The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

December 28, 2025, 9:00 a.m.



Faith Lutheran Church Green Bay, Wisconsin

The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

December 28, 2025, 9:00 a.m.

- congregation stands. - congregation sits. - congregation kneel or sit as you are able. Congregation responds in **bold** print.

Reminders in Preparation for Service:

- Please sign the red record of fellowship book to keep our records up to date.
- Out of respect for God's house and for those preparing for service, please maintain a quiet atmosphere prior to service by holding conversations in the narthex.
- While corporate confession and absolution is present at most services, if you would like to meet with Pastor privately, please speak with him to schedule a time for confession.
- Children are welcomed into our service and encouraged to participate with the rest of the congregation. If they do need some "wiggle room," you may move to the Wiggle Room (located in the narthex area), until they are ready to return to the service.

Visitors and Guests: Welcome to Faith Lutheran Church. We are blessed to have you with us.

- While most of what you will need for service is found in this service folder, if the indication LSB appears, it refers to the <u>Lutheran Service Book</u>, which is found in the hymnal rack on the back of the pew in front of you.
- Please speak with Pastor before receiving the Lord's Supper. If you do not have the opportunity before service begins, you are welcome to receive a blessing during communion. Please indicate this desire by crossing your arms during the distribution of the sacrament.

Prelude "Lully, Lullay" - arr. Greg Sewell

Order of Service

(adapted from Lutheran Service Book, Divine Service - 4, p. 203)

HYMN: "From Heaven Above to Earth I Come" - LSB #358, stanzas 1, 7, 9, 10, 12

- From heav'n above to earth I come To bear good news to ev'ry home; Glad tidings of great joy I bring, Whereof I now will say and sing.
- 7. Come here, my friends, lift up your eyes, And see what in the manger lies. Who is this child, so young and fair? It is the Christ Child lying there.

- 9. Ah, Lord, though You created all, How weak You are, so poor and small, That You should choose to lay Your head Where lowly cattle lately fed!
 - 10. Were earth a thousand times as fair And set with gold and jewels rare, It would be far too poor small A cradle for the Lord of all.
 - 12. And so it pleases You to see
 This simple truth revealed to me:
 That worldly honor, wealth, and might
 Are weak and worthless in Your sight.

INVOCATION, CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

(Psalm 124:8)

If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord who could stand?

But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared. (*Psalm 130:3–4*)

Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness, and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

(Luke 18:13)

Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life.

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ϑ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS



The Lord be with you,

And also with you.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty God, the martyred innocents of Bethlehem showed forth Your praise not by speaking but by dying. Put to death in us all that is in conflict with Your will that our lives may bear witness to the faith we profess with our lips; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with Your and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

+ SCRIPTURES FOR THE DAY +

OLD TESTAMENT

Jeremiah 31:15-17

(As Rachel wept for her children in exile, so this prophesied the death of innocent children of Israel in Bethlehem.)

Thus says the LORD: "A voice is heard in Ramah, lamentation and bitter weeping. Rachel is weeping for her children; she refuses to be comforted for her children, because they are no more." Thus says the LORD: "Keep your voice from weeping, and your eyes from tears, for there is a reward for your work, declares the LORD, and they shall come back from the land of the enemy. There is hope for your future, declares the LORD, and your children shall come back to their own country.

This the Word of the Lord Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE Revelation 14:1-5

Then I looked, and behold, on Mount Zion stood the Lamb, and with him 144,000 who had his name and his Father's name written on their foreheads. And I heard a voice from heaven like the roar of many waters and like the sound of loud thunder. The voice I heard was like the sound of harpists playing on their harps, and they were singing a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and before the elders. No one could learn that song except the 144,000 who had been redeemed from the earth. It is these who have not defiled themselves with women, for they are virgins. It is these who follow the Lamb wherever he goes. These have been redeemed from mankind as first fruits for God and the Lamb, and in their mouth no lie was found, for they are blameless.

This is the Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL VERSE

Alleluia. Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints.

Psalm 116:15

Alleluia.

Psalm 116:15

Alleluia.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the second chapter. **Glory to You, O Lord.**

HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 2:13-18

(*The death of the Holy Innocents*)

Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, "Out of Egypt I called my son." Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, became furious, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had ascertained from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah: "A voice was heard in Ramah, weeping and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be comforted, because they are no more."

This is the Gospel of the Lord **Praise to You, O Christ.**

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the Prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

CAROL: "Lully, Lullay"



SERMON: Pastor Joshua Errer

Gathering of Offerings

Faith members willingly support the ministry of this congregation with their tithes and offerings. Visitors are always welcomed as our guests, so please do not feel obligated to contribute. During the offertory we ask that the registration in the red folder located at the end of each pew be passed down and filled out by visitors and members. Visitors, please remember to include contact information if you are interested in knowing more about Faith.

Scan to Give



PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

+ SACRAMENT + (*LSB* p. 194)

The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS) recognizes and respects the differences in beliefs regarding the nature and confession of Holy Communion and therefore holds to the Biblical practice of closed communion. We believe Christ's body and blood is being distributed with the bread and wine during the Lord's Supper. This is Christ's gift given for the forgiveness of sins, the strengthening of faith, and for the public confession of what we believe and teach. Since it is possible to receive the Lord's Supper sinfully and to your detriment, we ask that you speak with the pastor prior to receiving the Lord's Supper.

PREFACE

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up unto the Lord.

Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

It is meet and right so to do.

PROPER PREFACE

SANCTUS (LSB p. 195)

Holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth;
Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory;
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He, Blessed is He, Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.

LORD'S PRAYER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **Amen.**

AGNUS DEI (LSB p. 198)

- O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
 - O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
 - O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

COMMUNION HYMNS:

"Where Shepherds Lately Knelt" - LSB #369

"Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising" - LSB #375

"O Sing of Christ" - LSB #362

NUNC DIMITTIS (LSB p. 199)

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy Word, For mine eyes have seen Thy Salvation; which Thou has prepared before the face of all people, a Light to lighten the Gentiles and the Glory of Thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Oh, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good.

§ And His mercy endureth forever.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

🌢 Amen.

The Lord be with you.

& And with thy spirit

Bless we the Lord.

& Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

Amen, amen, amen.

Welcome and Announcements

HYMN: "Let All Together Praise Our God" - LSB #389, stanzas 1, 3,5, 7

- 1. Let all together praise our God Before His glorious throne; Today He opens heav'n again To give us His own Son, To give us His own Son.
- 3. Within an earthborn form He hides His all creating light;
 To serve us all He humbly cloaks The splendor of His might,
 The splendor of His might.
- He is a servant, I a lord:
 how great a mystery!
 How strong the tender Christ Child's love!
 No truer friend than He, No truer friend than He.
- 7. Your grace in lowliness revealed,
 Lord, Jesus, we adore
 And praise to God the Father yield
 And Spirit evermore;
 We praise You evermore.

Postlude

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Upcoming Worship Schedule

Mon. Dec. 29	No Monday Service	
Wed. Dec. 31	New Year's Eve Service	6:30 pm
Mon. Jan 6	No Monday Service	_
Tues. Jan 7	Epiphany Service	6:30 pm
Sun. Jan 11	Sunday Morning Worship	8:00 & 10:30 am
	Christian Growth Resume	9:15 am
	Un-Deck the Halls	11:30 am