

Serving in the Lord's House Today

Pastor: Seth Hoepfner

Music Coordinator & Clavinova: Becky Roell

Organist: Judy Grove

Audio Visual: John, Ella and Madeline Mock

Reader and Assistant: Harry Kopplin

Ushers and Greeters: The Baneck's

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 24, 2021

Christmas Eve

And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. Luke 2:7

Order of Service—Blended

Welcome and Announcements We Share in the Peace of the Lord

Invocation and Call to Worship —

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: Amen.

P: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

C: For unto us a Son is given.

P: To us a Son is born.

C: And the government shall be upon his shoulder.

P: And his name shall be called—

C: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God.

P: Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

C: Let us worship the newborn King!

Opening Song — O Come All Ye Faithful - LSB #379

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant! O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem; Come and behold Him born the king of angels;

Refrain:

O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

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]

Confession and Forgiveness —

P: Heavenly Father, through your Son Jesus, you invite us to lay down our great fears and enter into your great joy.

C: But instead we often fasten on to our fears.

P: We wallow in our worries.

C: We drown in our depression.

P: We suffer in our sin.

C: We forfeit your forgiveness.

P: We get lost in our grudges.

C: We refuse your joy. Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

You are invited to meditate on the fact that though our sin is great, Christ's love is greater.

P: With great love and mercy the angel says, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people" (Luke 2:10). On the cross, Jesus carried your sin and shame and rising again he defeated every enemy. "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:11).

C: Let us worship the newborn King!

Prayer of the Day —

O God, you make this most holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that as we have known the mysteries of that Light on earth, we may also come to the fullness of his joys in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading — Isaiah 9:6-7

Second Reading — Philippians 3:20-21

Gospel Acclamation —

P: Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

C: When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son. Hallelujah!

Gospel Reading — Luke 2:1-20

Sermon Hymn — O Little Town of Bethlehem - LSB #361

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.

For Christ is born of Mary, and gathered all above while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wond'ring love. O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth, and praises sing to God the king and peace to all the earth!

How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is giv'n! 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; O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel!

Sermon — By Pastor Seth Hoepfner

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

Prayers of the Church —

P: With great joy, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the joy from above that radiates Christ's love into our hearts and homes; let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the angel's message, "Fear not," that banishes all anxiety and worry; let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the Christmas Gospel, for it to be preached in every church and throughout the world—to one and all; let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy. Amen.

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 —

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 people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

Post Communion Prayer —

Lighting of the Christmas Candles —

Benediction —

P: 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 Magi and the peace of the Christ Child. And may the Almighty God, Father, Son + and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forevermore!

C: Let us worship the newborn King!

Closing Hymn — Silent Night, Holy Night - LSB #363

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 Thy holy face with the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.