

The background of the entire image is a warm, golden bokeh effect, suggesting out-of-focus Christmas lights. In the lower half, a lit white candle sits on a surface, surrounded by pine needles, gold and silver ornaments, and small gold lights. The text is overlaid on the upper half of the image.

Joy

TO THE

World,

THE LORD
IS COME!

BEHOLD, I BRING YOU GOOD TIDINGS OF GREAT JOY,
WHICH SHALL BE TO ALL PEOPLE.

LUKE 2:10

Christmas Eve

Wednesday, December 24, 2025, 1:00 p.m.

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

If you are uncomfortable standing or kneeling, you may choose to sit.

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 "wiggly 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 Lutheran Service Book, 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.

Pre-Service Music Adult Choir: “Ding, Dong, Merrily on High” -
harmonization by Charles Wood
“There Shall a Star from Jacob Come Forth” - Felix Mendelssohn

HYMN: “O Come, All Ye Faithful” - (*Lutheran Service Book* #379)

1. 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:
O come, let us adore Him...
Christ the Lord!

2. Highest, most holy, Light of Light eternal,
 Born of a virgin, a mortal He comes;
 Son of the Father, Now in flesh appearing!
 O come, let us adore Him...
 Christ the Lord!
3. Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation,
 Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
 Glory to God, In the highest:
 O come, let us adore Him...
 Christ the Lord!
4. Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, Born this happy morning;
 Jesus, to Thee be glory giv'n!
 Word of the Father, Now in flesh appearing!
 O come, let us adore Him...
 Christ the Lord!

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
 Amen.

In the still of the night, when all was dark and silent
 the Light of the world was born in Bethlehem.

To us a Child is born.
 To us a Son is given.

The government will rest on His shoulders and He will be called
 Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

In our Christmas joy, let us confess our sins.



Mighty God, on this day of celebration, we confess our sin to You. We are by nature sinful. Without Your help, we are powerless to overcome it. We confess our impatience with You and with others, our seeking after worldly passions, and our self-indulgent ways of life. By our sin, we have hurt others, ourselves and You. We plead with You to forgive our sins for the sake of Christ and to transform our broken lives.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light, and the light shines on them. The grace of God has appeared through the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ, bringing salvation to all people. I, a called and ordained servant of Christ, by His authority, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.



HYMN OF PRAISE: “Angels We Have Heard on High” - *Lutheran Service Book* #368

1. **Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o’er the plains,
And the mountains in reply,
Echoing their joyous strains.
 Glo----ria, in excelsis Deo; Glo----ria, in excelsis Deo**

2. **Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heav’nly song?
 Glo----ria, in excelsis Deo; Glo----ria, in excelsis Deo**

3. **Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn king.
 Glo----ria, in excelsis Deo; Glo----ria, in excelsis Deo**

CHRISTMAS PRAYER

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

O God, You make us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ. Grant that as we joyfully receive Him as our Redeemer, we may with sure confidence behold Him when He comes to be our Judge; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

+ SCRIPTURES FOR CHRISTMAS EVE +



Old Testament

Isaiah 9:2-7

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
on them has light shined.
You have multiplied the nation;
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.
For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult
and every garment rolled in blood
will be burned as fuel for the fire.
For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,
and his name shall be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
Of the increase of his government and of peace
there will be no end,
on the throne of David and over his kingdom,
to establish it and to uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time forth and forevermore.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

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

Epistle

1 John 4:7-16

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Adult Choir: "From Heaven Above" - arr. Bradley Norris

- | | | | |
|----|---|----|--|
| 1. | <i>From heav'n above to earth I come
To bear good news to ev'ry home;
Glad tidings of great joy I bring,
To all the world and gladly sing:</i> | 2. | <i>"To you this night is born a child
Of Mary, chosen virgin mild;
This newborn child, of lowly birth,
Shall be the joy of all the earth."</i> |
| 3. | <i>This is the Christ, God's Son Most High,
Who hears you sad and bitter cry;
He will Himself your Savior be
And from all sins will set you free.</i> | 4. | <i>The blessing that the Father planned
The Son holds in His infant hand,
That in His kingdom bright and fair,
You may with us, His glory share"</i> |



The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the second chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 2:1-20

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be registered, each to his own town.

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger."

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

“Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!”

When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.”

And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

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.

HYMN: "Joy to the World" - LSB #387

- 1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and heav'n and nature sing.**
- 2. Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let men their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**
- 3. No more let sins and sorrows grow
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make his blessings flow
Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as, the curse is found.**
- 4. He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His Love,
And wonders of His Love,
And wonders, wonders of His Love.**



SERMON

Pastor Joshua Errer

Gathering of the Offering

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 +

(Service continues with communion liturgy on p. 194 of *Lutheran Service Book*)

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 (LSB p. 194)

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, 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

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.

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:



8:00 Adult Choir: "All Praise to Thee, Eternal God" - Elaine Hagenberg

*All praise to Thee, eternal God
Who, clothed in garb of flesh and blood,
Dost take a manger for Thy throne,
While worlds on worlds are Thine alone. Alleluia*

*Thou comest in the darksome night
To make us children of the light,
To make us in the realms divine,
Like Thine own angels, round Thee shine. Alleluia*

*A little child, Thou art our Guest
That weary ones in Thee may rest;
Forlorn and lonely is Thy birth
That we may rise to heav'n from earth. Alleluia*

Martin Luther
translation unknown

"Away in a Manger" - Lutheran Service Book #365

"All My Heart Again Rejoices" - Lutheran Service Book #360

"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" - Lutheran Service Book #366

NUNC DIMITTIS

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: *"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" - LSB #380*

1. Hark! The herald angels sing,
 "Glory to the newborn King;
 Peace on earth and mercy mild,
 God and sinners reconciled!"
 Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
 Join the triumph of the skies;
 With the' angelic host proclaim,
 "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
 Hark! The herald angels sing,
 Glory to the newborn King!"
2. Christ, by highest heav'n adored,
 Christ, the everlasting lord,
 Late in time behold him come,
 Offspring of a virgin's womb,
 Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,
 Hail th' incarnate deity!
 Pleased as Man with man to dwell;
 Jesus, our Immanuel!
 Hark! The herald angels sing,
 Glory to the newborn King!"
3. Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
 Hail, the Sun of righteousness!
 Light and life to all He brings,
 Ris'n with healing in His wings.
 Mild He lays His glory by,
 Born that man no more may die;
 Born to raise the sons of earth;
 Born to give them second birth.
 Hark! The herald angels sing,
 Glory to the newborn King!"

Postlude "Joy to the World" - setting by Craig Phillips

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SERVICE SCHEDULE

Thurs. Dec. 25	Christmas Day Service	10:00 am
Sun. Dec. 28	Sunday Service followed by Christmas Tea in fellowship hall	9:00 am
Wed. Dec 31	New Year's Eve Service	6:30 pm