

Behold, the virgin
shall conceive and
bear a son, and they
shall call his name

Immanuel

Matthew 1:23 ESV

PRE-SERVICE DEVOTION

Psalm 126

A Song of Ascents.

When the LORD brought back the
captivity of Zion, We were like those who
dream. 2 Then our mouth was filled with
laughter, And our tongue with singing. Then
they said among the nations, “The LORD has
done great things for them.” 3 The LORD
has done great things for us, And we are glad.
4 Bring back our captivity, O LORD, As the
streams in the South. 5 Those who sow in
tears Shall reap in joy. 6 He who continually
goes forth weeping, Bearing seed for sowing,
Shall doubtless come again with rejoicing,
Bringing his sheaves with him.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Speakers: Pastor Matthew Ude
Organists: Barry Hay & Ann Sprengeler

Hymn 68 — The Advent of Our King

INVOCATION


p In the name of the Father and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit.

C A-men.

CONFESSION OF SINS

p Beloved of God: let us draw near with a true
heart and confess our sins to God our Father,
asking Him, in the Name of our Lord Jesus
Christ, to grant us forgiveness.


C Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. for this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

c  Lord, have mercy on us.
Christ, have mercy on us.
Lord, have mercy on us.

p God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given His only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

c  A-men.

p In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

c  Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men. We praise You, we bless You, we

worship You, we glorify You, we give thanks to You, for Your great glory, O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father almighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the sin of the world; receive our prayer. You sit at the right hand of God the Father; have mercy on us. For You only are holy; You only are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the Holy Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

p The Lord be with you.

c  And also with you.

p Let us pray . . . Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live, and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

c  A-men.

THE WORD

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 Rejoice always, 17 pray without ceasing, 18 in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. 19 Do not quench the Spirit. 20 Do not despise prophecies. 21 Test all things; hold fast what is good. 22 Abstain from every form of evil. 23 Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. 24 He who calls you is faithful, who also will do it.

John 1:6-8,19-28 There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. 7 This man came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all through him might believe. 8 He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. 19 Now this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" 20 He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, "I am not the Christ." 21 And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" And he answered, "No."

22 Then they said to him, “Who are you, that we may give an answer to those who sent us? What do you say about yourself?” 23 He said: “I am ‘The voice of one crying in the wilderness: “Make straight the way of the LORD,” ‘ as the prophet Isaiah said.” 24 Now those who were sent were from the Pharisees. 25 And they asked him, saying, “Why then do you baptize if you are not the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?” 26 John answered them, saying, “I baptize with water, but there stands One among you whom you do not know. 27 “It is He who, coming after me, is preferred before me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to loose.” 28 These things were done in Bethabara beyond the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

p Blessed are they who hear the
Word of God and keep it!

c  Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

THE APOSTLES' CREED

all I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord;
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, Born of the
virgin Mary; Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was
crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into
hell. The third day he rose again from the dead; He
ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand
of God the Father almighty. From there He will
come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy Christian
Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness
of sins, The resurrection of the body and the life
everlasting. Amen.


Hymn 61 — Comfort Comfort Ye My People

SERMON

Isaiah 61:1-4,8-11 “The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon Me, Because the LORD has anointed Me To preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives, And the opening of the prison to those who are bound; 2 To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, And the day of vengeance of our God; To comfort all who mourn, 3 To console those who mourn in Zion, To give them beauty for ashes, The oil of joy for mourning, The garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; That they may be called trees of righteousness, The planting of the LORD, that He may be glorified.” 4 And they shall rebuild the old ruins, They shall raise up the former desolations, And they shall repair the ruined cities, The desolations of many generations. 8 “For I, the LORD, love justice; I hate robbery for burnt offering; I will direct their work in truth, And will make with them an everlasting covenant. 9 Their descendants shall be known among the Gentiles, And their offspring among the people. All who see them shall acknowledge them, That they are the posterity whom the LORD has blessed.” 10 I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,


My soul shall be joyful in my God; For He has clothed me with the garments of salvation, He has covered me with the robe of righteousness, As a bridegroom decks himself with ornaments, And as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. II For as the earth brings forth its bud, As the garden causes the things that are sown in it to spring forth, So the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations.

THE ONE ANOINTED BRINGS JOY

- c  Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Your presence, and take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Your salvation, and uphold me with Your free Spirit.

Hymn 62 — O Come, O Come Emmanuel


OFFERING AND OFFERING HYMN: 442:2

- c  Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to yield Thee gladly,
freely, of Thine own; With the sunshine of Thy
goodness melt our thankless hearts of stone Till
our cold and selfish natures, warmed by Thee,
at length believe That more happy and more
blessed 'Tis to give than to receive

PRAYERS AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

- all 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.

THE BENEDICTION

- p The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make His face shine upon
 you and be gracious to you.
 The Lord lift up His countenance upon you
 and give you peace.
- c  A-men A-men A-men.

Hymn 66 — Hark the glad Sound! The Savior Comes

Calendar:

THIS WEEK:

Sunday 12/17

9am Worship Service
10am Christmas Eve Practice
10:15am Bible Class
2pm Caroling
5pm Chili Potluck
5pm Adult Choir Practice

Tuesday 12/19

5pm Basketball Practice

Wednesday 12/20

4pm Catechism Class
7pm Advent Service

Thursday 12/21

5pm Basketball Practice

Sunday 12/24

Christmas Eve
9am Worship Service
10am Christmas Eve Practice
10am Adult Choir Practice
10:15am Bible Class
7pm Christmas Eve Children's Program

Monday 12/25

10am Christmas Day Service

UPCOMING DATES:

Dec 17 - Christmas caroling at 2pm with a chili potluck following

Dec 24 - Christmas Eve Service at 7pm

Dec 25 - Christmas Service

Dec 31 - New Year's Eve Service

Jan 7th - Faith Alive sledding party at 2pm with Pizza and Games to follow

ENVELOPE COMMITTEE

This Week:

Team #4: Wayne Draeger, David Draeger

Next Week:

Team #5: Archie Quade, Gary Quade

DECEMBER USHERS

Sundays & Christmas Eve: Dan Thiem, Dave Dillie, Frank Quade, Andy Kohn

Advent 6, 13, 20 & Christmas Day, New Year's Eve: Randy Strelow, Gary Brown, Jeff Jones, Mitch Newton

FRUITS OF FAITH

Attendance: 138 / 20

Bible Class: 17

General Fund: \$4755

Announcements:

GUESTS AND VISITORS

Thank you for worshipping with us today. Please sign the guest register in the entry as you leave the church today.

WOMEN OF FAITH

NO women of faith meeting this month.
Next meeting is January 16th.

DOORS LOCKED

All doors into the church or school from the outside will be locked during school hours. Please understand that this is for the safety of the children. Thank you for your understanding.

NOTES FROM COUNCIL MEETING

Thanks to all who helped with church and school maintenance this month.

A computer was purchased for videotaping the services

Faith will be hosting the Great Lakes Delegates Conference, June 4 and 5th 2018

The question of stained glass windows will be brought up at the annual voter's meeting in Jan

Financial Information handout will be printed each quarter

Pastor will be gone for a few days after Christmas

THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS

Thursday morning bible class is taking Christmas vacation. We will begin again the Thursday after New Years, January 4th.



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Member of the Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC)

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