Faith Lutheran Church

in more for Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill made low. The crooked roads shall become straight, the rough ways smooth.

And all mankind will see God's salvation.

Luke 3:5-6

December 8, 2024

WELCOME

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

TODAY'S SERVICE

December 8th, 2024 Liturgy: Common Service

Speaker: Pastor Matthew Ude

Organist: Pamela Schulz

Liturgy: Common Service from Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal © 1993 Northwestern Publishing House

PRE-SERVICE DEVOTION

Psalm 66:1-12

Make a joyful shout to God, all the earth! ² Sing out the honor of His name; Make His praise glorious. ³ Say to God, "How awesome are Your works! Through the greatness of Your power Your enemies shall submit themselves to You. ⁴ All the earth shall worship You And sing praises to You; They shall sing praises to Your name." Selah 5 Come and see the works of God; He is awesome in His doing toward the sons of men. ⁶ He turned the sea into dry *land*; They went through the river on foot. There we will rejoice in Him. ⁷ He rules by His power forever; His eyes observe the nations; Do not let the rebellious exalt themselves. Selah ⁸ Oh, bless our God, you peoples! And make the voice of His praise to be heard, ⁹ Who keeps our soul among the living, And does not allow our feet to be moved. ¹⁰ For You, O God, have tested us; You have refined us as silver is refined. ¹¹ You brought us into the net; You laid affliction on our backs. ¹² You have caused men to ride over our heads; We went through fire and through water; But You brought us out to rich *fulfillment*.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

#LSB 367 Angels from the Realms of Glory

By, James Montgomery (1816)

I Angels from the realms of glory, Wing your flight o'er all the earth: Ye who sang creation's story, Now proclaim Messiah's birth.

Refrain:

Come and worship, come and worship; Worship Christ, the newborn King.

2 Shepherds in the field abiding, Watching o'er your flocks by night, God with us is now residing, Yonder shines His Infant Light. [Refrain] 3 Sages, leave your contemplations, Brighter visions beam afar; Seek the great Desire of nations, Ye have seen His natal star. [Refrain]

4 Saints before the altar bending, Watching long in hope and fear, Suddenly the Lord, descending, In His temple shall appear. [Refrain]

INVOCATION

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



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.
- all 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.



6

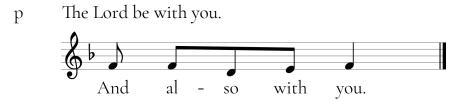
p God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given His only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.



we glorify you, we give thanks to you, for yourgreatglory







Let us pray ... Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



9

THE WORD

Luke 3:1-14 Now in the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and the region of Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, ² while Annas and Caiaphas were high priests¹, the word of God came to John the son of Zacharias in the wilderness. ³ And he went into all the region around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins, ⁴ as it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet, saying: "The voice of one crying in the wilderness:'Prepare the way of the LORD; Make His paths straight. ⁵ Every valley shall be filled And every mountain and hill brought low; The crooked places shall be made straight And the rough ways¹ smooth; ⁶ And all flesh shall see the salvation of God¹."" 7 Then he said to the multitudes that came out to be baptized by him, "Brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸ "Therefore bear fruits worthy of repentance, and do not begin to say to yourselves, We have Abraham as our father.' For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to

Abraham from these stones. ⁹ "And even now the ax is laid to the root of the trees. Therefore every tree which does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." ¹⁰ So the people asked him, saying, "What shall we do then?" ¹¹ He answered and said to them, "He who has two tunics, let him give to him who has none; and he who has food, let him do likewise." ¹² Then tax collectors also came to be baptized, and said to him, "Teacher, what shall we do?" ¹³ And he said to them, "Collect no more than what is appointed for you." ¹⁴ Likewise the soldiers asked him, saying, "And what shall we do?" So he said to them, "Do not intimidate anyone or accuse falsely, and be content with your wages."

Philippians I:2-II ² Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ³ I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, ⁴ always in every prayer of mine making request for you all with joy, ⁵ for your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now, ⁶ being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete *it* until the day of Jesus Christ; ⁷ just as it is right for me to think this of you all, because I have you in my heart, inasmuch as both in my chains and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel, you all are partakers with me of grace. ⁸ For God is my witness, how greatly I long for you all with the affection of Jesus Christ. ⁹ And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in knowledge and all discernment, ¹⁰ that you may approve the things that are excellent, that you may be sincere and without offense till the day of Christ, ¹¹ being filled with the fruits of righteousness which *are* by Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

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



THE APOSTLES' CREED

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.

#63:1-4 On Jordan's Bank the Baptist Cry

SERMON

Isaiah 40:1-11 "Comfort, yes, comfort My people!" Says your God. ² "Speak comfort to Jerusalem, and cry out to her, That her warfare is ended, That her iniquity is pardoned; For she has received from the LORD'S hand Double for all her sins." ³ The voice of one crying in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the LORD; Make straight in the desert¹ A highway for our God. ⁴ Every valley shall be exalted And every mountain and hill brought low; The crooked places shall be made straight And the rough places smooth; ⁵ The glory of the LORD shall be revealed, And all flesh shall see it together; For the mouth of the LORD has spoken." ⁶ The voice said, "Cry out!" And he¹ said, "What shall I cry?" "All flesh is grass, And all its loveliness is like the flower of the field. ⁷ The grass withers, the flower fades. Because the breath of the LORD blows upon it; Surely the people are grass. ⁸ The grass withers, the flower fades. But the word of our God stands forever." ⁹ O Zion, You who bring good tidings, Get up into the high mountain; O Jerusalem, You who bring good tidings, Lift up your voice with strength, Lift *it* up, be not afraid;

Say to the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!" ¹⁰ Behold, the Lord GOD shall come with a strong *hand*, And His arm shall rule for Him; Behold, His reward *is* with Him, And His work before Him. ¹¹ He will feed His flock like a shepherd; He will gather the lambs with His arm, And carry *them* in His bosom, *And* gently lead those who are with young.

GOD PREPARES YOUR HEART

The Lord prepares our hearts with a double portion of grace. The Lord prepares our hearts through repentance. The glory of the Lord comes to those hearts he has prepared.



#705 Come, O Long-Expected Jesus

Offering Hymn #441:1-2

We give Thee but Thine own, whate'er the gift may be, all

that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee. May we Thy bounties thus, as stewards true receive, and gladly, as thou blessest us, to thee our first fruits give

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.



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8

9 am Worship Service **10 am** Christmas Eve Practice **10:15am** Bible Class

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10

6:30 Elders Meeting 7:30 Council Meeting

WEDNESDAY, 11

3:45-5:15 pm Confirmation Class 7pm Advent Service

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

9 am Worship Service
10 am Christmas Eve Practice
10:15am Voter's Meeting
3 pm Christmas Caroling

UPCOMING EVENTS

12/24 6:30pm Christmas Eve Service 12/25 10am Christmas Day Service 12/31 7pm New Years Eve Service

USHERS FOR DECEMBER

Bob Kirst, Russ Brown, Jeremy Golz, Kade Muehlenhaupt

FRUITS OF FAITH

Sunday Service – 90 Sunday School-Bible Class- 8 General Fund- \$ 2986 Missions - \$ 110 In memory of Betty Ruenger – 600 to School Fund In memory of Lisa Poch – 20 to School Fund ILC Edu – 25

COUNTERS

This Week Team # 5 Dennis Jones, Lynn Dumke **Next Week Team #6** Jim Kok

ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT

The ladies of Luther Memorial Church will be hosting an Advent by Candlelight for all women and their female family members and friends on Sunday, **December 8**, **2024 at 3 p.m.** There is no charge for this event. This will be a wonderful afternoon of the Word, music and fellowship to help you prepare your hearts for the Advent season before the holiday gets into full swing!

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA LIST

Sign-up for Christmas Poinsettias inPastor Caleb Schaller of Messiahon the bulletin boardLutheran Church, Eau Claire, With

SPECIAL VOTING MEETING

Our annual special voters meeting to ratify the list of candidates for church offices is scheduled for Sunday December 15 after church.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING

Christmas caroling is scheduled for December 15. We will meet at the church at 3 pm and go from there.

CHRISTMAS EVE PRACTICE

Children's Christmas Eve practice begins the Sunday after Thanksgiving. December1 at 0 am

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Zeph. 3:14–20 Psalm 85 Phil. 4:4–7 Luke 7:18–28

CALL NEWS

Pastor Caleb Schaller of Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI has returned the call to St. Stephen Lutheran Church and School, Mountain View, CA.

Pastor Drew Naumann of Trinity Ev. Lutheran, Spokane, WA has received the call to Faith Lutheran Church, Manchester, MO.



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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