



January 1, 2023

First Sunday of Christmas

Welcome to Faith and thank you for coming!

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

God Gathers the Body Of Christ

Call to Worship

Susan Peterson, Accompanist

Confession forgiveness

L: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, one God, the maker of heaven and earth, the Word made flesh, the Lord the giver of life

C: Amen

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

(Time of silent confession)

L: God of glory, God of peace,

C: we confess that we have shunned the light that reveals the truth about us. We cling to the worldly things rather than sharing the gifts of this earth. We trust ourselves above all. save your, people, O God; sustain the rivers and trees that sing your praise; and free us to live boldly in the light and the truth of Jesus, our Savior. Amen

L: The grace of God shines upon us, bringing salvation to the whole world. We are saved, our sins are washed away, not because of anything we have done, but according to God's mercy and Jesus Christ. Renewed by the Holy Spirit, let us live in hope and joy.

C: Amen

Gathering Hymn

"Oh Come All Ye Faithful" ELW#283

Greeting and prayer requests

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

C: And also with you!

Prayer Request

Christmas Carol

“Angels We have Heard on high”

ELW# 289

Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray

C: O Lord God, you know that we cannot place our trust in our own powers. As you protected the infant Jesus, so defend us and all the needy from harm and adversity, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Word

First Reading: Isaiah 63:7-9

God does not delegate divine intervention to a messenger or angel. God's own presence brings salvation. The prophet and all who read these words join in celebrating God's gracious deeds. God trusts that God's people will not act falsely.

7 I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord,
the praiseworthy acts of the Lord,
because of all that the Lord has done for us,
and the great favor to the house of Israel
that he has shown them according to his mercy,
according to the abundance of his steadfast love.
8 For he said, “Surely they are my people,
children who will not deal falsely”;
and he became their savior
9 in all their distress.
It was no messenger or angel

but his presence that saved them;
in his love and in his pity he redeemed them;
he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

Psalm 148

1 Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from the heavens;
praise God in the heights.

**2 Praise the Lord, all you angels;
sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.**

3 Praise the Lord, sun and moon;
sing praise, all you shining stars.

**4 Praise the Lord, heaven of heavens,
and you waters above the heavens.**

5 Let them praise the name of the Lord,
who commanded, and they were created,

**6 who made them stand fast forever and ever,
giving them a law that shall not pass away.**

7 Praise the Lord from the earth,
you sea monsters and all deeps;

**8 fire and hail, snow, and fog,
tempestuous wind, doing God's will;**

9 mountains and all hills,
fruit trees and all cedars;

**10 wild beasts and all cattle,
creeping things and flying birds.**

11 sovereigns of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the world;

**12 young men and maidens,
old and young together.**

13 Let them praise the name of the Lord,
whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over earth and heaven.

14 The Lord has raised up strength for the people and praise for all faithful servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near the Lord. Hallelujah! R

Second Reading: Hebrews 2:10-18

Through Jesus' suffering and death, the trail to eternal salvation has been blazed for us. We do not fear death, because he has conquered the power of death. Thus Christ, our merciful and faithful high priest, has the final say over the destiny of our lives.

10It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. 11For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, 12saying, I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters, in the midst of the congregation I will praise you." 13And again, I will put my trust in him." And again, "Here am I and the children whom God has given me." 14Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, 15and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. 16For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. 17Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. 18Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

Gospel Acclamation

"Your little Ones Dear Lord"

ELW #286

Your Little Ones, Dear Lord

**Your little ones, dear Lord, are we,
and come your lowly bed to see;
enlighten ev'ry soul and mind,
that we the way to you may find.**

Matthew 2:13-23

In a dream, Joseph is warned to flee to Egypt to protect the infant Jesus from the jealousy of Herod.

¹³Now after [the wise men] had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” ¹⁴Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, ¹⁵and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, “Out of Egypt I have called my son.” ¹⁶When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. ¹⁷Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah ¹⁸“A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.” ¹⁹When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, ²⁰“Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child’s life are dead.” ²¹Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. ²²But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. ²³There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, “He will be called a Nazorean.”

Sermon

Sermon Song

“Love Has Come”

ELW#292

Nicene Creed

L: Let us confess together the faith of the Church,
using the words of the Nicene Creed.

C: 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 & 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 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

Prayers of The Church

L: God of grace,

C: hear our prayer

With wonder and thanksgiving for Christ's coming into the world, we pray for the church, the life of the earth, and the whole human family.

A brief silence.

Merciful God, broaden the church's hospitality and welcome. Open our hearts to any in need of refuge and help, especially those who are persecuted. Prosper the work of Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Life-giving God, restore the health of the soil, the seas, and the air. Increase the joy and praise of all living things. In the coming year strengthen local, national, and international efforts to prevent further harm to the environment. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Liberating God, deliver your people from cruel oppression. Increase justice in every nation and keep the dream of freedom alive. In this new year bring the blessing of peace and put an end to violent conflict throughout the world (*regions in turmoil and conflict may be named*). God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Uplifting God, raise all who are bowed down by trouble and need, especially individuals and families living in poverty (*and those we name now*). Protect and nurture all children. Sustain those who parent, teach, and care for the young. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Abiding God, accompany this community in the coming year. Increase our love for one another and the neighbors we serve. Enrich our worship and deepen our faith. Sustain our pastor/s (*name/s*) and all who minister in your name. (*Specific ministries or individuals may be named.*) God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Loving God, the holy innocents who perish in every generation are safe in your keeping. We give you thanks and praise for the all the faithful who have gone before us into everlasting life with you. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Pondering the mystery of eternal love made flesh in Christ Jesus, we commend all for whom we pray to the mercy of God.

Amen.

Passing of the peace

The Offering

“What Child Is This”

ELW #296 V.3

Offertory Prayer

A: God of abundance,

C: receive and bless these gifts we have offered.

**Join our hearts with the song of the angels,
and gather us at your table of celebration.**

**Strengthen us to share with all the world
the abundance of your grace upon grace,
poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.**

Amen.

Words of Institution

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

The Lord's Prayer

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

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

Post communion Prayer

P: God our redeemer,

**C: You have fed us at this table
with gifts of grace, truth, and life.**

**As you have gathered us in joy,
send us forth as messengers of your peace.**

**Make us shine with the good news of your glory,
born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

Amen.

Blessing

P: God bless you and keep you,

✠ Jesus grant you grace and truth,
and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts,
now and forever.

C: Amen.

Announcements

Sending Song

“Go Tell it on the Mountain”

ELW#288

Dismissal

A: Go in peace and serve the Lord

C: Thanks be to God