

# Faith Lutheran Church

Hamilton MT

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Faith Lutheran Church is a family of God Built on love: worshipping, welcoming, learning, and serving in Christ's name. (1John 4:19) We are a Christ centered, Bible reading, welcoming spiritual home for seekers, believers, and everyone in between. Because you are here, you are part of the Family. WELCOME!

If you are new, visiting, or curious, please get in touch with us by filling out an information card in the pews.

## The Season of Advent



"Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. "

~ Romans 5:1-2

The four weeks of Advent are a time of preparation with a dual purpose. We prepare to celebrate Jesus' birth. We are waiting, as if for the first time, for the birth of the King.

We are also waiting for the end time. This is why we find ourselves listening to Old Testament prophecies, John the Baptist's thunderings, and Jesus' own words of warning on these Sundays of Advent.

We are preparing for the coming of our Lord as a baby in the manger, but also for that day when he will come again "in glory to judge the living and the dead, and God's kingdom will have no end."

The church color for the season is blue, a specific blue. It is the blue of pre-dawn. During the cold and short days of Nov and Dec if we look east before the sun breaches the horizon there is a growing light with a background of blue. For the church it is blue of anticipation and blue of hope. The sun, The Son, is coming!

A simple spiritual practice for the season is to take the time during your morning commute or coffee and abide in this pre-dawn moment and what it means to us.



We call our form  
of worship  
“liturgical”  
coming from the  
Greek word  
‘leitourgia’ which  
means “the work  
of the people.”

We begin  
confession  
knowing that in  
confession we  
find a God who is  
gracious and  
merciful, slow to  
anger and  
abounding in  
steadfast love.  
(Numbers 14:18)

## ***Prelude*** ***Call to Worship***

### ***Greeting***

**A:** Beloved of God, who are called to be saints: grace and peace  
be with you from the one who was, who is, and who is to come.

**C:** And also with you.

## ***Prayer requests***

## ***Brief Order For Confession And Forgiveness***

### ***Stand***

**P:** Blessed be the Holy Trinity ✠ the God of goodness and  
lovingkindness, whose Son was sent to save us and  
whose Spirit is poured out on us and renews us.

**C: Amen**

**P:** As people called out of darkness, let us confess our  
sins and seek mercy from the God of justice and  
righteousness.

### ***Silence for self-examination***

**P:** Righteous and merciful God,

**C:** we confess that we have strayed from your ways  
and walked our own paths. We fall asleep to the  
needs around us, yet our anxieties jar us awake.  
We are bound up in systems of unrighteousness  
and injustice. Restore your people, O God; renew  
your creation; and have mercy on us, for the sake  
of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

P: Hear the glad tidings of God! The Word was made flesh and lived among us. Clothed in our humanity, Jesus Christ is not ashamed to call us brothers and sisters and claims us as beloved children of God through our baptism. In Jesus Christ you are forgiven and restored to wholeness; in him you are free to serve God and your neighbor without fear.

C: Amen

## Candle Lighting of the Advent Wreath

### Hymn Light One Candle to Watch For Messiah

1st Sunday in Advent: verse 1

2nd Sunday in Advent: verses 1-2

3rd Sunday in Advent: verses 1-3

4th Sunday in Advent: verses 1-4

### 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!

*The Advent wreath appeared a few centuries ago in Germany as a sign of the waiting & hopeful expectation of the return in glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

*The wreath, a circle, came to represent the eternal victory over death through Jesus Christ.*

*The evergreens were a sign of the faithfulness of God to God's people, even in death, and the lighted candles were a reminder of the light of Christ brought into the world.*

*The Kyrie is the Greek word for, 'O Lord'. The biblical roots of the Kyrie are found in 1 Chronicles 16:34 It is an acknowledgment of what God has done, what God is doing, and what God will continue to do.*

*The Prayer of the Day collect and summarizes the main thoughts of the day giving foresight of the worship to come.*

## Gathering Hymn

### Kyrie



## Word

*Sit*

### First Reading

L: A reading from \_\_\_\_\_.

### Psalm

### Second Reading

L: A reading from \_\_\_\_\_.

*After the reading, the reader says:*

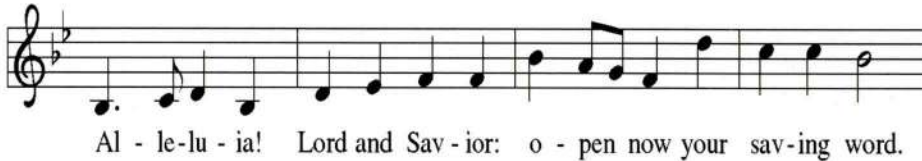
L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

### Children's Lesson

### Gospel Acclamation

*Please stand*



*For the Word we hear four readings.*

*The first is often from the Old Testament.*

*The next is from the Psalms.*

*The next is from the New Testament.*

*The congregation acknowledges the presence of the Lord in the proclamation of the Gospel by acclamations before and after.*

*The Gospel  
occupies the last  
place, the place of  
honor, it tells us  
of Jesus' life,  
ministry and  
deeds while on  
earth.*

**"For I am not  
ashamed of  
the gospel; it  
is the power of  
God for  
salvation  
to everyone  
who has faith."  
~ Romans 1:16**

## *Gospel*

P: The Holy Gospel according to \_\_, the \_\_chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

*After the reading:*

P: The Gospel of our Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ**

*Please sit*

*Sermon*

*Stand*

*Hymn of the Day*



## *Nicene Creed*

A: 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  
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 Nicene Creed  
was written in  
325 AD by the 1st  
ecumenical council  
in the Turkish city  
of Nicaea and is a  
summary of Chris-  
tian doctrine.*

*Also note that  
when we say that  
we believe in the  
“holy catholic  
church”, we use a  
small ‘c’ which  
means “universal”.  
Thus we are con-  
fessing that we  
believe in the God’s  
“holy universal  
church”*



Our prayers are gathered, collected, and said as one people. As the Church our individual prayers are united into one voice. Notice the response "hear our prayer." We pray as one body.

Our offering is another response to God's Word. We give of ourselves, and our money out of thankfulness for all that God has given us, our life and our salvation..



## Prayers of Intercession

*After each petition*

A: God in your Mercy

C: hear our prayer

C: Amen

## Sharing of the peace

A: The peace of the Lord be with you all

C: and also with you

*Extend a word or gesture of peace to those around you*

## Presentation of Gifts (offering)

*After the ushers gather the gifts we stand and sing as they are brought forward and presented*

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right spir -

it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take

not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re-store to me the

joy of your sal-va - tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir - it.

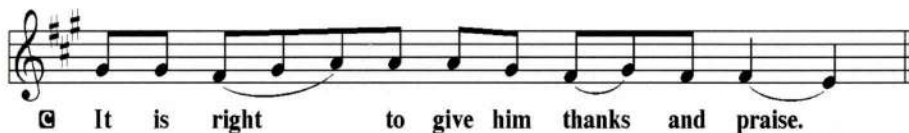
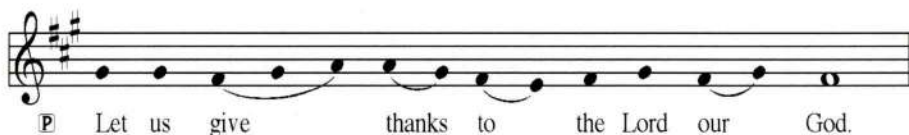
*After the gifts have been presented, an offertory prayer is said.*

A: Let us pray...

C: Eternal God, you make the desert bloom and send springs of water to thirsty ground. Receive these simple gifts of bread, wine and make us messengers of your mercy and love for all in need to your healing and justice. We ask this through Christ our Savior. Amen

## Meal

### *Great Thanksgiving*



*In the Great Thanksgiving, we are invited to thank God for his creation and all good things he has given us, especially the meal we are about to share*



*The Preface  
which begins  
with, "It is indeed  
right and  
salutary"  
expresses why we  
should give  
thanks.*

*The Sanctus  
contains words  
from Isaiah's  
vision of God  
Isaiah 6:3  
(‘Sanctus’ is the  
Latin word for  
'holy'.)*

**P:** 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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.



P: You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

**C: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

P: Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints. To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

**C: Amen**

*The Eucharistic prayer begins with an echoing of the Sanctus, continuing its praise.*

*The Words of Institution recalls the act which was commanded by Jesus at the last supper with his disciples.*

*1 Cor. 11:23-26*

*The 'Anamnesis' comes from the Greek word 'to remember'. In it we remember all that God has done for us; the work of Jesus "who is and who was and who is to come"*

*The Lord's Prayer is the prayer Jesus taught his disciples when they wanted to know how to pray; found in Matthew 6:9-13,*



*The Agnus Dei is a Latin term meaning 'Lamb of God', and is used to refer to Jesus Christ. We sing the Agnus Dei as we move toward the altar.*

## **Lord's Prayer**

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

C: **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**

P: Come to the Lord's Table, for all is ready and all are welcome.

*We sing communion hymns during distribution starting with*



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

*Stand*

## *Post-Communion Blessing*

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ  
strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen

## *Post-Communion Canticle*



☐ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re - calls his prom - is - es and leads his peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

*The Post-Communion canticle is a song known as the "Nunc Dimitis." It is the song sung by Simeon when he beholds the infant Jesus in the temple. (Luke 2:28-32)*



*Our meal being  
ended, we  
continue giving  
thanks, knowing  
that God's grace  
is freely and lov-  
ingly given to us.*

*The Benediction  
is a short  
blessing which is  
lifted up at the  
end of worship  
service.*

## ***Post-Communion Prayer***

P: Let us pray.

**C: 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 Lord.  
Amen**

## **Sending**

### ***Benediction***

P: Rejoice that Jesus is Emmanuel, God with us.  
When he comes again in glory,  
may he bring you to everlasting life.  
Almighty God,  
Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you now and forever.  
**C: Amen**

## ***Announcements***

### ***Sending Hymn***

### ***Dismissal***

A: Go in peace. Christ is near  
**C: Thanks be to God!**



*The Advent wreath appeared a few centuries ago in Germany as sign of the waiting and hopeful expectations for the return, in glory, of our Lord Jesus Christ. The wreath, a circle, represents the eternal victory over death through Jesus Christ. The evergreens are a sign of the faithfulness of God toward God's people, even in death. The lighted candles are a reminder of the light Christ brings into the world.*