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

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



**Christmas Day Worship**

**December 25th, 2022
10:30 am**

**Pastor Becky Sogge**

**Organist/Pianist:** Leila Gangstad

**Special Music:** Laure Buehrer and Leila Gangstad

**Sound/Video:** Mark Willand

### Prelude -Leila Gangstad

### 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** *“O Come, All Ye Faithful”* ELW 283

**Greeting p. 138**

### Prayer of the Day

**Almighty God, you gave us your only Son to take on our human nature and to illumine the world with your light. By your grace adopt us as your children and enlighten us with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**Special Music Laure Buehrer and Leila Gangstad**

**First Reading: Isaiah 52:7-10**

7How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.”

8Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion. 9Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. 10The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

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

### Psalm: 98

Sing a new song to the Lord, who has done marvelous things, whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.

**O Lord, you have made known your victory,** **you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

**Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands;** **lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.**

Sing to the Lor**|** with the harp, with the harp and the voice of song.

**With trumpets and the sound of the horn** **shout with joy before the king, the Lord.**

Let the sea roar, and all that fills it, the world and those who dwell therein.

**Let the rivers clap their hands,** **and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord, who comes to judge the earth.**

The Lord will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with equity.

**Second Reading: Hebrews 1:1-12**

1Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, 2but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. 3He is the reflection of God’s glory and the exact imprint of God’s very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, 4having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. [

5For to which of the angels did God ever say, “You are my Son; today I have begotten you”? Or again, “I will be his Father, and he will be my Son”? 6And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, “Let all God’s angels worship him.” 7Of the angels he says, “He makes his angels winds, and his servants flames of fire.” 8But of the Son he says, “Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, and the righteous scepter is the scepter of your kingdom. 9You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions.”
10And, “In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands; 11they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like clothing; 12like a cloak you will roll them up, and like clothing they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will never end.”

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

### Hymn *“Infant, Holy, Infant Lowly”* ELW 276

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

### Gospel: John 1:1-14

1In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2He was in the beginning with God. 3All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being 4in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. 5The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.
 6There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. 7He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. 8He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. 9The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.
 10He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. 11He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. 12But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, 13who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.
 14And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father’s only son, full of grace and truth.

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

### Sermon  *Pastor Becky Sogge*

### Hymn of the Day “*Love Has Come”* ELW 292

### Prayers of Intercession

### Merciful God, receive our prayer.

### Offering

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

### Offering Prayer

### 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.

**Communion Blessing and Prayer**

**Blessing**

The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ Jesus, the Word made flesh. **Amen.**

**Closing Hymn “***Go Tell It On the Mountain”* ELW 290

**Dismissal**

Go in peace. Rejoice in Christ our Savior.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Postlude -Leila Gangstad

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**Mission Project for December**

**Heifer International**

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| **Weekly Calendar** |
|  Sunday, December 25 | 10:30 am | Christmas Day Worship with Dinner to follow |
| Monday, December 26 |   | Office Closed |
| Tuesday, December 27 | 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 |

**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.

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| **Sunday Attendance and Giving** |
| **Date** | **Attendance** | **Giving** |
| December 11 | 70 | $2,361 |
| December 4 | 103 | $2,361 |
| November 24 | 55 | $4,101 |
| November 20 | 77 | $1,293 |

**Soup Ministry**

If you or someone you know could use the comfort of homemade soup, please let us know as the Soup Ministry has been busy cooking for those in need.

**Sunday School Dates**

**December 25 -** No Sunday School

 **January 2 -** No Sunday School