

Prelude

Greeting/Announcements

Hymn ..... “Of the Father’s Love Begotten” ..... LBW #42

Advent Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness

Kyrie ..... LBW pg. 78

Hymn of Praise ..... “Let All Together Praise Our God” ..... LBW #47

Prayer of the Day

**Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Take away the hindrance of our sins and make us ready for the celebration of your birth, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

First Reading ..... Isaiah 7:10-17

Second Reading ..... Romans 1:1-7

Faith Seeds ..... Penny Stuber

Faith Seeds is a time for children of all ages to come forward for a lesson geared to them.

The Gospel Acclamation

**“Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.”**

The Announcement of the Gospel ..... “Glory to You, O Lord”

Gospel ..... Matthew 1:18-25

Response after the Gospel ..... “Praise to You, O Christ”

Sermon ..... “The Essential Joseph” ..... Pastor Scott Grorud

Hymn ..... “A Song for Joseph” (Tune: LBW#67 Away in a Manger)

**To Joseph an angel appeared in a dream  
Do not be afraid for it’s not as it seems.  
The child Mary carries is sent from above,  
The work of God’s Spirit—a gift of God’s love.**

**So Joseph, believing, took Mary, his wife.  
And cared for her, loved her, the rest of his life.  
And when that day came when young Mary gave birth  
He named the child Jesus, our God come to earth.**

**O God of surprises, O God of great love,  
We praise you for this wondrous gift from above,  
For in the child Jesus you entered our pain  
That through him, our Savior, true life we would gain.**

**Dear Father in heaven, oh help us, we pray,  
Like Joseph, to trust and believe what you say,  
That in us, and through us, Your will may be done  
So all in this world will rejoice in Your Son.**

Nicene Creed

**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; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. 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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian 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.**

Offering/Special Music ..... “Ding Dong Merrily on High” .....

Ringers of Faith, Bailey Fields, Ronda Eckhart

Offertory Response

**Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from your presence,  
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore to me the joy of your salvation,  
and uphold me with your free Spirit.**

Prayers of the Church

The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Benediction

Closing Hymn .... "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" ..... LBW #60

*What Does This Mean?"*

Questions about Today's Worship Theme:  
Matthew 1:18-25

- † How has Joseph often been portrayed through the years?
- † What vital truth about Jesus did Matthew's "Christmas" account establish?
- † Why was Joseph essential to making that case about Jesus?
- † How can Christians today learn from Joseph's example?

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# Faith Lutheran Church (LCMC)

Hutchinson, MN

8:00 a.m. First Word

December 18, 2022

## Fourth Sunday in Advent

