

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 18, 2011 A.D.
Faith Ev. Lutheran Church – Pierre, SD
Website: www.faithluth.com
Email: faith@faithluth.com

Pastor Brad Urbach – 224-2838
Church Phone – 224-2216
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*A Christ Caring People Who Gather Around Word and Sacrament,
Yoked Together, In Personal Service to Christ in World Wide Missions*



As We Gather Today, we hear the angel's announcement of the imminent birth of the Savior and Mary's humble consent to God's gracious will. This is the first of many times when she would "ponder in her heart" the grace and promise of God, and on this day we not only recall her faithfulness but pray that we may respond to God's will and promise in the same way.

THE WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER

If there are prayer concerns for you, your family, your friends, or your neighbors, please put them on the blue information card. Our Board of Elders are prayerful with our pastor about these joys and struggles of our earthly journey.

"The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective." James 5:16b

THE RINGING BELL CALLS US INTO THE PRESENCE OF OUR ADVENT KING

DIVINE SERVICE - SETTING ONE

THE 8:20 SERVICE

THE OPENING HYMN *"Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding" LSB 345 (Tune LW 18)*
(We cheerfully rise and sing)

THE INVOCATION

3

In the name of the Father and of the **J**on and of the Holy Spirit.

C

Amen.

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

3

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:8-9

3

Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name. Amen

3

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins, As a called and ordained 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.
[John 20:19-23]

C Amen.

THE SPECIAL MUSIC

*“All Is Well”...Michael W. Smith
Rodd Bauck & Women’s Ensemble*

THE SALUTATION *(Spoken)*

3

The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

THE COLLECT

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

THE EPISTLE LESSON *Romans 16:25-27 (The mystery long hidden has finally been revealed in Jesus Christ!)*

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL *St. Luke 1:26-38 (The annunciation of the angel Gabriel to the virgin Mary and her faithful response.)*

THE SERMON HYMN *"Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates" LSB 341*

THE SERMON *"Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"*
Isaiah 40:9
Pastor Brad Urbach


THE NICENE CREED *Inside back cover of the Lutheran Service Book*

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GREETING OF ONE ANOTHER


THE OFFERING *We gather our tithes, gifts of love, and our "Building Together in Faith" gifts.*

52/10

THE OFFERTORY *"Create in Me" LW 175*




C Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a




 right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your



 pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from



 me. Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,



 and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

THE SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD
1 Corinthians 11:23-25

Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20;




THE PAX DOMINI
 3

John 20:19


The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

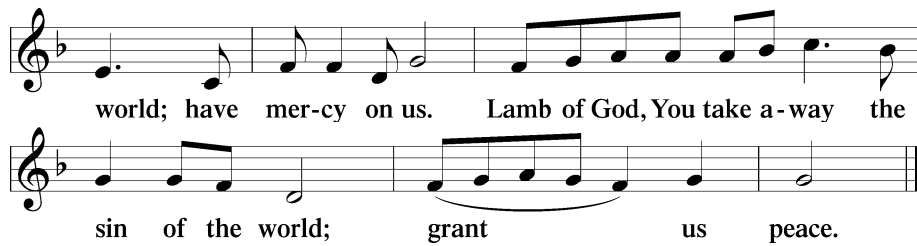
AGNUS DEI



C Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have



 mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

THE COMMUNION HYMNS

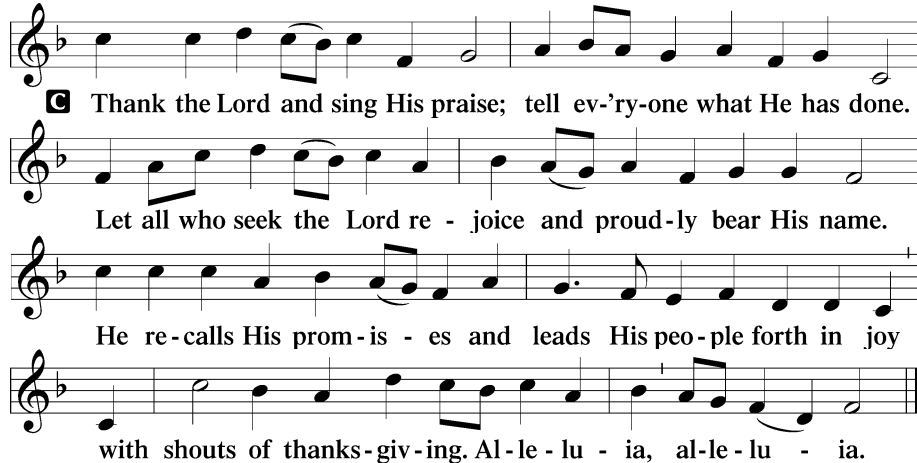
"O God, Our Help in Ages Past" LSB 733

"Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness" LSB 636

"Here, O My Lord, I See Thee Face to Face" LSB 631



THANK THE LORD



Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.
Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.
He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy
with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia.

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

3

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. That we may learn from blessed Mary to trust in the Lord's Word and have confidence in His grace so that we may not doubt or fear but rejoice always, let us pray:

C
3

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and deliver Your people by the power of Your grace.

That the Lord would strengthen every ministry of His Church and bless all those who serve Her---pastors, missionaries, and all church workers, and that we may respond to their faithful preaching and teaching with the obedience of faith, let us pray:

C
3 **O come, O come, Emmanuel, and deliver Your people by the power of Your grace.**

That the Lord prepare the hearts of all those who hear His Word that they may receive His Holy Spirit and respond with faith to the promise of salvation, let us pray:

C
3 **O come, O come, Emmanuel, and deliver Your people by the power of Your grace.**

That the Lord would bless all elected and appointed civil servants, that we may protect the weak, promote virtue, and serve the common good, let us pray:

C
3 **hear our prayer.**

We pray for our Faith family and its friends in the midst of life's joys and struggles... let us pray:

C
3 **O come, O come, Emmanuel, and deliver Your people by the power of Your grace.**

That we may be wise and generous stewards over all the resources that God has entrusted to us, His people, and that we may use them for His glory and for the support of His Church, let us pray:

C
3 **O come, O come, Emmanuel, and deliver Your people by the power of Your grace.**

That God may give us all things needful to us and our salvation and keep from us all things harmful to us and to our salvation, let us pray:

C
O come, O come, Emmanuel, and deliver Your people by the power of Your grace.
Amen.

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 Amens*)

3

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

THE CLOSING HYMN "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" LSB 338 (Tune LSB 700)

THE 11:00 SERVICE
Children's Christmas Program N-3 Grades
Jesus – God's Greatest Gift

OPENING HYMN "Oh, Come Little Children" sung by the children

THE INVOCATION

3

In the name of the Father and of the **J**on and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

THE SONG "Little Children, Can You Tell?" sung by the children

From God to Us: Jesus

THE READING

THE SONG "Away in a Manger"

From Jesus to Us: Forgiveness, Life, and Salvation

THE READING

THE SONG "Angels We Have Heard On High" LSB 368

THE READING



THE CONGREGATIONAL HYMN "God Loves Me Dearly"

Children will sing the first verse, congregation verses 2-5

*God loves me dearly, Grants me salvation,
God loves me dearly, Loves even me.*

Therefore I'll say again: God loves me dearly,

God loves me dearly, Loves even me.

Adults sing stanzas 2-5

*I was in slav'ry, Sin, death and darkness;
God's love was working To make me free.
Refrain*

*He sent forth Jesus, My dear Redeemer,
He sent forth Jesus, And set me free. Refrain*

*Jesus, my Savior, Himself did offer;
Jesus, my Savior, Paid all I owed. Refrain*

*Now I will praise You, O Love Eternal;
Now I will praise You all my life long. Refrain*



From Us to Others: Service

THE READING

THE SONG

“Silent Night”

THE READING

THE SONG

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

THE CONGREGATIONAL HYMN “Go Tell It On the Mountain” LSB 388

Children will sing refrain and first verse congregation joins for rest of hymn

THE CONCLUSION

THE BLESSING

THE CLOSING HYMN “Joy to the World” LSB 387

Children will sing first verse; congregation will sing verses 2-4

Welcome to Faith Evangelical Lutheran on this Fourth Sunday of Advent!

We are delighted to have you in worship with us. If you are visiting from out of town, we bid you welcome and God-speed on your journey. Should you be from our community, and have no church home, we invite you to make Faith your church home. Greeting you this morning:

Before Early Service

Tim & Jan Larson
Loren & Sue Schaefer

After Early Service

Bill & Liz Markley
John & Carlene Barber



Before Late Service

Brent & Sheri Adney
Randy & Jodi Hartmann

After Late Service

Jeff & Caitlin Logan
Kay Nelson

Preaching this morning is our Pastor, Reverend Brad Urbach. Pastor Urbach will be preaching at Trinity in Blunt between our two services.

Holy Communion is celebrated at our 8:20 service today. In this Sacrament, our Lord brings us strength and forgiveness to be about His vision and mission. Those confirmed Lutherans who come to the Sacrament of the Altar today are asked to read the communion side of our information card found in the pew rack and to sign the bottom of the reverse side so that our communion records might be complete.

Morning Fellowship Join us in the Christian Family Life Center after our 8:20 service for a fresh cup of coffee and fellowship.



Our Adult Class Continues today with our study entitled “Bearing Fruit For Jesus.” We encourage all adults to join us for this class.

Nursery Nursery is available during the 11:00 service. This is located in the Preschool Room. It is for children ages infant through 5 year olds.

Nursing Moms can find a comfortable rocker in the Daycare. This is NOT a Nursery for young children, just a quiet, private place for nursing moms.

God Be With You!

Our Broadcasts Our Sonrise Broadcast is made possible this morning by Ben & Loni Shoup in thanksgiving to God for their 46th wedding anniversary and also for Ben’s birthday. Thanks Ben & Loni, we wish God’s continued blessings on your marriage and a blessed birthday to you Ben.

Our Cable Broadcast is sponsored this week by our Faith congregation.

Last week both Sonrise and our Cable Broadcast were sponsored by John & Carlene Barber in honor of the birth of their first grandchild, Elise Emmanuel Wexler, daughter of Carmen & Craig Wexler. We thank John & Carlene and wish God’s rich blessings on Elise and her whole family.

Our Cable Broadcast is also on our Website which Dennis and Carolyn Ryckman keep very current for us. Take a look at www.faithluth.com. **COST:** You may sponsor the radio broadcast of Sonrise for \$30.00. This radio broadcast is on 1240 AM KCCR at 6:40 a.m. on

Sunday morning. The cost of sponsoring the cable broadcast of our worship service is \$35.00. This cable access broadcast is televised on Wednesday evening at 7:00 p.m. on Channel 8. If you choose to sponsor both, the cost is \$60.00.

Offering Envelopes The new 2012 offering envelopes are on tables in the Narthex. Please pick yours up today and begin using them on Sunday, January 1. If you are unable to find yours, please let Helen know.

2011 Contributions Cut Off! All contributions for 2011 MUST BE turned in by New Year's Eve, December 31st. Any contributions coming in Sunday, January 1st will be entered as 2012 contributions.

Dec. 11, Att. 460; General Fund \$8,869.09; Building Fund \$995.00 (Building \$225.00, Debt Retirement \$515.00; Elevator \$80.00); Christmas Eve \$10.00; Christmas \$10.00; New Year's Eve \$10.00; Sunday School \$39.81; Love Fund \$75.00; Thrivent Automatic Withdrawal \$1,206.00 (General \$1,151.00; Building Fund \$55.00); Hong Kong Trip \$690.00; Hong Kong Stir-fry Meal \$1,262.00; \$100.00; Broadcasts \$60.00; Flowers \$32.00; Love Fund in memory of Brenda Traut \$335.00; Bible Study \$70.00; Café Sola \$17.00.

This Week at Faith Lutheran

Today: Dec. 18

8:20 am Communion

9:45 am Sunday School/Adult Study

11:00 am Worship N-3rd Christmas Program

1:30 pm Mary House Christmas Service

4:00 pm 4-8th grade Christmas Program

Mon: Dec. 19

NO Women's Pickleball today or Wed. a.m.

6:30 pm Christ Care

Tues: Dec. 20

8:25 am Staff Devotions

10:30 & 2:30 Preschool Christmas Program

12:00 Forever Young Christmas Potluck

6:30 pm Choir

7:30-9:00 pm Pickleball

Wed: Dec. 21

10:30 am Preschool Christmas Program

6:30 pm Midweek Christmas Party

6:30 pm "Life of David"

7:55 pm Advent Worship

8:00 pm LYF

Thurs: Dec. 22

8:25 am Staff Devotions

1:30-3:00 pm Pickleball

Fri: Dec. 23

10:00 am Women's Pickleball

Sat: Dec. 24 Christmas Eve

5:00 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

7:30 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Sun: Dec. 25 Christmas Day

NO Sunday School

11:00 am Christmas Day Service with Holy Communion, One Service only

Mon: Dec 26 OFFICE CLOSED

Building News

Thank you - yes indeed thank you for your gifts to the Building Fund this week. The gifts were designated as follows: The Building Account: \$225.00

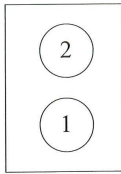
The Debt Retirement Account: \$515.00
The Elevator Account: \$80.00

The Elevator Has Arrived!

It will be after Christmas before the crew arrives, but having the elevator on site is a big step.

Matching Gift

Because of the \$12,000 matching challenge gift and because of generous gifts on November 13 we have –



Reached our Goal!

That's correct, all the funds are now arranged for to pay the Otis Elevator Company and Sioux Falls Construction in full. Gifts that are given yet to the Elevator Fund will handle any last minute touches with any excess going into the Building Fund.

Now What?

Debt Retirement Now we continue to stay after Debt Retirement, keeping in mind that every dollar given, because of the interest saved, is like nearly \$5.00. On December 1 we made our regular payment and 2 additional payments saving another \$8,462.16 in interest. We have now saved \$221,340.57.

Building Account Once the elevator is in we desire, after the first of the year, to start to make some significant progress upstairs. We hope this winter to:

- Finish the St. Paul room entirely.
- Tape, texture, and paint Sts. Luke & John and put cabinets in those rooms.

When you consider two years ago that the entire upstairs was an empty shell, well, you have provided remarkable labor and resources to make great progress, more is coming. Again – to all of you, from all of us – THANK YOU!

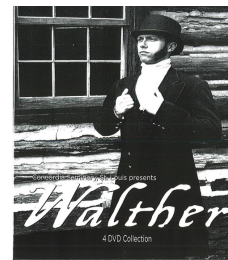
Forever Young Join us this Tuesday for a noon potluck. We will sing some Christmas Carols and as always, eat well. We will play a quick round of Bingo for some Christmas napkins. Forever Young is a terrific group of retired and semi-retired members of Faith. If you fit the description, come join us.

Hong Kong Stir-fry Thank You Boy, what a meal! We thank the whole Hong Kong crew for cooking up a fine meal. We also thank Ken & Cheryl Brull for the donation of extra supplies and spearheading the project.

We thank our parish for gifts of \$1,262.00 to assist in the cost for the team of 10 that will travel to Hong Kong in February.

Did you notice the cool shirts many of the team members had on?

Movie Day On Sunday, January 15 we will share the new movie release



from Concordia Seminary in St. Louis entitled “Walther”. It will help you have a new appreciation for the early days of our church body that dates back to 1847. That’s January 15 at 3:00 p.m. Our theme for the day is “Where have we been and where are we going” as we remember our early history as a church body and have our Pancake Feed to help our Hong Kong missionary team with expenses for their February 2012 trip. Thus our theme “Where have we been and where are we going?”



Christmas Poinsettias Would you like to adorn the Lord’s Altar Christmas Eve with a poinsettia? Please sign the flower chart by the Oak Table in the Narthex. The cost is \$16.00. Thank you. *Today is the last day to sign up as we will need to get them listed in the Christmas Eve bulletin.*

Angels All the Angel ornaments on the Sanctuary tree have been given by families of our church. Every three years we put Angels on the tree. If you have joined us in the recent years and would like to donate and place an angel on the tree, please feel free to place it on the tree any time between now and Christmas Eve. We say thank you for your gift!



CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS TODAY

Sunday, December 18
N-3 grade
“Jesus, God’s Greatest Gift”
11:00 a.m.



Sunday, December 18
4-8 grades
“Light A Candle”
4:00 p.m.



A special thank you for every blood donor who set time aside to give the ultimate gift of life.

There were 51 units collected. United Blood Services says this was the best drive since 2008! Char Russell

LYF & JYM YOUTH NEWS

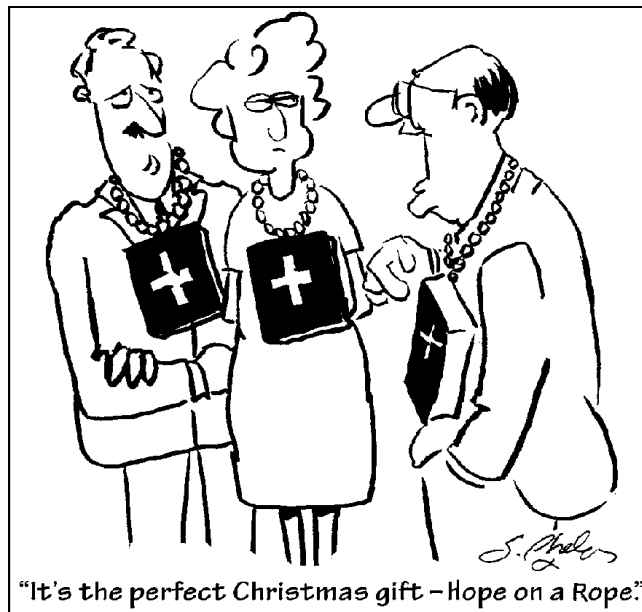
LYF will meet at 8:00 this Wednesday. December 21 will be our LYF Christmas Party. It will be at 7:30. Pizza provided. Wear your favorite Santa hat.

Puns for Youthful Educated Minds:

Time flies like an arrow. Fruit flies like a banana.

LYF Bake Sale Our LYF Youth will host a Bake Sale **TODAY**, December 18. Thrivent For Lutherans will be matching funds up to \$166.25. The sale will be between services.

In addition to the kids, anyone in the parish that would like to do a bit of baking to help the kids out, well our LYF Youth would be most appreciative.



Midweek Advent Services

Join us this Wednesday night at 7:55 for the second of our Midweek Advent



Services: “Proclaim the Wondrous Birth”

The Amazing Birth of Jesus God’s Gift to the World



The musical group **Surprise Package** will be performing their annual **Christmas Concert at 3:30 PM, today, December 18th** at the **First United Methodist Church** at 117 North Central Avenue. The performance will feature the following vocalists: Kathy Cruse, Rebecca DallaGrana, Rachel Engbrecht, Amanda Garrett, Carol Gengler, Priscilla Hofer, Dave Huft, Carol Johnson, Karl Kroger, Tim Larson, Ben Orsbon, Michael Pangburn,



and Kriste Schock along with Director, Larry Lyngstad, Accompanist, Joyce Goehring, and other musicians. Come and enjoy the sacred and secular music.

Main Street Living may be seen each Sunday morning at 10 AM on KDLT-NBC Sioux Falls or at 9 AM on KEVN-FOX Rapid City. Mailing address is Main Street Living, 1400 S. Duluth Ave, Sioux Falls, SD 57105. The program may be viewed on the web at www.mainstreetliving.com.

December 18, 2011 - Kid’s Crossing – “Red Boots For Christmas,” is the German folk tale of Hans, the shoemaker, as he learns that the true meaning of Christmas is found in giving. The featured speaker is Rev. Scott Sailer from Faith Lutheran Church in Sioux Falls, SD. The sermon theme is “Jesus, Son of David.” The hymns are Lift Up Your Heads Ye Mighty Gates; What Child is This?; and Oh Come, Oh Come Emmanuel. The Main Street Living choir will provide the hymns. The program is interpreted for the hearing impaired.

Life Quotes “As Christmas looms with recurrent images of Baby Jesus, as Life Sunday reminds some of the babies they never held, let us speak and act tenderly with those who endure the pain of sexual abuse and abortion. God’s Truth is the Gospel: ‘The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit’ Psalm 34:18; ‘[A]s far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.’” Psalm 103:12.” *Kristin Wassilak, deaconess at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church and School, Brookfield, Illinois* – A **“Life Quote” from Lutherans For Life** – www.lutheransforlife.org

End of Year Schedule

Wednesday, December 21

Jesus

14



7:55 p.m.



Christmas Eve Worship

Candlelight Service
5:00 and 7:30 p.m.

Christmas Day Worship

With Holy Communion
11:00 a.m. only



New Year's Eve Worship

With Holy Communion
7:00 p.m.

New Year's Day Worship

11:00 a.m. only

