

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Christmas Eve Service

A Service of Light and Carols Celebrating The Birth of our Lord Jesus Christ

December 24, 2021 4:00 and 7:00 PM



Merry Christmas!

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 today, we encourage you to fellowship with other believers in a manner in which you are comfortable.

“For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. (Luke 2:11 ESV)

“The Word became flesh and blood, and moved into the neighborhood. We saw the glory with our own eyes, the one-of-a-kind glory, like Father, like Son, Generous inside and out, true from start to finish.”

(John 1:14)

Please stand as you are able.

GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: And also with you.

CHRISTMAS PRAYER

P: Most Holy Father, Open our hearts to receive the Lord Jesus in a new and fresh way this Christmas. Hear us as we join our voices to sing your praises and declare your wondrous salvation, for we confess, you have delivered us from our sins and opened the gates of heaven to all who believe in Jesus. We pray that all would come to truly know you Jesus. Increase our faith and open our eyes to see your purpose in our lives and in our church. Fill us with Your Holy Spirit to boldly declare your grace – Jesus, born of God in the power of the Holy Spirit – born of Man through the virgin Mary - that with all the heavenly host we proclaim, “Glory to God in the Highest.” All Glory, Praise, and Honor to you Lord God our Father and Christ Jesus our Immanuel.

C: AMEN

GATHERING HYMN: *“O Come, All Ye Faithful”*

- 1) O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come and behold him, born the king of angels:

Refrain:

O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,

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

2) The highest, most holy, light of light eternal,
born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;
Son of the Father now in flesh appearing! *Refrain*

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

4) Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory giv'n!
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing *Refrain*

P: Welcome! May your heart be filled with Hope – Peace – Joy – Love.
This comes from God and makes this day a Merry Christmas. Today we
remember and celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ Immanuel –
“God with us!”

Please Be Seated

HYMN: *“O Little Town of Bethlehem”*

1) O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

3) How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heav'n.

No ear may hear his coming; but, in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.

SCRIPTURE: LUKE 2:1-5 (NASB 1995)

Now in those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus, that a census be taken of all the inhabited earth. ² This was the first census taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ And everyone was on his way to register for the census, each to his own city. ⁴ Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, ⁵ in order to register along with Mary, who was engaged to him, and was with child.

HYMN: "Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel"

- 1) Oh, come, oh, come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.

Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.

SCRIPTURE: MATTHEW 1:18-25 (ESV)

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰ But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared

to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: ²³ "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel" (which means, God with us). ²⁴ When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, ²⁵ but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

HYMN: *"It Came Upon a Midnight Clear"*

- 1) It came up on the midnight clear,
That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth
To touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, good will to all,
From heav'n's all gracious king."
The world in solemn stillness lay
To hear the angels sing.

SCRIPTURE: LUKE 2:8-14 (*NKJ*)

Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. ¹⁰ Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people.

¹¹ For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹² And this *will be* the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger." ¹³ And 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, goodwill toward men!"

HYMN: *"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"*

1) Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new-born king;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful, all you nations, rise;
Join the triumph of the skies;
With angelic hosts proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new-born king!"

SCRIPTURE: LUKE 2:15-16 (NKJ)

So it was, when the angels had gone away from them into heaven, that the shepherds said to one another, "Let us now go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶ And they came with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger.

HYMN: *"Away in a Manger"*

- 1) Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;
The stars in the sky looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.
- 2) The cattle are lowing; the poor baby wakes,
But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

SCRIPTURE: LUKE 2:17-18 (NKJ)

¹⁷ Now when they had seen *Him*, they made widely known the saying which was told them concerning this Child. ¹⁸ And all those who heard *it* marveled at those things which were told them by the shepherds.

SPECIAL MUSIC: *Kendalynn Pruitt and Andrew Cave* 7:00

SERMON: *"The Wonder of God"* (4:00) *Pastor Mayer*
"Oh Holy Night" (7:00) *Pastor Bailey*

As our Lord directed His disciples, so we tonight remember the life, death, and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ in His Holy Sacrament.

Faith Lutheran believes that *"all who believe and are baptized will be saved."* (Mark 16:16) Therefore come; whether you are a guest, friend or member, you are welcome at the Lord's Table.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

HOLY COMMUNION

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

*The Pastor lights a candle from the Christ Candle; the ushers light their candles from the pastor's candle. The ushers then light the candle of each worshipper nearest the aisle. Lighted candles should not be tilted to avoid dripping wax. Only **unlit** candles should be tilted when lighting from a neighbor's candle. Children will be handed glow sticks or battery operated candles. (Please be attentive to lit candles near clothes, hair, etc.)*

"Silent Night, Holy Night!"

- 1) Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

- 2) Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight;
glories stream from heaven afar,
heav'nly hosts sing, alleluia! Christ, the Savior, is born!
Christ, the Savior, is born!

- 3) Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light.
Radiant beams from your holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at your birth,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

Please extinguish candles.

P: Let our Christmas message be this:

Christmas is the time for all to give thanks to God our Father for Jesus Christ our Lord. As it is written: *"But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. (Gal. 4:4-5 ESV) And "to all who receive him, who believed in his name, he gives the right to become a child of God," (Jn. 1:12 ESV) "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. (Jn. 3:16 ESV)*

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN: *Joy to the World* (LBW 39)

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) 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.

**Go in Peace and celebrate the birth of our
Lord Jesus Christ! Merry Christmas!**

*(Please deposit candles and holders into blue tub as you exit the
sanctuary.)*

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR

Have been given the glory of God by the Schulze families and the Burress family, in thanksgiving for the birth of our dear savior and in memory of loved ones.



POINSETTIAS ARE PLACED IN LOVING HONOR OF:



Our Faith Lutheran Family – by Mike and Candi Andrews

Our mothers, Clarice Ullrich and Janet Koenig –by Andrew and Kim Koenig.

Our children, grandchildren – by Steve and Susan Foerster

Carolyn Westerholm and Charlotte, Clark and Cooper Koehler – by Kerry
& Mary Koehler

Amelia Ramos and our grandchildren – by the Manuel Ramos Family

Julie Sagebiel – by Pat and Missy Sagebiel

My children and grandchildren – by Sharon Stollewerk

To the glory of God in thankfulness of all His blessings – by Ed & Joyce
Engelhardt

POINSETTIAS ARE PLACED IN MEMORY OF:



Our parents and loved ones – by Spitzie and Jeanine
Ullrich



Saralyn and Jim Pietsch and Ted Andrews – by Mike and Candi Andrews

Our parents, Jim and Ruby Linsey – by Roxanne Heckmann and Mona
Kuehne

Ralph & May Sagebiel and Adolph & Olga Ermel – by Bill and Rose Mary
Ermel

Dorothy & Paten Burris – by Mike Burris

Dickie Ullrich and our parents – by Clarice Ullrich

Lee Herrick – by Avis Herrick

Our parents, Dickie Ullrich and Danny Koenig - by Andrew and Kim
Koenig

Our parents and grandparents – by Steve and Susan Foerster

Our loved ones, Gordon Seidel and Lee Herrick – by Joyce Seidel &
Family

Kermit Westerholm, Thelma and Donald Koehler – by the Kerry Koehler
Family

Juan Ramos, Alvis Talley, B.B. and Estella Schraub – by the Manuel
Ramos Family

Our parents, Luther & Dorothy Sagebiel and and our son Boyd
Harrison – by Pat and Missy Sagebiel

Basil & Marie Karm, Missy Laird Behrendt, Claudia Beason and Lane
Thomas Graves – by Sharon Stollewerk

Norwood & Rhea Wensinger and Judy Boggs – by Cathy Wensinger

