



Sunday, December 18, 2022

Serving us in worship today: Pastor: David Mayer,

Music: Gina Sanders, Chancel Singers, Joyful Noise, Hand Bell Choir;

Ushers: Mike Andrews, Brandon Westerholm, Ronnie Glenewinkel and Robert Raetzsch; Greeters: Pat and Missy Sagebiel; AV: Matt Fransen, Andrew Kuehne



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! Our guests are encouraged to sign the **red** guestbook located at the Welcome Table in the entry hall. First time visitors, be sure to pick up a **red** welcome bag in the narthex.

We ask everyone to please complete the attendance sheet in the black folder and then pass it down the pew.

Prayer Cards

You will find prayer request cards on the back of the pew in front of you. We ask that anyone needing special prayer please fill them out and place cards in the box located on the Welcome Table in the Narthex.

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVOCATION and OPENING PRAYER

Please Stand

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

C: Amen.

P: Let us pray,

OPENING HYMN: "O Come, All Ye Faithful" Vs. 1, 2, 3 LBW #45

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!

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*

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:

P: 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.

P: *If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1: 8-9, ESV)*

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P: Most Merciful God,

C: We confess that 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.

- P:** 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: *"Festival Gloria"*

Chancel Singers

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE – PEACE – "The Angel's Candle"
"Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah" Verse 4 WOV 630

The Atchley Family
(Please see the screen for lyrics)

SPECIAL MUSIC *"A Babe Is Born"*

Joyful Noise

SPECIAL MUSIC *"The First Noel"*

Hand Bell Choir

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

"Christmas Road Trip – The Journey of A Lifetime"

- **Scene One** – Mom, Dad and their two children riding in the family vehicle.
 - Music: *"O Come O Come Emmanuel"* Verse 1
 - 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.
- **Scene Two** – Family still on road trip
 - Music: Joyful Noise *"Angels We Have Heard on High"*
All Children *"Away in a Manger"*
- **Scene Three** – Family well into the journey
 - Music: *"We Three Kings"* Verse 1
(Please see next page.)

We three kings of Orient are;
bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain,
following yonder star.

Refrain

Oh, star of wonder, star of night,
star with royal beauty bright;
westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light!

- **Scene Four** – Last leg of road trip

➤ Music: **Chancel Singers** *"Peace on Earth/Little Drummer Boy"*

OFFERING

SPECIAL MUSIC: *"Go Tell It On The Mountain"* *Hand Bell Choir*

Please stand.

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

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

WORDS OF INSTITUTION with THE LORD'S PRAYER

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

*Everyone should have received a communion kit from our ushers as you entered worship today. If
you need one, please raise your hand and our ushers will bring them to you.*

SPECIAL MUSIC

Kendalynn Pruitt/Andrew Cave

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

C: We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the
healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen
us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for
the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Please stand.

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) Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let all 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 sorrow 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.

BENEDICTION

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 2023 budget.

FAITH FAMILY CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION PARTICIPANTS

MUSIC

Gina Sanders
Chancel Singers
Hand Bell Choir
Joyful Noise
Kendalynn Pruitt
Andrew Cave

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Dad – Greg Schlather
Mom – Nancy Schlather
Kyle – Kyle Schlather
Alicia – Emily Schlather
Grandpa- David Mayer

Narrators- Mike Andrews, Julia Glenewinkel
Readers – Rylee Flippin, Addison Seidel, Lane Seidenberger,
Kendalynn Pruitt, Rebeka Wilke, Riley Wilke

Mary- Katelyn Poole
Joseph- Brooks Baker
Baby Jesus – Kimberlyn Cloughly
Shepherds – Axel Beedy, Dietz Goetz, Hudson Cloughly, Wyatt Hilbert,
Colton Baker

Wisemen - Jordan Kautzsch, Boone Westerholm, Calvin Jones

Star of Bethlehem -Olivia Poole
Angel Gabriel- Madison Hilbert
Host of Angels- Kylie Hazel, Kori Warren, Rowan Kautzsch, Kennedy Curnel,
Kambree Flippin, Lyndee Flippin, Josephine Webb, Callie
Atchley, Gretchen Goetz, Sloan Wynn, Reagan Cave,
Reagan Eledge

Animals - Tatum Atchley, Thatcher Eichenholz, Sawyer Eichenholz,
Nolan Warren, Ryan Cloughly, Wyatt Crawford, Cason
Hazel, Nolan Kaina, Ava Jane Westerholm, Jackson White

SUNDAY MORNINGS AT FAITH

Worship Service – 9:00 AM

Fellowship on patio following worship

~~Sunday School 10:30-11:30 AM~~

- ~~• Pre-K-1st Grade in Educational Wing~~
- ~~• 2nd-5th Grade in Education Wing~~
- ~~• 6th-12th Grade in LEC Loft~~
- ~~• Adult Sunday School **That The World May Know* class in Activity Center~~
 - ~~* New Testament Class in Sanctuary~~
- ~~• Lifebridge (Young Adult) meets in the Life Enrichment Center.~~

“WORDS OF FAITH” BROADCAST ON KWED

Has been sponsored to the glory of God today by Bryan and Diane Terp in memory of Dusty Rhodes and thankfulness of the Christ Child.

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR

Have been given to the glory of God by Tiffany, Alex and Madelyn Mireault, Ashley and TJ Goins, and Brandon Bogisch in honor of their father/grandfather, Tim Bogisch and Aunt Tammy's birthday.

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE AND OFFERINGS:

Attendance on December 11 was 167; Month to Date (December): **\$19,716.00**;
YTD Offerings and Misc. **\$441,292.15** (2022 budgeted offerings is **\$488,775.00**)

SAVE THE DATES

- FAITH FAMILY CHRISTMAS – **TODAY**
- CONGREGATIONAL BUDGET MEETING – **TODAY**
- CHRISTMAS CAROLING WITH CHOIR – **TODAY**
- RING SA BELL AT WALMART – December 19
- CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES at 4:00 and 7:00 PM – December 24
- REGULAR SUNDAY WORSHIP AT 9:00 AM – December 25
- ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING – January 22

THIS WEEK AT FAITH

Monday, December 19	Prayer Group	10:15
Monday, December 19	Salvation Army Bell Ringing	
Tuesday, December 20	Men's Bible Study	7:30 AM (AC)
Tuesday, December 20	Staff Mtg./Christmas Luncheon	9:00 AM

Wed., December 21	Quilters	9:00 AM (AC)
Wed. December 21	Deadline for Poinsettia Drop Off	
Friday, December 23	Decorate with Poinsettias/Candles	9:00 AM

USHERS NEEDED

We are still in need for helpers/ushers for our Christmas Eve worship services. Please call the church office if you are available.

WORKERS FOR NEXT WEEK

Sunday, December 25: Ushers: Mike Burris, Missy Sagebiel, Pat Sagebiel; Lay Reader: Tim Bogisch; Greeters: Sharon Stollewerk, Diane Terp; AV: Matthew Fransen, Diane Gwyther; Count: Emma Jean Becker, Pat Sagebiel; Lock Up: Cathy Wensinger; Security: Matt Sherwood; Communion set up: NA; Communion clean up: NA; Communion Helpers: NA; Communion Aid: NA.

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

Julie Sagebiel	Judy Saunders	Nora Lavelett
Carolyn Sagebiel	Ronnie Glenewinkel	Kelton Lange
Gladys Fruehling	Sandy Wille	Donald Jackson
Harold Bogisch	Brad Flippin	Steve Foerster
Georgie Dittrich	Lillian Lippe	Clara Fischer
Birdie Kuempel	Doris Rinn	Willie Bloch
Irene Menn	Kathy Taddy	Tom Stout
Candi Andrews		

ANGEL TREE TO BENEFIT LOCAL NURSING HOME RESIDENTS

The Social Concerns Team is sponsoring an Angel Tree. Our Angel Tree will help the Guadalupe County Sheriff's department reach their goal of giving every resident, in every nursing home a Christmas present. Please choose an angel tag from the tree that has the amount you would like to give, or choose a "state your own amount" angel. Make checks payable to Faith Lutheran Church with "Angel Tree" in the memo. Clip the check or cash to the angel tag and place it in the basket by the tree. All donations need to be at church by December 19. Thank you for participating and showing your care for others.

POINSETTIAS TO BRIGHTEN SANCTUARY

Faith Lutheran has a tradition of decorating the chancel/altar area with poinsettias for the season by using plants from our members! If you would be willing to share your plants with us, please bring them to church by **5:00 PM on Wednesday, Dec. 21st**. If you would like your poinsettia to be in memory or in honor of someone, please call or email the church office (communications@faithseguion.org) with this information by **noon Friday, Dec. 16th**, 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 sheet located in the narthex for **Monday, December 19th**. Location for the bell ringing day will be the Market/Grocery entrance of the Seguin Walmart. Hours for Faith are from 9:00 AM—9:00 PM and time slots are 1 1/2 hours each. Please consider giving a gift of your time this holiday season and volunteer for a one and a half hour time slot. For more information, contact Bryan Terp.

PRESCHOOL STAFF NEEDED

Faith Lutheran Church Preschool is in need of a part-time teacher’s aide for a Pre-K class. Hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00-12:00, with flexibility to also work some afternoons.



CHRISTMAS CAROLING

The Music Ministry members would like to invite everyone to come Christmas Caroling with them on **TODAY**. We will **meet at Faith at 4:30** and carpool to the Assisted Living homes and to some of our homebound members. This is a FAMILY EVENT, so come one, come all and help us spread some Christmas cheer!

2023 FLOWER AND WORDS OF FAITH CHARTS

Are now posted in the hallway outside of communications office. Please sign up for dates you would like to sponsor altar flowers or our Words of Faith Broadcast in 2023.

THE SEASON OF ADVENT

The word *Advent* means “coming.” It is the season of the Church year where we are reminded of the reality of Christ’s coming into our world. It is a season of preparation and anticipation, not simply for the celebration of Christmas, but to recognize that hope and expectation are a part of our daily life of faith.

When writing on the subject of Advent, Martin Luther spoke of *three* different “comings” of Christ:

The first coming was indeed when Christ was born as a child in Bethlehem – his coming in the *past*. The first advent was when the eternal Son of God took on human flesh and became a living part of our world.

As Christians, we also believe in the second coming of Christ – his coming in the *future*. At the end of all time, Christ will return to bring his kingdom to fulfillment. On that day he will raise us up to appear before his throne of judgment.

The “third” coming of Christ of which Luther spoke has no single particular time attached to it, so it is perhaps better to put no number to it all. This other coming of Christ does not occur with portents in the heavens, no choirs of angels on high. It is an advent that is hard to see at all, because it happens through the Spirit of God. This is Christ’s coming into the *present*, when our Lord enters into the hearts of everyday people in the here and now, through his Word, in faith.

Of the three, this may be the single most important Advent of Christ, at least as far as our salvation is concerned. Because it is only through the advent of faith that the first and second comings of Christ take on meaning for us as individuals. It is when Christ enters our hearts that his presence becomes a reality for each of us in **our** lives, and we recognize all the many ways that God is truly with us.

THE ADVENT WREATH

The Advent wreath is a tradition that marks the passage of the four weeks of Advent in the liturgical calendar of the Western Christian Church. It has come to be used by many other Christian denominations as well.

An evergreen wreath is placed horizontally on a flat surface or a stand, with four candles. On each Sunday in Advent, a new candle is lit, to mark the weeks leading up to Christmas. Each of the candles is used to describe one of the corresponding Advent themes. Often, the lighting of each candle is accompanied by a Bible reading, a song or prayers. The practice is observed both during worship services in Advent and in family devotional settings.

A fifth, white Christ Candle is often placed at the center of the wreath representing Christ at the center of the season.

The tradition of the Advent Wreath can serve as a reminder to prepare our hearts to receive the coming Messiah that we all may join in saying: "Blessed is he who come in the name of the Lord."



INTERESTED IN MEMBERSHIP AT FAITH?

If you are interested in finding out more information on Faith, please see or contact Pastor at 830-426-9146.

PHOTO DIRECTORY

Faith has prepared (and will continue to update) an online/printable church membership directory. This includes not only our members, but families and individuals who have been active and participating in services and events with us. We are asking members to submit a photograph of yourself or your family that you would like to appear next to your name and information in the directory.

We are still missing **several PICTURES** for our printable/digital Church Directory! Please send your family or individual pictures to communications@faithsequin.org to get them included! You are also free to just grab Roxanne after service and have her take a quick photo of you!

CHRISTIAN CUPBOARD

Thank you to those of you who have been dropping off items for the Christian Cupboard. Our December items are **any non-perishable food item you would like to give. This includes canned or boxed food items. (Canned vegetables, beans, meat, meal helpers, etc.)** any variety or brand. Total number of items collected as of December 13 is 162.