



Today in the
town of David a
Savior
has been born to
you; he is the
Messiah,
the Lord.

Luke 2:11



Welcome to the CHRISTMAS EVE Candlelight Service

at First Lutheran Church
December 24th, 2025 – 5:00pm

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship

P: The celebration has begun! Jesus is born!

C: O come, let us adore him.

P: The grace of God has appeared bringing salvation to all.

C: O come, let us adore him.

P: God sent forth his Son, so that we could become God's children.

C: O come, let us adore him. Let us worship Christ, the newborn King.

Opening Hymn – ELW #283 O Come, All Ye Faithful

Confession and Forgiveness:

P: Amid the troubles and fears of this world, let us confess our sin and welcome God's forgiveness, grace, and love. *(Silence is kept for reflection)*

P: Mary accepted your call to be the mother of Jesus.

C: Forgive our lack of faith and trust.

P: Your Son was born in the poverty of a stable.

C: Forgive our neglect of the poor.

P: The shepherds left their flocks and went to Bethlehem.

C: Forgive our selfishness and complacency.

P: With great joy the angels proclaimed, "Do not fear. For I bring you good news of great joy. Today is born a Savior, who is Christ the Lord." In † Jesus, who is Savior, Christ, and Lord, our sins are forgiven. May you know the peace which the angels sang from the heavens. Indeed, God's forgiveness is good news of great joy! **C: Amen.**

Greeting

Hymn of Praise – ELW #289 Angels We Have Heard on High

Prayer of the Day:

P: Let us pray,

C: 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: "O Holy Night" Kristen Brockberg

(Readings will be on the screen)

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

Psalm 96 (*please read responsively*)

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

Children's Sermon (*light the Christ Candle*)

The Holy Gospel according to Luke **C: Glory to You, O Lord.**

Gospel Reading: (*Luke 2:1-20*)

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Ann Zastrow

Hymn of the Day – ELW #268 - From Heaven Above (vs 1-3, 5 & 13)

Apostles Creed

Prayers of the Church

P: Lord in your mercy, **C: Hear our prayer**

P: Gracious God, into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your unending love and amazing grace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior,

C: Amen

Offering (scan the QR to give online)

Offertory Hymn - ELW #296 What Child Is This



Offering Prayer:

P: O God, as we offer our gifts today, we remember the birth of your Son, Jesus, and the joy that filled the world when he came to dwell among us. Just as the angels proclaimed his birth with glad tidings of great joy, we offer our gifts with thankful hearts. May these offerings reflect our joy in Christ, our Savior, and our desire to share his love with others. We pray that these offerings will be used to bring hope and peace, just as Christ brought hope to the world. In his precious name, we pray. **C: Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

Invitation to Communion:

P: Glory to God in the highest!! Come to the table of peace.

Distribution of the elements

Communion Hymns: #279—O Little Town of Bethlehem

#278—Away in a Manger

#270—Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Prayer after Communion:

P: Radiant God,

C: with our eyes we have seen your salvation, and in this meal, we have feasted on your grace. May your Word take flesh in us, that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Candle Hymn - ELW #281 Silent Night

(The ushers will come around to light candles. Please tip the UNLIT candle to the lit candle, thank you!)

Prayer:

C: Almighty God, you made this 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 everlasting glory. Amen.

Blessing

P: May the Word that Mary brought to birth carry you into new and abundant life. May the Word that Joseph cradled in his arms enfold you with love and strength. May the Word that angels proclaimed in song bring harmony to our world. And the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **C: Amen**

Sending Hymn: ELW #267—Joy to the World

Sending

P: Go in Peace. Christ is with you. **C: Thanks be to God!**



THANK YOU to all who contributed towards the poinsettias this Christmas!!

- † In memory of Terry's parents, Glenn & Marlys Swenson and Theresa's dad, Ron Hansen by Terry & Theresa Swenson.
- † In memory of Clayton & Mary Newgard, Robert Moore, Gene & Hugo Zick, Pat Hellwinckel and Kris Nelson by Tom & Sandi Newgard.
- † In memory of our parents, Bob & Esther Vietmeier and Bud & Bev Sendelbach by Chuck & Dorie Sendelbach
- † In memory of Ethan Cole Carpenter, Todd Richard Christensen and Dan Christensen by Joel & Annette Carpenter and family.
- † In honor of our children & their families by Dennis & Patti Peterson.
- † In memory of Tom Benz by the Benz family.
- † In memory of our mom and grandmother, Lynn Shumaker.
- † In memory of Rose Beck by Kris Schiager
- † In memory of our wonderful family that we love and miss dearly by Ray & Teresa Staatz.
- † In thanks to our beautiful church family! THANK YOU for all of your support and prayers this past year. Wishing you all a very blessed and healthy 2026 by Lori & Curt Ilse.



Christmas brings family and friends together. It helps us appreciate the love in our lives we often take for granted. May the true meaning of the holiday season fill your heart and home with many blessings.

Begin With Love/LQM