



December 6, 2020
2nd Sunday of Advent

***“Jesus Christ
is Coming to Town!”***

*We welcome you with open arms
and open hearts!*

Faith Lutheran Church is a Christ-centered, Bible-reading, welcoming spiritual home for seekers, believers, and everybody between. We're a family of God "because God first loved us." (1 John 4:19) Because you're here, you're part of the family - welcome.

Young children are welcome in the service.

If you are new to Faith we would like to be in touch with you. Please share your contact information with the church office, 406-363-2964, or office@faithlutheranhamilton.org.

Welcome to Faith and thank you for coming!

God Gathers the Body of Christ

Prelude

Amber Richardson, Accompanist

Call to Worship

Celeste Pogachar

Welcome

AM: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you!

(AM: Prayer Requests and Service Announcements.)

Lighting the Advent Wreath: Advent 2

L: We praise you, O God, for this circle of light that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent. As we light the candles on this wreath, kindle within us the fire of your Spirit, that we may be light shining in the darkness. Enlighten us with your grace, that we may welcome others as you have welcomed us. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.

All: Amen.

Service of Light (*as two candles are lit*)

L: Jesus Christ, you are the light of the world;

All: the light no darkness can overcome;

L: Let your light scatter the darkness,

All: and shine within your people here.

L: The Light shines in the darkness;

All: and the darkness does not overcome it.

Candle Hymn

“Light Two Candles”

ELW #240, v. 2

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah



- 1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 3 Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 4 Light four can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra-el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.
 He shall feed the flock like a shep-herd, gent - ly lead them home-ward.
 Lift your heads and lift high the gate-way for the King of glo - ry.
 He is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be shin - ing!

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954

Music: TIF IN VELDELE, Yiddish folk tune

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(AM: Please stand as you are able for our gathering hymn)

Gathering Hymn “Holy Child Within the Manger” WOV #638

Holy Child within the Manger

Carol at the Manger

1 Ho - ly Child with - in the man - ger, long a -
 2 Once a - gain we tell the sto - ry— how your
 3 Ho - ly Child with - in the man - ger, lead us

go yet ev - er near; come as friend to ev - 'ry
 love for us was shown, when the im - age of your
 ev - er in your way, so we see in ev - 'ry

stran - ger, come as hope for ev - 'ry fear.
 glo - ry wore an im - age like our own.
 stran - ger how you come to us to - day.

As you lived to heal the bro - ken, greet the
 Come, en - light - en with your wis - dom, come and
 In our lives and in our liv - ing give us

out - cast, free the bound, as you taught us love un -
 fill us with your grace. May the fire of your com -
 strength to live as you, that our hearts might be for -

spo - ken, teach us now where you are found.
 pas - sion kin - dle ev - 'ry land and race.
 giv - ing and our spir - its strong and true.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: JOYOUS LIGHT, Marty Haugen, b. 1950

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Confession and Forgiveness

PM: Blessed be God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, whose forgiveness is sure and whose steadfast love endures forever.

All: Amen.

PM: Together let us honestly and humbly confess
that we have not lived as God desires.
(Silence is kept for reflection)

PM: Loving and forgiving God,

**All: We confess that we are held captive by sin.
In spite of our best efforts, we have gone astray.
We have not welcomed the stranger;
we have not loved our neighbor;
we have not been Christ to one another.
Restore us, O God. Wake us up and turn us from our sin.
Renew us each day in the light of Christ. Amen.**

PM: People of God, hear this glad news: by God's endless grace
your sins are forgiven, and you are free, free from all that
holds you back and free to live in the peaceable
realm of God. May you be strengthened in God's love,
† comforted by Christ's peace, and accompanied with
the power of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Advent Hymn *(Please rise)*

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

ELW# 254

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus



1 Come, thou long-ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;
2 Born thy peo-ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king;



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king-dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art,
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir-it rule in all our hearts a - lone;



dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long-ing heart.
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer-it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788
Music: JEFFERSON, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

Prayer of the Day

AM: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

AM: Let us pray.

All: Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming strengthen us to serve you with purified lives; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

God Speaks to Us in the Word

(AM: Please be seated for the readings)

First Reading:

Isaiah 40: 1-11

Lector: A reading from the 40th chapter of Isaiah:

In grand, flowing, poetic lines, the prophet announces that the exile of God's people in Babylon is over. God will deliver Israel and will care for her as a shepherd cares for the sheep. This word can be trusted, because the only enduring reality in life is the word of God.

¹Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God.

²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins.

³A voice cries out:

"In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

⁴Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.⁵Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

⁶A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?"

All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field.

⁷The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. ⁸The grass withers, the flower fade but the word of our God will stand forever. ⁹Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!"

¹⁰See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him.

¹¹He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

Righteousness shall prepare a pathway for God.

(Lector: Give directions for psalm responses.)

¹You have been gracious to your land, O LORD;
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.

²**You have forgiven the iniquity of your people
and blotted out all their sins.**

⁸I will listen to what the LORD God is saying;
for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn
their hearts to you.

⁹**Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you,
that your glory may dwell in our land.**

¹⁰Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together;
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

¹¹**Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth,
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.**

¹²The LORD will indeed grant prosperity,
and our land will yield its increase.

¹³**Righteousness shall go before the LORD
and shall prepare for God a pathway.**

Second Reading

2 Peter 3:8-15a

Lector: A reading from the 3rd chapter of Second Peter:

This short letter deals with pressing concerns regarding the final advent of Jesus, especially concerns that could arise over its apparent delay. The author of the letter calls on Christians to anticipate the promised coming of the Lord through conduct dedicated to God.

⁸Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. ⁹The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. ¹⁰But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a

loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

¹¹Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, ¹²waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? ¹³But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. ¹⁴Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; ^{15a}and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

Lector: Word of God, Word of life. **All:** Thanks be to God.

Kids' Talk

John Marten

(AM: Please rise as you are able for the gospel acclamation)

Gospel Acclamation

“Emmanuel”

W&P #36

**Emmanuel, Emmanuel, his name is called Emmanuel;
God with us, revealed in us; his name is called Emmanuel.**

Gospel

Mark 1:1-8

PM: The Holy Gospel according St. Mark, chapter 1:

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

The Gospel of Mark does not begin with a story of Jesus' birth but with the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord.

¹The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

²As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way;

³the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight,’ ”

⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

PM: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ!

Sermon

John Marten

(AM: Please rise as you are able for the Sermon song)

Sermon Song

“Blessed Be the God of Israel”

ELW #250

Blessed Be the God of Israel



1 Blessed be the God of Is - ra - el who comes to set us free
 2 With prom - ised mer - cy will God still the cov - e - nant re - call,
 3 My child, as proph - et of the Lord you will pre - pare the way,



and rais - es up new hope for us: a Branch from Da - vid's tree.
 the oath once sworn to A - bra - ham, from foes to save us all;
 to tell God's peo - ple they are saved from sin's e - ter - nal sway.



So have the proph - ets long de - clared that with a might - y arm
 that we might wor - ship with - out fear and of - fer lives of praise,
 Then shall God's mer - cy from on high shine forth and nev - er cease



God would turn back our en - e - mies and all who wish us harm.
 in ho - li - ness and righ - teous - ness to serve God all our days.
 to drive a - way the gloom of death and lead us in - to peace.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944, based on Luke 1:68-79

Music: FOREST GREEN, English folk tune

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The Apostles' Creed (*AM leads*)

ELW p. 95

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended

into heaven. He is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.

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

Prayers of the Church

AM: God of power and might, tear open the heavens and come quickly to this weary world. Hear our prayers for everyone in need.

“Come Now, O Prince of Peace”

ELW # 247 Vv. 1-2

See page 14

A brief silence.

Faithful God, you teach us to wait for you with faithfulness and patience. Sustain and support us in our doubts and questions. Nurture our faith as we discern and enact your mission. Wait with us. Watch with us.

Hear our prayer.

Loving God, you set the stars in the sky and breathe life into the earth. Renew the face of creation where it is in need of your healing touch. Mend the wounds of environmental damage and restore balance to ecosystems so that all creation can declare your praise. Wait with us. Watch with us.

Hear our prayer.

Steadfast God, you never tire of seeking justice. Where people suffer from discrimination, judgment, and injustice, speak words of truth and comfort. We pray especially for . . . Lead us toward a world where faithfulness will sprout underfoot and righteousness rain down from above. Wait with us. Watch with us.

Hear our prayer.

Leading God, you ask us to make uneven ground smooth. Make even the disparities between your people. Sustain and support people with physical and intellectual disabilities. Accompany disability advocates who work for

a world accessible to all. Teach us to celebrate the great diversity in our midst. Wait with us. Watch with us.

Hear our prayer.

Tender God, you know sorrow and joy alike. We pray for those in our families and congregation who are not joyful in this holiday season. Comfort those who grieve, be a companion to all who are lonely, tend those who are sick or struggling with depression, and gather all people in your healing embrace. Wait with us. Watch with us.

Hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Eternal God, we give thanks for the saints who have prepared your way in the wilderness and taught us to continue their faithful work. Make their generous lives an example for all. Wait with us. Watch with us.

Hear our prayer.

Draw near to us, O God, and receive our prayers for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

“Come Now, O Prince of Peace”

ELW # 247 Vv. 3-

4

Come Now, O Prince of Peace

Ososŏ, ososŏ

O - so - sŏ o - so - sŏ, pyong - hwa - ŭi - im - gŭm

1 Come now, O Prince of peace, make us one bod - y.
 2 Come now, O God of love, make us one bod - y.
 3 Come now and set us free, O God, our Sav - ior.
 4 Come, Hope of u - ni - ty, make us one bod - y.

u - ri - ga han - mom i - ru - ge ha - so - sŏ.

Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.
 Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.
 Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.
 Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.

Text: Geonyong Lee, b. 1947; tr. Marion Pope

Music: OSOSŎ, Geonyong Lee, b. 1947

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Pass the Peace

PM: The peace of the Lord be with you all.

All: And also with you.

*Take a moment to pass the peace with those around you, and
 send a message of peace to those listening and watching with you.*

We will now receive the offering.

The Offering

“In the Bleak Midwinter”

ELW #294 v. 3

**What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb.
If I were a wise man, I would do my part;
Yet what I can I give him-- give my heart.**

Offering Prayer

AM: Generous God,

All: You have created all that is,
and you provide for us in every season.

**Bless all that we offer, that through these gifts
the world will receive your blessing.**

In the name of Jesus, Emmanuel, we pray.

Amen.

Jesus Comes to Us in His Supper

Dear members and friends of Faith: as you trust the God who comes in Jesus, please be welcome to share his meal. Christ offers here and now his body and blood, his death and resurrection, as a demonstration that God “loves you to death” and is present to, in, and through you now and forever.

Communion will be served in individual portions.

Give directions for communion.

The Great Thanksgiving

PM: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

PM: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

PM: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PM: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer,
through whom you will also make all things new in the day when
he comes to judge the world in righteousness.
And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth
and the hosts in heaven, we praise your name as we await
your coming, O Emmanuel.

Words of Institution

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

PM: In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out your Holy Spirit,
that by this Holy Communion we may know
the unity we share with all your people
in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

All: Amen

The Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13 & Luke 11:2-4

PM: Lord Jesus, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray...

All: 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.

Distribution

PM: And now may the body and blood of our Savior, Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. Amen.

Post-Communion Prayer

PM: Gracious and abundant God,

**All: You have done great things for us, and we rejoice.
In this bread and cup you give us life forever.
In your boundless mercy, strengthen us
and open our hearts to the world's needs,
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Benediction

PM: Be people of **peace**.

Let **peace** live in your heart and share the **peace** of Christ with all you meet. Share **peace** by acting out of compassion and not fear. Share **peace** by listening to all sides of the story. Share **peace** by praying for our world. In this Advent season, we need to see, feel, and share **peace**. As you go out into the wonder of God's creations, share **peace** and **hope** with those you meet. **All: Amen.**

God Sends Us into the World

Announcements for Congregation

He Came Down



- 1 He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;
- 2 He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light;
- 3 He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace;
- 4 He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy;



he came down that we may have love;
 he came down that we may have light; hal - le - lu - jah for - ev - er - more.
 he came down that we may have peace;
 he came down that we may have joy;

Text: Cameroon traditional

Music: HE CAME DOWN, Cameroon traditional

Dismissal

AM: Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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Thanks to our Worship Assistants!

Today Dec 6

Accompanist	Amber Richardson
Assisting Minister	Celeste Pogachar
Video	Rick Brown
Presiding Minister	John Marten

Dec 13

Accompanist	Susan Peterson
Assisting Minister	Celeste Pogachar
Video	Rick Brown
Projection	

Pray for our Members and Friends...

Please call or email us with your prayer requests

Prayers for safety and healing: Pastor Dale Meador, Pastor Aprille Jordan, Eunice Romo, Quoia Anderson, Bill Jameson, Ken Price, Pastor Shannon Mayfield, Scott Southwick, Amber Wood, Richard Castor, Julie, Pat, Amber Lynch, Ken Cathey, Linda Bentz, Ron Osborn.

Prayers for Covid-19 Recovery: Liz Jameson, Patrick Gyles

Prayers for comfort:

The Beehive: Morry Mitteness, Yvonne Olson

Valley View: Ruth Dillon

Remington: Betty Swift, Chuck Olson

Home Nursing Care: Virginia Roterling, Smitty

Incarcerated: Jacob Bachman, George Davis

***This prayer list will be refreshed monthly.
Please feel free to resubmit.***