



2011 Christmas Eve Worship Service Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

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AS WE GATHER We are very familiar with Luke's account of Jesus' birth, with angels and shepherds, no room in the inn, and the Baby in the manger. Matthew's shorter account focuses on who the Baby is: Immanuel, God-with-us. Because we do not deserve to have God near us at all, this is pure Gospel. He comes to us and lives among us in time and space so that we might be with Him forever in heaven. This evening we celebrate not only a birth so long ago, but the promise for our eternal future, which He brings.



THE RINGING BELL INVITES US TO CELEBRATE THE SAVIOR'S BIRTH

THE OPENING PRAYER AND WELCOME

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN "O, Come, All Ye Faithful" LSB 379 (We Rise)

*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, O, come, let
us adore him, O, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*

*O highest, most holy, saints and angels praise Thee. In earth and heav'ns above Thy
glory we see. Blest He who comes here, Jesus, our IMMANUEL. O come, let us adore
Him, O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!*

*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,
O, come, let us adore him, O, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*

IMMANUEL, Jesus, Lamb of God most holy, The sins of the whole world You've taken away. Have mercy on us; grant Your peace forever. O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, Born this happy morning; Jesus, to thee . . . be . . . glory given! Word of the Father, Now in flesh appearing! O, come, let us adore him, O, come, let us adore him, O, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

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THE INVOCATION AND OPENING VERSICLES

3

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

C
3

Amen.

God Himself is present:

C
3

Let us now adore Him And with awe appear before Him.

God is with us.

C

Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call His name Immanuel. *Isaiah 7:14*

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

3

As Christ's birth approaches, we are filled with joy. Yet it was to die for our sins that the Father sent His own Son born as a human child long ago. Let us, therefore, confess our sins to God our Maker and beg His forgiveness.

C

Loving Father, sometimes it seems that You have abandoned me, that you have forgotten me, Your wayward child. But it is not really that way at all. It is I who has abandoned You and forgotten Your ways. Through the Holy Spirit may Your Son Jesus Christ draw me back to You in faith, that I might be forgiven of all my sins and trust in Him as my Savior and Immanuel.

God is gracious. He has seen your sorrow for sin and heard your plea for mercy. Jesus Christ, God's Son, has died for all your sins and has risen to assure you of eternal life. Therefore, if your confession is sincere, I as His called and ordained servant, in His stead and at His command, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen. Thanks be to God.

THE HYMN OF PRAISE *“Glory Be To God On High” (Tune: LSB 380)*

"Glory be to God on high!" This is now our joyful cry.

Peace to all who live on earth, Grace and favor for new Birth!

You we praise and glorify, Worship You, O Lord most high.

Gracious Father, heav'nly King, To Your name alone we sing:

"Praise the glory of Your name, Now and evermore the same!"

Jesus Christ, the Father's Son, Sole-begotten, holy One,

Born on earth from realms on high, Born true man for us to die.

Lamb of God, You take away this world's sin---grant peace we pray.

With the Spirit, You alone are most high, O God the Son,

And the Father, God above, Praise we now Your glorious love.

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Tune: MENDELSSOHN, Felix Mendelssohn, 1809-47, public domain.

THE SALUTATION *(Spoken)*

3

The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

THE COLLECT *(Prayed together)*

Loving Father, when the time had fully come, You sent forth Your Son, Jesus Christ, Immanuel, to be born of a woman. With a bright star, You guided Wise Men from a distant land to Bethlehem where Jesus was born showing to all mankind that He is the Savior of the world, and therefore our Savior too. With joy we give You thanks and praise, in the name of Jesus Christ, one God with You and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

THE OLD TESTAMENT *Isaiah 7:10-14 (The child will be God-with-us.)*

3

This is the word of the Lord, that of a Virgin, our Immanuel would be born.

C **Thanks be to God! Christ our peace has been born.**

THE CHRISTMAS MUSIC

5:00 *“A Carol For All Seasons”(Go Tell It on the Mountain)...Michael Burkhardt
Mixed Vocal Ensemble*

7:30 *“Mary, Did You Know?”...arr. Joel Raney Andrew Wulf, flute*

THE EPISTLE *1 John 4:7-16 (God is love.)*

3

This is the word of our redeeming Lord.

C **Thanks be to God! The Immanuel born to Mary makes us children of God.**

THE HYMN *"Angels From the Realms of Glory" LSB 367 (We rise for verse 5)*

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.***

*Shepherds in the fields abiding, Watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing, Yonder shines the infant light. **Refrain***

*Sages, leave your contemplations, Brighter visions beam afar;
Seek the great desire of nations, Ye have seen his natal star. **Refrain***

*Saints before the altar bending, watching long in hope and fear,
Suddenly the lord, descending, In His temple shall appear. **Refrain***

We Rise

*All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son,
Evermore your voices raising To the eternal Three in One. **Refrain***

THE GOSPEL PROCESSIONAL

This evening we will use our Processional Torches as a part of the Reading of the Holy Gospel. It is actually an ancient tradition in the church to remind us that the Gospel, which proclaims Christ as Immanuel, is that bright light that brings us the Word of salvation. The Gospel is read this evening from the middle of the Chancel, closer to the congregation to remind us that in Christmas, the Word of God, Jesus Himself became Incarnate and dwelt among us.

THE HOLY GOSPEL Luke 2:1-20 (*The story of God's gift of Himself to us.*)
3

This is the Gospel of the Lord, whom kings of the earth come and worship.

C **Praise to You, O Christ, Son of God and Mary's Son, our Brother and King.**

THE SERMON HYMN "*Angels We Have Heard on High*" LSB 368

*Angels we have heard on high, Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply, Echoing their joyous strains.*

Refrain: Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

*Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be Which inspire your heav'nly song?*

Refrain: Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

*Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King.*

Refrain: Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

THE SERMON

"Immanuel"

Isaiah 7:14

Pastor Brad Urbach

THE 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 worshipped 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.

THE OFFERING We gather our tithes and gifts of love

Faith Promise Cards – We continue this evening to return our “Faith Promise” cards having prayerfully pondered our giving for the New Year. There are additional cards on the Oak Table in the Narthex. If you did not bring yours today, please return them soon. We will dedicate our “Faith Promise” cards on the 1st Sunday of Epiphany, January 8, 2012.

THE OFFERTORY 5:00 *“The Encounter”...Jaroslav Vajda/David Haas*
Mixed Vocal Ensemble

The Congregation is asked to join in singing verse 4 following the “Silent Night” interlude. You will find this music on the pink insert.

THE OFFERTORY 7:30 *“Now Sing We, Now Rejoice” LSB 386*

*Now sing we, now rejoice, Now raise to heav'n our voice;
He from whom joy streameth Poor in a manger lies;
Not so brightly beameth the sun in yonder skies,
Thou my Savior art! Thou my Savior art!*

*Oh, where shall joy be found? Where but on heav'nly ground?
Where the angels singing With all His saints unite,
Sweetest praises bringing In heav'nly joy and light.
Oh, that we were there! Oh, that we were there!*

THE DEDICATION OF THE NEW CHRISTMAS BANNER

It is our great joy to dedicate a new Christmas Banner tonight. The Banner was made possible by:

- *The family of Joan Cash in her memory,*
- *Arlene Barker in memory of her husband Blaine,*
- *Joyce Nielsen in memory of her husband Bill,*
- *The family of Verna Cummings in her memory.*
- *The family of Calvin & Ruth Titze in their memory.*

The Angel on this banner is identical to the blue Advent Banner that has hung in the Sanctuary the last 4 Sundays. The “O Come All Ye Faithful” is the same script that also is on the Advent banner. The banner was made by Gaspard Vestments and Paraments of Brookfield, WI and uses the same fabric and thread colors as our White paraments that were also designed and created by Gaspard, Inc. who have made Eccliaistical Paraments and Vestments for churches for 50 years

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

3

God entered human history as IMMANUEL, God with us, so that we might live as His children in communion with Him. Let us pray for our congregation, the Church around the world, and for all people, asking Him to strengthen us as we seek to return the love He has shown us. For the Church gathered around Word and Sacrament; for all clergy and lay leaders, that their lives reflect the Gospel they proclaim; and for all who still walk in darkness, that they come to know Christ as their Savior and Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

C
3

O IMMANUEL, God with us, hear our prayer.

For leaders of world nations, that they use every opportunity to increase peace across their border, advocating justice and human dignity for all citizens; for the coming year, that it be a time of greater peace and joy; and for all whom God has blessed with creative and diverse talents that they use them to God’s glory, let us pray to the Lord.

C

O IMMANUEL, God with us, hear our prayer.

For the men and women of our armed forces stationed abroad, those residing within our borders and those who respond in emergencies, that God would protect and guide them; for all who live in broken homes or residential care, that our Lord would surround them with faithful care givers; and for all who face this day alone, that they rejoice in the knowledge of God's presence with them, let us pray to the Lord.

C **O IMMANUEL, God with us, hear our prayer.**

3

For our Faith family and its friends in the midst of life's joys and struggles...let us pray to the Lord.

C **O IMMANUEL, God with us, hear our prayer.**

3

Into Your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.



THE COLLECT *(Prayed together)*

O God, because You once caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light, grant that we who have known the mystery of that Light here on earth may come to the full measure of its joy in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

THE CANDLE LIGHTING

We use candles in our service tonight. While it is a beautiful custom, we ask your thoughtful care in handling the candles. Especially be careful of the children. For this reason, candles are given only to older children and adults. Please follow the lighting procedures as indicated below, and again -- we invite your care.

The Pastor will light his candle from the light of the Christ Candle provided by the acolytes. The acolytes will light their candles from the Pastor's candle and pass this light to the worshipers in each pew nearest the center aisle. Pass your light to your neighbor in the pew. **Dip the unlit candle when lighting your candle from the person next to you.**

We will extinguish the candles following the Lord's Prayer before the singing of "Joy to the World".

3

The people walking in darkness have seen a great Light.

C
3

Jesus Christ is the Light of the world.

Shine as Light that all may see your good works and praise your Father in heaven.

C
3

Jesus Christ is the Light of the world.

If we walk in the Light as he is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another.

C

Jesus Christ is the Light of the world.

THE HYMN "*Silent Night, Holy Night*" LSB 363

Silent night, holy night! All is calm all is bright

Round yon virgin mother and child. Holy Infant, so tender and mild,

Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.

Stille nacht, heilige nacht! Alles schlaft, Einsam wacht,

Nur das heilige eltern-paar Das in stalle zu Bethlehem war,

Bei dem himm-li-chen kind, Bei dem himm-li-chen kind

Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight;

Glories stream from heaven afar Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia,

Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!

Instrumental - Reflect on how we can be lights to our Father's World.

Silent night! Holy night! Son of God, Loves pure light

Radiant beams from Thy holy face With the dawn of redeeming grace,

Jesus, Lord at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord at Thy birth.

THE 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.

THE BENEDICTION (With Sung triple Amen)
3

May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. May the Lord look upon you with favor and grant you His peace.



■ A-men, a-men, a - men.

THE CLOSING HYMN “Joy to the World” LSB 387 (Sung twice if needed)
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.

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.

No more let sin and sorrow 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.

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.

* * *

Welcome to Faith Lutheran on this Christmas Eve. We rejoice that you again have



*The virgin will be with
child and will give
birth to a son,
and will call him
Immanuel*

Isaiah 7:14

come to the manger to celebrate God’s gift of love in Jesus Christ. Should you be visiting from out of town we wish you God-speed in your journey. Should you be visiting from our community and you have no church home we invite you to make Faith your church home.

HERE I AM!

As the Faith Lutheran's Renewal for Life concludes its project with the birth of our Faith Lutheran "baby" hopefully we have discovered how miraculous and precious life is from the moment of conception to birth. Just as the Blessed Mother Mary knew as she gazed into the eyes of the great I AM, that every child conceived has the fight to see the light of day!

Luke 2:7 "and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn."

Christmas Day Worship Service

(One Service)

11:00 A.M.

With Holy Communion



New Year's Eve Worship Service

7:00 P.M.

With Holy Communion

New Year's Day Worship Service

(One Service)

11:00 A.M.

Christmas Flowers on the Altar

- Pastor Urbach – In thanksgiving for my family.
- Jack & Dawn Magee – In memory of Stella Regenniter & Duane Magee.
- Vern & Janice Dockter – In thanksgiving for our family.
- Mary Hiller – In memory of Chet Hiller and Herbert & Kathryn Auch

- Vernon & Gloria Bump – In thanksgiving for our family.
- Jim & Char Russell – To the Glory of God.
- Lori Quatier & Helen Oldenkamp – In memory of Brenda Traut.
- Marrill & Sandy Bales – In thanksgiving for our family.
- John & Carlene Barber – In thanksgiving for our family.
- Bernie, Noel & Brady Clocksin – In thanksgiving for our Faith Lutheran family.
- Ben & Loni Shoup – In memory of our loved ones.
- Bob & Carla Schmidt – In loving memory of Bob's brother, Bill.
- Irene LaFurge Smith in memory of lost loved ones.
- Monte & Judy Farnsworth – To the Glory of God.
- Aaron & Joyce Zimmerman – In loving memory of our parents.
- Freda, Ron & Marlowe Peters – In memory of Olin, Marsha & Brenda.
- Erica & Brian Hanson – In memory of Christy Hanson.
- Lari & Linda Ott – In memory of LeRoy Eisenbeisz and Cliff & Mary Ott.
- David & Janice Johnson – In thanksgiving for our family.
- Dale & Jackie Eide – In memory of grandson, Brendan Heuret.
- Susan Burroughs – In memory of my parents, John & Doris Burroughs.
- Cody & Lila Briggs – In memory of our parents, Mel Maier, Kirby Briggs & Gertie Joens.
- Julie & Bernie Linn & family – In memory of Julie's mom, Elizabeth Jean.
- Ron & Betty Herron – In memory of our parents, Aug & Beth Rupkalvis and Tom & Ella Herron.
- Dale & Mary Heidelberger & family – In thanksgiving for our family.
- Fred & Anita Marso – Advent Poinsettias on Altar in memory of Freddie Marso Jr.

- Marcia Johnson & family – In memory of Larry D. Johnson.
- Elmer & Delores Mehrer – in memory of Leon & Bertie Mehrer.
- Bill, Liz, Becky & Chris Markley – In memory of mother & grandmother, Helen Swift.
- Jerry & JoAnn Sanders – In thanksgiving for our family and friends.
- Ron & Lana Blair – In memory of our parents and sister, Nancy Cheerington.
- Steve & Vona Johnson – To the glory of God.
- Chuck & Karen Humphrey – In loving memory of our parents.
- Terry, Clareen & Karrie James – To the glory of God.
- Jon & Cathy Stahl & Diane Hansen – In memory of David Hansen & Gary Plagman.

