



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 Austin Willhite, Sharon Barton, Ringers of Faith, and the Faith Singers, for providing the music for these two services.

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

***Joy to the World*** offering envelopes for end-of-year gifts are available in the pew pads. ***End-of-year gifts must be received in the church office by 12:00 noon on Sunday, December 31.***

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.

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## Faith Lutheran Church

### Christmas Eve

December 24, 2023, 4 & 6 p.m.

Sanctuary Services



Prelude

Introit (4:00) ..... *"Adeste Fideles"* ..... Ringers of Faith

Greeting & Announcements

"Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful" LBW #45

**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**

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 for 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.**

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

"Silent Night, Holy Night!"

LBW #65

**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.**

*The candles are extinguished.*

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.

"Joy to the World"

LBW #39

**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.**

Gospel Acclamation: "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" LBW #60

**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!"**

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

**Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the Newborn King!"**

Christmas Message ..... "The Peace that Is No Peace" ..... Pastor Scott Grorud

"It Came upon the Midnight Clear" LBW #54

**It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old, from  
angels bending near the earth to touch their harts 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.**

**Still through the cloven skies they come with peaceful wings  
unfurled, and still their heav'nly music floats o'er all the weary  
world. Above its sad and lowly plains they bend on hov'ring wing,  
and ever o'er its babel sounds the blessed 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!**

**For lo! The days are hast'ning on, by prophets seen of old, when  
with the ever circling years shall come the time foretold, when  
peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors filing, and all  
the world give back the song which now the angels sing.**

Christmas Offering/Special Music (4:00 p.m.) ..... "Do You Hear What I  
Hear?" ..... Ringers of Faith

(6:00 p.m.) ... "Name of Wondrous Love" ..... Faith Singers

Christmas Prayer

**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

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!**

Prayer

**O Lord, heavenly Father, you sent your angels to urge poor  
shepherds of the field not to fear, but to rejoice that Christ the  
Savior was born. By that great good news, drive away all fear from  
our hearts. Stir up in us true and lasting joy, so that, in all our joys  
and sorrows, triumphs and failures, we may trust in your dear Son,  
Jesus Christ, our Savior, who took on human flesh in order deliver  
us from evil and save us forever. Amen.**

First Lesson ..... Isaiah 9:2-7

"O Little Town of Bethlehem" (stanza's 1 & 4) LBW #41

**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.**

**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..... Ephesians 2:11-20

"The First Noel" (stanza's 1 & 2) LBW #56

**The first Noel the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in  
fields as they lay; In fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,  
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.**

**Refrain: Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel! Born is the King of Israel.**

**They looked up and saw a star shining in the east beyond them far;  
And to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day  
and night.                      Refrain**

Faith Seeds ..... Faith Lutheran Puppets

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