

Faith Lutheran Church

Hutchinson, MN

Christmas Eve Service

December 24, 2020 ~ 2:00 p.m.

Foundation

Joy to the World offering envelopes for end-of-year gifts are available by the offering plates at the entrances.

Bells are available from the ushers for children to play during the hymns marked with a



Candles are also available from the ushers. When lighting a candle, please dip unlit candles towards a lit one. Take extra care with children. We also have a limited number of artificial candles for our youngest children.

Thank you to Austin Willhite and Kristen Matthews for providing music for this service.

Thank you to the many people who have given of their time and talents for Faith's Christmas worship services.

Nursery - An unstaffed nursery is available for your use in Room 14 (NE corner of Sunday School rooms). If you need help, the ushers will be happy to give you directions or show you the way.



Prelude

Greeting & Announcements

Opening Hymn “Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful” (stanzas 1, 2 & 3) 45 Green

Oh, come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant!

Oh, come ye, oh, come ye to Bethlehem;

Come and behold him Born the king of angels:



Refrain: Oh, come, let us adore him, Oh, come, let us adore him, Oh, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

The highest, most holy, Light of light eternal,

Born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;

Son of the Father Now in flesh appearing! *Refrain*

Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation,

Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!

Glory to God In the highest: *Refrain*

Confession and Absolution

P: Let us confess our sins to God and listen for his word of forgiveness.

C: Almighty God, as we celebrate the birth of your only-begotten Son, we confess how unworthy we are to receive such gracious love from you. We have sinned against you in our thoughts, words and actions. We cannot free ourselves from our sinful nature. Yet we dare to ask for your forgiveness, because of the Child of Bethlehem, whose name is Jesus because he came to save his people from their sins. By his saving death and for his sake, forgive us and fill us with your righteousness.

P: In the boundless mercy of Almighty God, Jesus came in human flesh to take the sin of all people on himself and put it to death on the cross. Jesus was born in order to forgive you and make you into a new person. So, come to the manger and leave there all your guilt and shame, for in the name of Jesus Christ and by his authority, I tell you, you are forgiven.

C: Amen. Glory to God in the highest!

Christmas Prayer

Almighty God, you have made yourself known in your Son, Jesus, Savior of the world. We pray that his birth as a human child will set us free from our sin and bind us to you in faith and obedience. In Jesus' holy name we pray. Amen.

Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light

Radiant beams from your holy face,

With the dawn of redeeming grace,

Jesus, Lord, at your birth, Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

Benediction

May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the wise men and the peace of the Christ Child. Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. Amen.

The candles are extinguished.

Closing Hymn “Joy to the World” (stanzas 1, 3 & 4) 39 Green

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive its King;

Let ev'ry heart prepare him room And heav'n and nature sing,

And heav'n and nature sing,

And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.



No more let sin and sorrow grow Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make his blessings flow Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found, Far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness And wonders of his love,
And wonders of his love, And wonders, wonders of his love.

Hymn "What Child Is This" 40 Green

What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King, Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Hast, haste to bring him laud, The babe, the son of Mary!

Why lies he in such mean estate Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here The silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mary!

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; Come, peasant, king, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings; Let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high, The virgin sings her lullaby;
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!

Offering/Special Music "Christmas Hallelujah" Kristen Matthews

Prayer:

O Lord, heavenly Father, through your angels you urged poor
shepherds of the field not to fear, but to rejoice that Christ the
Savior was born. Drive away all fear from our hearts and stir up in
us true joy, that even if in this life we should be despised, miserable,
poor or alone, we may always find comfort and joy in the gift of
your dear Son, Christ our Lord and Savior, who for our sake became
a human being, in order to defend us from death and evil, and to
save us forever. Lord Jesus, let us never fail to find room for you, but
come into our hearts, that we may always abide in you. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

***Candles are lit before the singing of "Silent Night"*

Hymn "Silent Night, Holy Night!" 65 Green

Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight;
Glories stream from heaven afar, Heav'nly hosts sing, Alleluia!
Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!

Hymn "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" 60 Green

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the Newborn King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful, all you nations, rise; Join the triumph of the skies;
With angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the Newborn King!"



Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold him come, Offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see! Hail, incarnate deity!
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel!
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the Newborn King!"

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, Ris'n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, Born that we no more may die,
Born to raise each child of earth, Born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the Newborn King!"

Children's Story Time with Kristen Matthews

Hymn "Away in a Manger" 67 Green

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed, the little Lord
Jesus laid down his sweet head; The stars in the sky looked
down where he lay, the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing; the poor baby wakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky
And stay by my cradle 'til morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask you to stay
Close by me forever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care
And fit us for heaven to live with you there.

Children's Message Faith Lutheran Puppets

*Faith Seeds is a time for children of all ages to come forward for a lesson geared to them.
After Faith Seeds, children ages 3 years old – 1st grade may join Sprouts leaders for an age
appropriate lesson during the sermon. They will return to their parents shortly after the sermon
ends.*

Scripture Readings Isaiah 7:10-14 and Matthew 1:18-25

Christmas Gospel Luke 2:1-20

Message "God Came Near" Pastor Dave Wollan