



Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship

4 pm & 7 pm

***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. All are welcome.

God Gathers the Body of Christ

Prelude

Welcome

P: 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!

P: Greet your neighbors-share the peace.

Advent Candle Lighting Liturgy 2024

BY LISA HANCOCK

Reader One: Beloved, today we welcome the Christ Child, the fulfillment of our joy, as we proclaim with the prophet Isaiah, "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" (Isaiah 9:6).

Congregation: Christ our joy has come near. Emmanuel, God with us, has come to dwell with us as a tiny baby.

“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” (Isaiah 9:7).

Reader Two: We light this candle as a sign of Christ coming to dwell with us, to live in the neighborhood of vulnerable humanity as a vulnerable child. May the light of Christ warm our hearts and light our way as we share the joy of God’s salvation wherever we go.

Light the center candle of the Advent wreath.

Gathering Carol “O Come, All Ye Faithful” ELW #283

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
Love from the
beginning, Word
made flesh, Breath
of heaven.

C: Amen

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

P: Merciful God,

C: 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.

P: 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.

C: Amen.

Prayer of the Day

A: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

A: Let us pray.

C: 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

God Speaks To Us In The Word

First Reading:

Isaiah 9:2-7

L: A reading from Isaiah chapter 9:

This poem promises deliverance from Assyrian oppression, a hope based on the birth of a royal child with a name full of promise. While Judah's king will practice justice and righteousness, the real basis for faith lies in God's passion for the people: The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this!

²The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.

³You 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.

⁴For 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.

⁵For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶For 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.

⁷His 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 vs 1,2 &4

Psalm: 96

¹Sing to the LORD a new song;

 sing to the LORD, all the earth.

²**Sing to the LORD, bless the name of the LORD;
 proclaim God’s salvation from day to day.**

³Declare God’s glory among the nations
 and God’s wonders among all peoples.

⁴**For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised,
 more to be feared than all gods.**

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

⁶**Majesty and magnificence are in your presence;
 power and splendor are in your sanctuary.**

⁷Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples,
 ascribe to the LORD honor and power.

⁸**Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the holy name;
 bring offerings and enter the courts of the LORD.**

⁹Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness;
 tremble before the LORD, all the earth.

**¹⁰Tell 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.”**

¹¹Let 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.

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

¹³You will judge the world with righteousness
and the peoples with your truth.

Second Reading:

Titus 2:11-14

L: A reading from Titus chapter 2.

*The appearance of God’s grace in Jesus Christ brings
salvation for all humanity. Consequently, in the present we
live wisely and justly while also anticipating the hope of our
Savior’s final appearance.*

¹¹The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to
all, ¹²training us to renounce impiety and worldly
passions, and in the present age to live lives that are
self-controlled, upright, and godly, ¹³while we wait for
the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of
our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ.

¹⁴He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Carol "I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve"

ELW #271 vs 1&2

1st Gospel Reading:

Luke 2:1-5

P: A reading from Luke chapter 2.

¹In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered.

²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph 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. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child.

Carol "The First Noel"

ELW #300 vs 1,2&5

2nd Gospel Reading:

Luke 2:6-7

P: A reading from Luke chapter 2.

⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child.

⁷And 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.

Carol “Away in a Manger” ELW #277 vs 1&3

3rd Gospel Reading: Luke 2:8-14

P: A reading from Luke chapter 2.

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

¹⁴“Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

Carol “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” ELW #270 vs 1-3

Kids’ Time

4th Gospel Reading:

Luke 2:15-20

P: A reading from Luke chapter 2.

¹⁵When 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.” ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.]

Special Music

Sermon

Pastor Paul Anderson

The Offering

“O, little town of Bethlehem”

ELW #279 vs 1,2&4

God Sends Us Into The World

The Closing Prayer and Benediction

P: 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 his disciples.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn

“Silent Night ”

ELW #281

Dismissal

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

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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