

Serving in the Lord's House Today

Pastor: Seth Hoepfner

Music Coordinator & Clavinova: Becky Roell

Audio Visual: John, Ella & Madeline Mock

Reader & Communion Assistant: John M & Dan B

Greefers: The Benninger's & Lenny

Acolyte: Damon Wegner

Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Dr. Neil Rand PhD

Church & School Secretary: Kristin Walter

Ministers: All the People of Faith

THE LORD'S SUPPER (Holy Communion)

*Those who commune at the Table of the Lord are baptized Christians who have examined their lives and consciences. Christians believe and confess that in the Sacrament of the Altar all who commune receive, irrespective of their personal convictions, the true body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Those who receive in faith, receive thereby remission of sins, communion with Christ, and the pledge of eternal life. Those who do not receive in faith, eat and drink judgment upon themselves (1 Corinthians 11:29)". If you are not a member of this congregation or have never communed at His altar before, or hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, yet seek reception of the sacrament, please make yourself known to the Pastor prior to the beginning of the service. For further study, see Matthew 5:23, 18:15-35; 26:26-29; and 1 Cor. 11:17-34.
(Note: If for medical or any other reason you prefer not to drink wine when you commune, the rose colored individual cups in the tray hold grape juice. Gluten Free wafer available upon request.)*

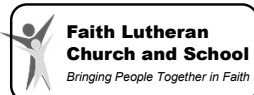
A Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod Congregation

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*"Raise up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from his ways."
Proverbs 22:6*



LCMS

Mission

Faith Lutheran Church and School exists to worship, serve and grow in Jesus Christ

Faith Lutheran Church and School

December 14, 2025

Third Sunday in Advent

Order of Service—Blended

Welcome and Announcements We Share in the Peace of the Lord

Opening Song — Lift Up Your Heads Ye Mighty Gates (vs 1-2) - LSB #341

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates! Behold, the King of glory waits. The King of kings is drawing near; The Savior of the world is here. Life and salvation He doth bring; Therefore rejoice and gladly sing. To God the Father raise your joyful songs of praise.

A righteous Helper comes to thee; His chariot is humility, his kingly crown is holiness, his scepter, pity in distress. The end of all our woe He brings; Therefore the earth is glad and sings. To Christ the Savior raise your grateful hymns of praise.

The Call to Worship —

Order of Confession and Forgiveness —

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: who made heaven and earth.

P: I said, I will confess my transgression unto the Lord,

C: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P: O almighty God, merciful Father,

C: I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Introit —

P: Rejoice in the Lord always;

C: again I will say, Rejoice.

P: I will hope continually

C: and I will praise you yet more and more.

P: My mouth will tell of your righteous acts, of your deeds of salvation all the day,

C: for their number is past my knowledge.

P: With the mighty deeds of the Lord God I will come;

C: I will remind them of your righteousness, yours alone.

P: O God, from my youth you have taught me,

C: and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds.

P: So even to old age and grey hairs, O God, do not forsake me,

C: until I proclaim your might to another generation, your power to all those to come.

P: Glory be to the Father and to the Son

C: and to the Holy Spirit;

P: as it was in the beginning,

C: is now and will be forever.

P: Rejoice in the Lord always;

C: again I will say, Rejoice.

Prayer of the Day —

Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

First Reading — Isaiah 35:1-10

Gradual — Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion. Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem. Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. From the house of the Lord we bless you.

Second Reading — James 5:7-11

Gospel Reading — Matthew 11:2-15

Youth Message —

Sermon Hymn — Lift Up Your Heads Ye Mighty Gates (vs 3-5) - LSB #341

How blest the land, the city blest, where Christ the ruler is confessed! O peaceful hearts and happy homes to whom this King in triumph comes! The cloudless sun of joy is He who comes to set His people free. To God the Spirit raise your happy shouts of praise.

Fling wide the portals of your heart; Make it a temple set apart from earthly use for heav'n's employ, adorned with prayer and love and joy. So shall your Sov'reign enter in and new and nobler life begin. To God alone be praise for word and deed and grace!

Redeemer, come and open wide my heart to Thee; here, Lord, abide! O enter with Thy grace divine; Thy face of mercy on me shine. Thy Holy Spirit guide us on until our glorious goal is won. Eternal praise and fame we offer to Thy name.

Sermon — By Pastor Seth Hoepfner

Offering — In response to hearing the Good News, we take a moment of reflection to give thanks to God.

The Apostles' Creed —

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

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.

Eucharistic Prayer —

Institution —

Create In Me a Clean Heart — LSB #192

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

Communion Hymn — Come, Thou Precious Ransom,
Come—LSB #350

Come, Thou precious Ransom, come, only hope for sinful
mortals! Come, O Savior of the world! Open are to Thee all
portals. Come, Thy beauty let us see; Anxiously we wait for
Thee.

Enter now my waiting heart, glorious King and Lord most
holy. Dwell in me and ne'er depart, though I am but poor
and lowly. Ah, what riches will be mine when Thou art my
guest divine!

My hosannas and my palms graciously receive, I pray
Thee; Evermore, as best I can, Savior, I will homage pay
Thee, and in faith I will embrace, Lord, Thy merit through
Thy grace.

Hail! Hosanna, David's Son! Jesus, hear our supplication!
Let Thy kingdom, scepter, crown, bring us blessing and sal-
vation, that forever we may sing: Hail! Hosanna to our
King.

Post Communion Canticle — Thank the Lord
Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He
has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly
bear His name. He recalls His promises and leads His peo-
ple forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, allelu-
ia.

Post Communion Prayer —

Blessing — The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord
make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The
Lord look upon you with favor and t give you peace.

Closing Hymn — What Hope! An Eden Prophesied—LSB
#342

What hope! An Eden prophesied where tame live with the
wild; The lamb and lion side by side, led by a little child!

A shoot will sprout from Jesse's stem, a branch from David's
line, a Prince of Peace in Bethlehem; The fruit of God's de-
sign.

As banner of God's love unfurled, Christ came to suffer loss,
that by Hid death a dying world would rally to the cross.

Come, Jesus, come, Messiah Lord, lost paradise restore;
Lead past the angel's flaming sword- come, open
heaven's door.