

December 5th, 2021



*ELW Setting 3
2nd Sunday in Advent*

*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,

Welcome to Faith and thank you for coming!

God Gathers the Body of Christ

Prelude

Amber Richardson
Accompanist

Call to Worship

Welcome

Am: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you!

(AM: Any prayer requests? Please notify the church office to submit names of those you wish to be included in the prayers. No formal offering will be taken today. Please leave in the offering plate on the table in the narthex.)

Advent Wreath Litany and Lighting: Advent 1

Litany

Lighting 1st candle

Advent Litany Prayer

**All: We praise you, O God, for this evergreen crown
that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent.
As we light the first candle on this wreath,
rouse us from sleep, that we may be ready to greet our Lord
when he comes with all the saints and angels.
Enlighten us with your grace,
and prepare our hearts to welcome him with joy.
Grant this through Christ our Lord,
whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.
Amen.**

**Candle Hymn
ELW# 240 V. 1, 2.**

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah.

PM: The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

In the name of the Father,

and of the ✠ Son,

and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

PM: 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.

Amen.

PM: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

(The assembly kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection.)

PM: Most merciful God,

ALL: **we confess that we are captive 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.

PM: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have

been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

Gathering Hymn

“Hark the Glad Sound ”

ELW #239

**1 Hark, the glad sound! The Savior comes,
the Savior promised long;
let ev'ry heart prepare a throne
and ev'ry voice a song.**

**2 He comes the pris'ners to release,
in Satan's bondage held.
The gates of brass before him burst,
the iron fetters yield.**

**3 He comes the broken heart to bind,
the bleeding soul to cure,
and with the treasures of his grace
to enrich the humble poor.**

**4 Our glad hosannas, Prince of peace,
your welcome shall proclaim,
and heav'n's eternal arches ring
with your beloved name.**

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702-1751

Greeting

ELW p.138

PM: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the unity of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And also with you!

Kyrie

AM: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

AM: For the peace from above,
and for our salvation,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

AM: For the peace of the whole world,
for the well-being of the Church of God,
and for the unity of all,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

AM: For this holy house,
and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

AM: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

PM: Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.

ALL: Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you,
we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ,
only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

Prayer of the Day

AM: Let us pray.

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

*(A brief silence is kept before the prayer.
The assembly is seated.)*

AM: Please be seated for the readings

God Speaks to Us in The Word

First Reading:

Malachi 3:1-4

Lector: A reading from Malachi:

God announces a covenant with Israel. A messenger like Malachi (his name means “my messenger”) will prepare the way for the coming of the Lord by purifying and refining God’s people, as silver and gold are refined.

¹See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. ²But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner’s fire and like fullers’ soap; ³he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. ⁴Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

Psalm: Luke 1:68-79

In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us. (Lk. 1:78)

⁶⁸Blessed are you, Lord, the God of Israel,
you have come to your people and set them free.

**⁶⁹You have raised up for us a mighty Savior,
born of the house of your servant David.**

⁷⁰Through your holy prophets, you promised of old to save us from our
enemies,

⁷¹from the hands of all who hate us,

⁷²to show mercy to our forebears,
and to remember your holy covenant.

⁷³This was the oath you swore to our father Abraham:

⁷⁴to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
free to worship you without fear,

⁷⁵holy and righteous before you, all the days of our life.

⁷⁶And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,
for you will go before the Lord to pre-prepare the way,

⁷⁷**to give God's people knowledge of salvation
by the forgiveness of their sins.**

⁷⁸In the tender compassion of our God
the dawn from on high shall | break upon us,

⁷⁹**to shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of
death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

Second Reading

Philippians 1:3-11

Lector: A reading from Philippians.

The apostle Paul was the pastor of many new churches. He writes in this letter about his joy to be in partnership with the Christians of Philippi. Listen to how tender-hearted Paul, sometimes a stern preacher, is with his friends as he encourages them to grow in love and knowledge.

³I thank my God every time I remember you, ⁴constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, ⁵because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. ⁷It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. ⁹And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight ¹⁰to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, ¹¹having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

L: The word of the Lord....

C: Thanks be to God.

Kids' Talk

Pastor Paul

(The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.)

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life.
Alleluia. Alleluia.**

Gospel

Luke 3:1-6

PM: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke:

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

John the Baptist is a herald of Jesus, whose way is prepared by “repentance for the forgiveness of sins.” As we hear the careful record of human leaders, we sense the spectrum of political and religious authority that will be challenged by this coming Lord.

¹In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, ²during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, ⁴as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.

⁵Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall be made straight,
and the rough ways made smooth;

⁶and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’”

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ!

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Prepare the Royal Highway!”

ELW #264

**1 Prepare the royal highway;
the King of kings is near!
Let ev'ry hill and valley
a level road appear!
Then greet the King of glory,
foretold in sacred story:**

Refrain

**Hosanna to the Lord,
for he fulfills God's word!**

**2 God's people, see him coming:
your own eternal king!
Palm branches strew before him!
Spread garments! Shout and sing!
God's promise will not fail you!
No more shall doubt assail you! Refrain**

**3 Then fling the gates wide open
to greet your promised king!
Your king, yet ev'ry nation
its tribute too may bring.
All lands will bow before him;
their voices join your singing: Refrain**

**4 His is no earthly kingdom;
it comes from heav'n above.
His rule is peace and freedom
and justice, truth, and love.
So let your praise be sounding
for kindness so abounding: Refrain**

The Nicene Creed

AM: Let us Confess our faith with the words of the Nicene creed

All: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

The Prayers of the Church

Assisting minister invites the assembly into prayer with these or similar words.

In this season of watching and waiting, let us pray for all people and places that yearn for God's presence.

A brief silence.

You send messengers into the world to proclaim the day of your coming. Make our bishops, pastors, deacons, and lay preachers confident in their preaching, that their words and our lives witness to your grace. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Send your Spirit to all living creatures that are endangered. Provide them with shelter and care, and bring us into right relationship with the earth that you create and call good. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Send leaders to our nations, cities, schools, and businesses to work on behalf of those who have lost parents, spouses, and loved ones; immigrants; the imprisoned; those living in poverty; and all who are oppressed. Make them bold in their commitments to justice and reconciliation. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Send your servants to care for those who suffer. Use our ministries and our lives to reach out with compassion to those who are hungry, oppressed, lonely, or ill (especially). Grant them healing and wholeness. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Send prophets to speak difficult truths, even when they are poorly received. Embolden those who ask hard questions and challenge accepted ways. Instill in youth and elders alike a passion for pointing to Jesus in all things. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

(Here other intercessions may be offered.)

We remember your saints, both those publicly celebrated and those more humbly remembered. Confident that your work will be completed, we live in faith until the day of your coming. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of new life, you come among us in the places we least expect. Receive these prayers and those of our hearts, in the name of Jesus.
Amen.

Pass the Peace

PM: The peace of Christ be with you always.

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.*

Jesus Comes to Us in His Supper

Dear members and friends of Faith: as you trust the God you see 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

MEAL

Offering

ELW# 182:

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

**Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and the dreams of all;
unite them with the prayers we offer.
Grace our table with your presence,
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.**

Offering Prayer

AM: Let us pray,

**All: God of our waiting and watching,
we offer the gifts of our hearts and our lives
to the service of all your people.**

**Prepare the way before us
as we meet you in this simple meal,
through Christ Jesus, our pathway and our peace.
Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving

ELW p.144

The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks.

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.

PREFACE

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 of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**ALL: Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of pow'r and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.

Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,

the Word made flesh.

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.

Pm: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

All:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

PM: With this bread and cup
we remember your Word dwelling among us,
full of grace and truth.
We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.
We look with hope for his coming.
Come, Lord Jesus.

PM: Holy God, we long for your Spirit.
Come among us.
Bless this meal.
May your Word take flesh in us.
Awaken your people.
Fill us with your light.
Bring the gift of peace on earth.
Come, Holy Spirit.

PM: All praise and glory are yours,
Holy One of Israel,

Word of God incarnate,
Power of the Most High,
one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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

PM: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

Invitation to the Meal

PM: Come, taste, and see that the Lord is good.

Distribution

PM: The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
Amen.

Blessing/Prayers

AM: Let us Pray

PM: And now may the body and blood of our Lord and Savior, keep you in His grace.

AM: Let us Pray

ALL: God for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

All: Amen.

Announcements

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. **Amen.**

Sending Song **“Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming”** ELW #272

**1 Lo, how a rose e'er blooming
from tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming
as seers of old have sung,
it came, a flow'r so bright,
amid the cold of winter,
when half-spent was the night.**

**2 Isaiah had foretold it,
the rose I have in mind;
with Mary we behold it,
the virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright,
she bore to us a Savior,
when half-spent was the night.**

**3 This flow'r, whose fragrance tender
with sweetness fills the air,
dispels with glorious splendor
the darkness everywhere.
True man, yet very God,
from sin and death he saves us
and lightens ev'ry load.**

**4 O Savior, child of Mary,
who felt our human woe;
O Savior, king of glory,
who dost our weakness know:
bring us at length, we pray,
to the bright courts of heaven
and into endless day.**

God Sends Us into The World

Dismissal

AM: Go in peace. Share the good news.

All: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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Pray for our Members and Friends...



Please call or email us with your prayer requests.

Prayers for safety and healing: Carl Russ, Jane Mason, Micha, Karla West, Kenny Senn,

Prayers for comfort: Family and Friends of Lynda Brady and Jim Shipman

Discovery:

Beehive: Yvonne Olson, Chuck Olson

Valley View: Ruth Dillon

Remington: Kathleen Gazzara

Sapphire: Bertie Senn

Incarcerated: George Davis

Thanks to our Worship Assistants!

Today	December 5thst	December 12th
Accompanist	Amber Richardson	Susan Peterson
Call To Worship	Amber Richardson	
Ushers	Jane Mason	
Lector	Jennifer Murrilo	Jane Mason
Assisting Minister	John Martin	
Projection	Chad Farrenburg	
Video		

