

# Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship

We're so glad you're here on this Holy Night!

Faith Lutheran Church is a family of God built on love: worshiping, welcoming, learning and serving in Christ's name.

# **God Gathers the Body Of Christ**

**Prelude** 

**Colleen Southwick**, Accompanist 4:00 pm **Amber Richardson**, Accompanist 7:00 pm

#### Welcome

PM: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the unity of the Holy Spirit be with you all. 2 Cor. 13:13

All: And also with you!

PM: Greet your neighbors-share the peace.

**Christmas Eve Litany.** 

Lighting all candles

**Christmas Eve – The Word Incarnate – John 1:1-5** 

Reader: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through

him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

Reader: Every year we light our candles.

C: We watch the flames flicker with wonder.

Reader: God's light is here.

C: This light is life for all people.

Reader: The darkness will never overcome it.

(Light the Christ candle.)

All: The Word is with us. Thanks be to God.

Reader: Let us pray.

All: In a world where worry, not peace, prevails, stir up that good news again. This Christmas, make it real in our hearts. Never have we needed Your joy and peace more than now. Thank You for the gift of Jesus, our Immanuel, the Word made flesh. Forgive us for forgetting—that Your love never changes, never fades, and that You never abandon the purpose for which You came: to save us from our sinful condition, and to give us life eternal, the joy of relationship with a holy God. Your birth—and Your death—sealed Your promise to us forever. Amen.

— Rebecca Barlow Jordan

**Gathering Carol** 

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

ELW #283

#### **Confession and Forgiveness**

PM: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,

Love from the

beginning, Word made

flesh, Breath of heaven.

All: Amen.

PM: Let us confess our sinfulness before God and one another, trusting in God's endless mercy and love. *Silence is kept for reflection*. Merciful God,

All: we confess that we are not perfect.

We have said and done things we regret. We have tried to earn your redeeming grace, while denying it to others. We have resisted your call to be your voice in the world.

Forgive us, loving God. Give us your righteousness, the strength to put aside our failures, and the courage to try again. Amen.

PM: Dear people of God, hear the good news:

Christ the Savior is born! You are loved and forgiven in the name of + Jesus, who has come among us. You are freed from proving that you deserve to be loved, because God's love is given to you as the most precious gift of all.

Rejoice in this love and share it with the world.

All: Amen.

#### **Prayer of the Day**

AM: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

AM: Let us pray.

All: Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our

Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

"Special Music"-

**Mendenall Family** - 4:00 **Amber Richardson** -7:00

# **God Speaks To Us In The Word**

First Reading Isaiah 9:2-7

**Lector**: A reading from Isaiah chapter 9:

<sup>2</sup>The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined. <sup>3</sup>You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder.

<sup>4</sup>For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. <sup>5</sup>For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. <sup>6</sup>For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,

Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. <sup>7</sup>His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

#### Carol,

"It Came upon a Midnight the Clear"

ELW#282 V. 1,2,4

#### Psalm 96

(Lector: Give response directions to congregation)

<sup>1</sup>Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.

<sup>2</sup>Sing to the LORD, bless the name of the LORD; proclaim God's salvation from day to day.

<sup>3</sup>Declare God's glory among the nations and God's wonders among all peoples.

<sup>4</sup>For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised, more to be feared than all gods.

<sup>5</sup>As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; but you, O LORD, have made the heavens.

<sup>6</sup>Majesty and magnificence are in your presence; power and splendor are in your sanctuary.

<sup>7</sup>Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD honor and power.

<sup>8</sup>Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the holy name; bring offerings and enter the courts of the LORD.

<sup>9</sup>Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; tremble before the LORD, all the earth.

<sup>10</sup>Tell it out among the nations: "The LORD is king! The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will judge the peoples with equity."

<sup>11</sup>Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that is therein.

<sup>12</sup>Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your coming, O LORD, for you come to judge the earth.

<sup>13</sup>You will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with your truth.

Reading Luke 2:1-5

**Pastor**: A reading from Luke chapter 2:

<sup>1</sup>In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>All went to their own towns to be registered.

<sup>4</sup>Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the

house and family of David. <sup>5</sup>He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child.

Hymn

"The First Noel"

**ELW# 300** 

V.1,2,5.

Reading Luke 2:6-7

**Pastor**: A reading from Luke chapter 2:

<sup>6</sup>While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup>And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Hymn

Away in a Manger

**ELW #277** 

V.1,3

### Reading

Luke 2:8-14

**Pastor**: A reading from Luke chapter 2:

<sup>8</sup>In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup>to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup>This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger."

<sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup>"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

Hymn

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

ELW #270 V1,2,3.

**Kids Talk** 

Pastor Paul - 4:00 Jacque VanDenburg -7:00

Reading Luke 2:15-20

**Pastor**: A reading from Luke chapter 2:

<sup>15</sup>When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us."

<sup>16</sup>So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup>When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; <sup>18</sup>and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup>But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart.

<sup>20</sup>The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

**Special Music** 

Wes Southwick 4:00 pm

Joy to the world ELW#267 7:00pm

Sermon

**Pastor Paul Anderson** 

The Offering

"O, little town of Bethlehem"

**ELW #279** 

V.1,2,4.



### **God Sends Us Into The World**

### The Closing Prayer and Benediction

PM: Tonight, as we celebrate God is with us in the birth of Jesus, let us continue to live lives of hope, peace, joy, and love. Share God's love with the shepherds you meet on the hillside. Let the communion of the Holy Spirit fill your heart with glad

tidings like the angels. And the Prince of Peace born again tonight, may He live in your heart to comfort and challenge you as you seek to live as one of his disciples. Amen.

**Closing Hymn** 

"Silent Night"

**ELW# 281** 

#### **Dismissal**

AM: Go tell it on the mountain, Jesus Christ is born! Go in peace.

All: Thanks be to God.

**Postlude**