Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah" Verses 1, 2 & 3 WOV 630

(Please see the screen for lyrics)

FIRST READING: Isaiah 9:2-7 (ESV)

² The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;

those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
on them has light shone.

³You have multiplied the nation;
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.

⁴For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

⁵For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult
and every garment rolled in blood
will be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given;

(N)and the government shall be upon his shoulder,
and his name shall be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷Of the increase of his government and of peace
there will be no end,
on the throne of David and over his kingdom,
to establish it and to uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time forth and forevermore.

The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

A: Here ends the reading.

SECOND READING: PSALM 126 (ESV)

When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,
we were like those who dream.

²Then our mouth was filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy;
then they said among the nations,
“The LORD has done great things for them.”

³The LORD has done great things for us;
we are glad.

⁴Restore our fortunes, O LORD,
like streams in the Negeb!

⁵Those who sow in tears
shall reap with shouts of joy!

⁶He who goes out weeping,
bearing the seed for sowing,
shall come home with shouts of joy,
bringing his sheaves with him.

A: Here ends the reading.

Please stand for the Holy Gospel.

HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 2:1-20 (ESV)

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³And all went to be registered, each to his own town. ⁴And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, ⁵to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. ⁶And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

⁸And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. ¹⁰And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹²And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

¹⁵When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶And they went with haste and found Mary and

Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. ¹⁷ And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. ¹⁸ And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. ²⁰ And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

A: The Gospel of the Lord.

You may be seated.

SPECIAL MUSIC: *"Do You See the Christmas Star?"*

Joyful Noise

HYMN OF THE DAY: *"Away in a Manger"*

With Joyful Noise and Sunday School Children

1st and 2nd Verse Children and Joyful Noise
3rd Verse Congregation

3) Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care
and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.

CHRISTMAS STORY: *'T WAS THE NIGHT OF JESUS' BIRTH*

FLY Students

Please stand.

OFFERTORY: *"Create in Me a Clean Heart..."* (LBW Pg. 96)

♪ 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. ♪

A: Let us pray. Merciful Father,

C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us-ourselves,
our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for
the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Please be seated

COMMISSIONING OF ANDREW CAVE

SPECIAL MUSIC: *"Mary Did You Know?"*

Hand Bell Choir

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN: *"Joy To The World"*

- 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.

- 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.

A: Go In Peace To Love And Serve The Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

Members please **stay** following worship for a short **congregational meeting** to approve Faith's 2021 budget.

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR

Have been given to the glory of God by George and Gina Mannel in honor of Megan's birthday on the 15th and in anticipation of the Savior's birth!

"WORDS OF FAITH" BROADCAST SUNDAY AT 8 AM ON KWED 1580 AM RADIO

Has been sponsored by Tim and JoAnn Bogisch to glory of God in celebration of the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE AND OFFERINGS:

Month to Date (December): \$9,224.00; YTD Offerings and Misc. \$508,608.21
(2020 budgeted offerings is \$549,000)

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

Julie Sagebiel	Judy Saunders	Nora Lavelett
Carolyn Sagebiel	Walt Fruehling	Kathy Ersch
Ric Landvatter	Dot Day	Gladys Fruehling
Teresa Kiel	Pat Sagebiel	Debbie Lehmann
Dorothy Burris	Donald Jackson	Robert Vogel
Charlie Koehler	Steve Foerster	Tootsie Rodgers
Willie Bloch	Sandy Wille	Ronnie Glenewinkel
Mark and Sharon Westerholm		Marcus Jahns

PRAYERS REQUESTED

For the family of Doris Beicker. Doris passed through death into eternal life on Thursday, December 3, here in Seguin. A memorial service will be held here at Faith on Saturday, December 19, at 11:00 AM. Please keep her family in your prayers in the days and weeks to come.

THIS WEEK AT FAITH

(COVID safety protocols are followed at all church events)

Monday, Dec. 14	Charity Circle	7:00 PM (AC)
Tuesday, Dec. 15	Men's Bible Study/Breakfast	7:30 AM (AC)
Tuesday, Dec. 15	Staff Mtg.	9:00 AM (Kit)
Tuesday, Dec. 15	Love Circle	9:30 AM (AC)
Thursday, Dec. 17	Hope Circle	2:00 PM (AC)
Thursday, Dec. 17	Faith ringing Salvation Army Bell	9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

POINSETTIAS TO BRIGHTEN SANCTUARY

The chancel area will be decorated with poinsettias for the season. If you would be willing to share your plants, please bring them to church by **5:00 PM on Wednesday, Dec. 23rd**. If you would like your poinsettia to be in memory or in honor of someone, please call or email the church office (communications@faithseguin.org) with this information by **noon Friday, Dec. 18th**, so that a complete list of names can be published in the bulletins. Poinsettias will need to be cleared from the sanctuary by **Dec. 30th**. Before leaving your plants at church, please label with your name to make identification easier.

SALVATION ARMY KICKS OFF BELL RINGING CAMPAIGN

Once again, as in past years, Faith members are called upon to participate in the annual local Salvation Army Kettle Campaign. The Guadalupe County/Seguin unit is known locally as the "go to" resource for offering financial assistance with utility bills and rent, temporary housing, and disaster relief. **There is a sign-up sheets located in the narthex for Thursday, December 17th.** Locations for these bell ringing days will be the Market entrance of the Seguin Walmart on the 10th and the Home and Pharmacy entrance on the 17th. Hours are 9:00 AM—9:00 PM on the 17th. The Salvation Army will provide all the personnel protective equipment that is deemed important: gloves, masks, sanitizing wipes, hand sanitizers, etc. They also are making movable full body shields that volunteers can choose to use. Aprons will not be used this year. Please consider giving a gift of your time this holiday season and volunteer for a two-hour time slot. For more information, contact Bryan Terp or any member of the Social Concerns Committee.

OFFICE DOOR DECORATION CONTEST

Our office staff is holding a **Christmas Door Decorating Contest!** We are having fun with it, but we need YOUR help! YOU are the judge! Whose door/office (Andrew included his office) do you like more? Angie's? Roxanne's/LeAnne's? Andrew's? Lisa's? Debbie's? You decide, but your vote has to come in the form of \$\$ ☺ Each office has a "vote receptacle" outside its door. **Your money is your vote.** Deposit money in the box of the door you'd like to see win! The door/office with the most money collected will win bragging rights until next year! All money collected will then be donated to **Seguin's Blue Santa program!** Deadline for voting is December 13th.

FLOWERS AND WOF SIGN UP for 2021

The 2021 Flower Chart is posted on the bulletin board outside the church offices. If you would like to provide flowers during the year, please remember to sign up for the Sunday of your choice as soon as possible.

"Words of Faith" is a 30 minute recorded portion of our Sunday worship service, and is broadcasted on KWED 1580 AM every Sunday morning at 8:00. Families or individuals wishing to sponsor a broadcast may do so for \$50. The sign-up sheet for 2021 is also on the bulletin board outside the church offices.

ATTENTION TRAVELERS: WE HAVE GOOD NEWS!

The trip to the Holy Land is still ON! **Dates are November 01--11, 2021.**

Pat Sagebiel of Ascot Travels Seguin has graciously agreed to take over the arrangements for the trip. We just need more people to sign-up. **It is not too late.** This is your chance to walk in the footsteps of Jesus, take a ride in a wooden boat across the Sea of Galilee and much more. Learn from God's Word as you stand where Jesus stood! Join us for this life changing adventure to the Holy Land November 1-11, 2021!

Please contact Pat Sagebiel at Ascot Travel Seguin, 825 N. Camp St., Seguin, TX, 830-372-3003 (ext. 202) or e-mail cowboypat@ascottravel.com for more information.

CHRISTIAN CUPBOARD

Thank you to those of you who have been dropping off items for the Christian Cupboard. The December items are macaroni and cheese and peanut butter. Any variety or brand. This week's update is **26 items** as of December 7.