



Faith Lutheran Church  
Christmas Eve  
December 24, 2020, 4:00 p.m.  
Sanctuary

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

Thank you to Ronda Eckhart for playing for this Service. Thank you Sharon Barton and the Ringers of Faith for the special music.

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 located on the main floor next to the Faith Center. If you need help, the ushers will be happy to give you directions or show you the way.

**Joy to the World** offering envelopes for end-of-year gifts are available by the offering plates near the entrance.



## Prelude

### Greeting & Announcements

“Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful” 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**

**Yea, Lord we greet thee, Born this happy morning;**  
**Jesus, to thee be glory giv’n!**  
**Word of the Father, Now in flesh appearing:   Refrain**

### Christmas Litany

P: When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son,

**C: born of a woman, born under the law,**

P: in order to redeem those who were under the law,

**C: so that we might receive adoption as children.**

P: And because you are children,

**C: God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying,**  
**“Abba! Father!”**

P: So you are no longer a slave but a child,

**C: and if a child then also an heir, through God.   Galatians 4:4-7**

### 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.**

### Prayer for Christmas

**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 only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and**  
**the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

### The Lord’s Prayer

*The candles are extinguished.*

### Benediction

“Joy to the World” 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.**

**Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ,**  
**While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains Repeat the sounding joy,**  
**Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

**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.**

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” (stanza’s 1 & 3) 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!”**

**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!”**

Christmas Gospel ..... Luke 2:1-20

Christmas Message ..... “God Came Near” ..... Pastor Dave Wollan

“Angels We Have Heard on High” 71 Green

**Angels we have heard on high, Sweetly singing o’er the plans,  
And the mountains in reply, Echoing their joyous strains.**

**Refrain:** Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis deo.

**Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be Which inspire your heav’nly song? Refrain**

**Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing;  
Come adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn king. Refrain**

Christmas Offering/Special Music ..... “Advent Carol” ..... Ringers of Faith

*\*\* Candles are lit during choir piece, before the singing of Silent Night*

“Night of Silence with Silent Night” ..... led by Ringers of Faith and Staff Choir

“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!**

**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.**

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!**

Special Music ..... “Twas in the Moon of Wintertime” ..... Ringers of Faith

First Lesson ..... Isaiah 7:10-14

“O Little Town of Bethlehem” (stanza’s 1, 3 & 4) 41 Green

**O little town of Bethlehem, How still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep The silent stars go by;  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth The everlasting light.  
The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee tonight.**

**How silently, how silently The wondrous gift is given!  
So God imparts to human hearts The blessings of his heav’n.  
No ear may hear his coming; But, in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will receive him, still The dear Christ enters in.**

**O holy Child of Bethlehem, Descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin, and enter in, Be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels The great glad tidings tell;  
Oh, come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Immanuel!**

Second Lesson ..... Matthew 1:18-25

“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear” (stanza’s 1 & 3) 54 Green

**It came upon the midnight clear, That glorious song of old,  
From angels bending near the earth To touch their harps of gold:  
“Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav’n’s all gracious king.”  
The world in solemn stillness lay To hear the angels sing.**

**And you, beneath life’s crushing load, Whose forms are bending low,  
Who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow:  
Look now, for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing;  
Oh, rest beside the weary road and hear the angels sing!**

Faith Seeds ..... 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 – 1<sup>st</sup> grade may join Sprouts leaders for an age appropriate lesson during the sermon. They will return to their parents shortly after the sermon ends.*