

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH



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Welcome to Worship

November 26, 2023— Advent 1

Today's Worship Ministers

Usher: Doug Cruce
Reader: Pam Van Kirk
Communion Assistant: N/A
Narthex Host: Linda McGuire
Flowers:

Staff

Pastor: Jamie Gallagher
Cell: 630-200-3550; Email: prjamie@flcmonmouth.org
Musician: Janice Algren
Custodian: Chris Algren

Check out Our Welcome Center



Under the window to the Narthex .. We have offering plates and a bin for vision and purpose giving.

Weekly newsletters are available as well.

Coffee and other refreshments are available at the Narthex Coffee Stand.

Upcoming Advent/Christmas Schedule

Sat, Dec 9, 2 PM—Family Sankta Lucia Event

Sun, Dec 10—Sankta Lucia Sunday

Sun, Dec 24—10 AM Christmas Eve worship
7 PM Christmas Eve worship
With candlelight

Sun, Dec 31—10 AM Lessons and Carols
With Blessing for the New Year

Order of Service

Gathering

Announcements, Prelude
Advent Wreath Litany
Advent Wreath Reading: Matthew 8:1-4
Advent Wreath Hymn: ELW 240 Light One Candle, v1
Peace
Opening Hymn: ELW 242 Awake, Awake, and Greet the New Morn

The Word

Pastoral Greeting
Special Performance

Prayer of the Day

God of our waiting years, you send your messenger to calm our fears and in return you seek our gratitude displayed in our daily lives. Accept the thanks we offer and increase our faithful response as we await your return. In the name of our Coming Savior, Jesus Christ, Amen.

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Luke 1:5-25

Gospel Refrain: "Oh Thank the Lord"

Sermon

Hymn: ELW 715 Christ Be our Light
Apostles' Creed

Prayers of Intercession

Linda Ellison, Ila Roseberry, Kathi Cruce, Erica Lancaster, Dean Sandstrom, Emily Agema, Chris Buban, Gary Eyler, Cecil Lovdahl, Ann Enstrom, Janet Lowe, Brian Elliott

Sending

Offering Prayer
Lord's Prayer
Hymn: ELW 246 Hark! A Thrilling Voice
Benediction
Benediction Refrain: ELW 290 Go Tell It On The Mountain,
Refrain, sung 1
sung once
Dismissal

Matthew 8:1-4, Wreath Reading

8 When Jesus had come down from the mountain, great crowds followed him, 2 and there was a man with a skin disease who came to him and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean.” 3 He stretched out his hand and touched him, saying, “I am willing. Be made clean!” Immediately his skin disease was cleansed. 4 Then Jesus said to him, “See that you say nothing to anyone, but go, show yourself to the priest, and offer the gift that Moses commanded, as a testimony to them.”

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

3 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

4 I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, 5 for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— 6 just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— 7 so that you are not lacking in any gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. 8 He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 God is faithful, by whom you were called into the partnership of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Luke 1:5-25

5 In the days of King Herod of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly order of Abijah. His wife was descended from the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. 6 Both of them were righteous before God, living blamelessly according to all the commandments and regulations of the Lord. 7 But they had no children because Elizabeth was barren, and both were getting on in years.

8 Once when he was serving as priest before God during his section’s turn of duty, 9 he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to enter the sanctuary of the Lord to offer incense. 10 Now at the time of the incense offering, the whole assembly of the people was praying outside. 11 Then there appeared to him an angel of the Lord, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. 12 When Zechariah saw him, he was terrified, and fear overwhelmed him. 13 But the angel said to him, “Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will name him John. 14 You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, 15 for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He must never drink wine or strong drink; even before his birth he will be filled with the Holy Spirit. 16 He will turn many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. 17 With the spirit and power of Elijah he will go before him, to turn the hearts of parents to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.” 18 Zechariah said to the angel, “How can I know that this will happen? For I am an old man, and my wife is getting on in years.” 19 The angel replied, “I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. 20 But now, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time, you will become mute, unable to speak, until the day these things occur.”

21 Meanwhile the people were waiting for Zechariah and wondering at his delay in the sanctuary. 22 When he did come out, he was unable to speak to them, and they realized that he had seen a vision in the sanctuary. He kept motioning to them and remained unable to speak. 23 When his time of service was ended, he returned to his home.

24 After those days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she remained in seclusion. She said, 25 “This is what the Lord has done for me in this time, when he looked favorably on me and took away the disgrace I have endured among my people.”