**FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
Northwood, Iowa
641-324-2984
www.flcnorthwood.org**

*THAT ALL MAY KNOW THE LOVE OF GOD IN JESUS CHRIST*

**

**Christmas Eve Worship**

**December 24th, 2022
4:30 pm**

**Pastor Becky Sogge**

**Organist/Pianist:** Loraine Mix

**Acolyte:** Landen Nelson

**Ushers:** Tony & Lauren Welty

**Greeters:** The Rheingans family

**Lay Reader:** Heather Rheingans

**Special Music:** Lauren Welty and Loraine Mix

### Prelude -Loraine Mix

### Welcome – Announcements

**Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who sends the word with angels, who is made flesh among all peoples, and who breathes peace on all the earth. **Amen.**

In Christ, we are bold to name our sin and cry out for peace.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy God, **we confess our sin before you.** **We replace compassion with competition.** **We seek what is mighty while ignoring the meek.** **We are quick to anger but slow to forgive.** **We have not put on love in harmony with you.** **Wrap us in the grace of your powerful Word.** **Swaddle our hearts with your peace,** **that all we do, in word or deed,** **may reflect your love born among us.** **Amen.**

I bring you good news of great joy for all people: God has come among us in the child born of Mary, Christ the Lord. In Christ your sins are forgiven and you are clothed in peace. **Amen.**

**Opening Hymn** *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* ELW 270

**Greeting p. 138**

### Prayer of the Day

**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 Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**Special Music *Noel* Lauren Welty and Loraine Mix**

**First Reading: Isaiah 9:2-7**

2The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness, on them light has shined. 3You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. 4For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

5For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. 6For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. 7His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm: 96

Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth.

**Sing to the Lord, bless the name of the Lord;** **proclaim God’s salvation from day to day.**

Declare God’s glory among the nations and God’s wonders among all peoples.

**For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised,** **more to be feared than all gods.**

As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; but you, O Lord, have made the heavens.

**Majesty and magnificence are in your presence;** **power and splendor are in your sanctuary.**

Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples, ascribe to the Lord honor and power.

**Ascribe to the Lord the honor due the holy name;** **bring offerings and enter the courts of the Lord.**

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; tremble before the Lord, all the earth.

**Tell it out among the nations: “The Lord is king!** **The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will judge the peoples with equity.”**

Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that is therein.

**Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your coming, O Lord,** **for you come to judge the earth.**

You will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with your truth.

**Second Reading: Titus 2:11-14**

11The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, 12training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, 13while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. 14He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

### Hymn *Away in a Manger* ELW 277

The holy gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

### Gospel: Luke 2:1-20

1In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. 2This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. 3All went to their own towns to be registered. 4Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. 5He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. 6While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. 7And 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.
 8In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 10But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: 11to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. 12This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” 13And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,
 14“Glory to God in the highest heaven,
  and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”
 15When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” 16So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. 17When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; 18and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. 19But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. 20The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

### Children’s Sermon

### Sermon  *Pastor Becky Sogge*

### Hymn of the Day *Angels We Have Heard on High* ELW 289

### Prayers of Intercession

### Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

### Offering

### *You are invited to place your offering in the plates as you come forward to receive Holy Communion or electronically through Vanco*

### Words of Institution

**Lord’s Prayer p. 145**

**Invitation to Communion**

In Christ’s manger, at Christ’s table, come, see what God makes known for you.

**Lamb of God p. 154**

**Distribution**

**Communion Blessing and Prayer**

**Candle Lighting**

***Tip the unlit candle to receive the flame from the lit candle***

**Hymn** *“Silent Night”* ELW 281

**Blessing**

**Extinguish Candles**

**Closing Hymn “***Joy to the World”* ELW 267

**Dismissal**

Go in peace. Rejoice in Christ our Savior.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Postlude -Loraine Mix

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**Year End Offering**

You may leave your 2022-year end contribution in the mailbox attached to the office door if the offices are closed. Please have it in by December 31st if you would like it on your 2022 Contribution Statement.

**Sunday School Dates**

**December 25 -** No Sunday School

 **January 1 -** No Sunday School

**Mission Project for December**

**Heifer International**

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| **Weekly Calendar** |
| Saturday, December 24  | 4:30 pm | Christmas Eve Worship  |
|  | 10:00 pm | Christmas Eve Worship |
|  Sunday, December 25 | 10:30 am | Christmas Day Worship with Dinner to follow |
| Monday, December 26 |   | Office Closed |
| Tuesday, December 27 | 11:00 am | Staff Meeting |
|  | 7:00 pm | AA-Al-Anon |
| Thursday, December 30 | 8:30 am | Quilting |
|  | 9:00 am | Prayer Group |
|  | 6:30 pm | Taekwondo |
| Saturday, December 31 |  | 6-8th Grade Lock In |
| Sunday, January 1 | 9:00 am | Worship Service with H.C. |
|  |  | No Sunday School |
|  | 6:30 pm | J.H. Youth |