

CHRISTMAS DAY

December 25, 2011 A.D.
Faith Ev. Lutheran Church – Pierre, SD
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Pastor Brad Urbach – 224-2838
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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*

And all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God. *Isaiah 52:10b*



As We Gather– The joy of Christmas is the birth of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Through the centuries, faithful Christians have found ways to express confident joy in the blessed gift of salvation. In this service we shall discover joy in beloved carols and familiar liturgy. Although the observance of Christmas Day on any day of the week is indeed a special blessing, the meaning of the day is magnified when it occurs on a Sunday. The manger at Bethlehem is linked to the empty tomb at Jerusalem; the story of salvation in Jesus is at the heart of this Lord's Day!

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 pastors 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 BETHLEHEM'S BABE, JESUS, OUR SAVIOR

DIVINE SERVICE - SETTING FOUR

THE OPENING HYMN

*"Christians Awake, Salute the Happy Morn" TLH 84
see insert
(We cheerfully rise and sing)*

THE INVOCATION

3

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

C Amen.

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

3

Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

3

If You, O Lord, kept a record to sins, who could stand?

C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore, You are feared.

3

Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people, let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His Grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God be merciful to me, a sinner.

C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. 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 therefore 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 HYMN OF PRAISE *"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" LSB 380*

THE SALUTATION (*Spoken*)

3

The Lord be with you.

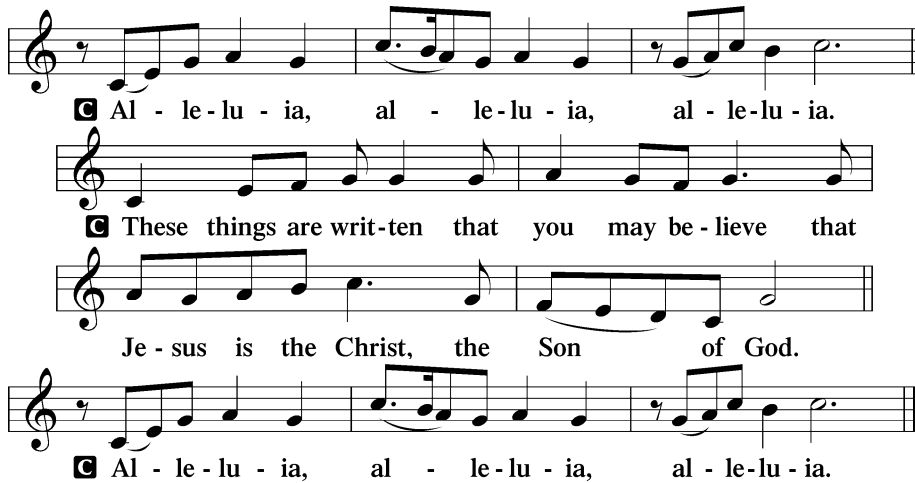
C And also with you.

THE COLLECT

Almighty God, grant that the birth of Your only-begotten Son in the flesh may set us free from the bondage of sin; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

THE SPECIAL MUSIC *“Heaven Bell-a-Ring”...American Folk Song, arr. Mary Goetze
Rachel Hartmann, vocalist*

THE EPISTLE *Hebrews 1:1-6, (7-12) (The Son of God is supreme.)*



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL *St. John 1:1-14, (15-18) (The Word becomes flesh in the birth of Jesus.)*

THE FEEDING OF THE LITTLE LAMBS

THE SERMON HYMN *“What Child Is This” LSB 370*

THE SERMON *“What Child Is This”
Isaiah 40:1-11
Pastor Brad Urbach*

Isaiah 40:1-11

- 1 Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.
- 2 Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended,
that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the LORD’s hand
double for all her sins.
- 3 A voice cries: “In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;
make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up,

- and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.
- 5 And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”
- 6 A voice says, “Cry!” And I said, “What shall I cry?” All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field.
- 7 The grass withers, the flower fades when the breath of the LORD blows on it; surely the people are grass.
- 8 The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.
- 9 Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, fear not; say to the cities of Judah, “Behold your God!”
- 10 Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him.
- 11 He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

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 “Faith Promise” cards. We will dedicate our Faith Promise Cards on January 8, the First Sunday of Epiphany.*



THE OFFERTORY *“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly” LSB 393*

*Infant holy, Infant lowly, For His bed a cattle stall;
Oxen lowing, Little knowing Christ the child is Lord of all.
Swiftly winging, Angels singing, Bells are ringing, Tidings bringing;
Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!*

*Flocks were sleeping, Shepherds keeping Vigil till the morning new
Saw the glory, Heard the story, Tidings of a Gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, Free from sorrow, Praises voicing, Greet the morrow;
Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!*

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. For the faithful proclamation of Christ's saving name, that the Good News of the birth of our Lord be heard throughout the world in every land and tongue, let us pray to the Lord:

C
3

Lord, have mercy.

For the holy Christian Church throughout the world and for all who share in the joy of this day with us, that God would guard and defend His faithful people in every place, let us pray to the Lord:

C
3

Lord, have mercy.

For this congregation as it celebrates the feast of the Nativity of our Lord, that it may stay truly focused on its continuing life of worship and work in the Lord's name; and for the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C
3

Lord, have mercy.

For those who partake this day of Christ's holy body and blood at this altar, that in their eating and drinking they may receive the benefits of forgiveness of sins and the renewal of life and have a foretaste of the feast to come in the company of the saints and angels, let us pray to the Lord:

C
3

Lord, have mercy.

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

C
3

Lord, have mercy.

For all of us gathered here in worship on this Christmas Day, that the blessings of this service may be shown forth in our lives as we live in harmony with each other, let us pray to the Lord:

C
3

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, we bless You for the faithful witness left to us by the saints now in glory. Join our prayers together that they may rise as incense before You. Lord, in Your mercy

C

Hear our prayer and grant us Your peace. 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 SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

THE PAX DOMINI

John 20:19

3

The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

AGNUS DEI

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

THE COMMUNION HYMNS

"Bleak Midwinter's Silent Night"...arr. Ruth Elaine Schram

Helen Kiepke, vocalist Andrew Wulf, flute
"From Heaven Above to Earth I Come" LSB 358
"Away in a Manger" LSB 365
"It Came upon the Midnight Clear" LSB 366

THE BENEDICAMUS

3

Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

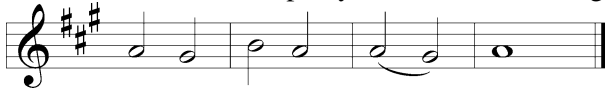
THE BENEDICTION (With Sung Amens)

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.



☐ A-men, a-men, a - men.

THE CLOSING HYMN "Let Us All with Gladsome Voice" LSB 390

Welcome to Faith Evangelical Lutheran on this Christmas Day! 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 Late Service

Dale & Barb Vermundson

Jerry & JoAnn Sanders

After Late Service

Julie Jonas & Eleanor Kreitman

Marcia Johnson



Preaching this morning is our Pastor, Reverend Brad Urbach.

Holy Communion is celebrated at our 11:00 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.

Our Broadcasts Our Sonrise and Cable Broadcasts are made possible this morning by our Faith

congregation.

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 Sunrise 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. 18, Att. 854; General Fund \$19,424.58; Building Fund \$3,975.00 (Building \$800.00, Elevator \$950.00, Debt Retirement \$2,225.36); Sunday School \$26.35; Christmas \$35.00; Love Fund \$460.00 (\$85.00 in memory of Brenda Traut); Thrivent Automatic Withdrawal \$2,406.00 (General \$2,086.00; Building Fund \$310.00; Love Fund \$10.00); Flowers \$169.00.

This Week at Faith Lutheran

Today: Dec. 25 Christmas Day
11:00 am Christmas Worship with Holy Communion

Mon: Dec. 26
OFFICE CLOSED

Tue: Dec. 27
8:25 am Staff Devotions

Wed: Dec 28
10:00 am Ladies Pickleball

Thurs: Dec. 29

8:25 Staff Devotions

Fri: Dec. 30
10:00 am Women's Pickleball

Sat: Dec. 31
7:00 pm New Year's Eve Worship

Sun: Jan. 1
11:00 am New Year's Day Worship

Mon: Jan. 2
OFFICE CLOSED

Building News

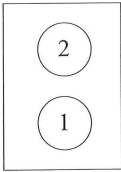
Thank you - yes indeed thank you for your gifts to the Building Fund this week. The gifts were designated as follows:

- The Building Account: \$800.00
- The Debt Retirement Account: \$2,225.36
- The Elevator Account: \$950.00

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?

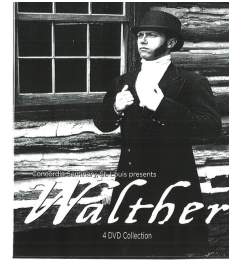
Debt Retirement Now we continue to stay after Debt Retirement, keeping in mind that every dollar given, because of the interest saved, is like nearly \$5.00. On January 1 we will make our regular payment of \$5487.00 and 5 additional payments saving another \$21,024.72 in interest. We have now saved \$242,365.29.

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

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

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!

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?”



Faith Lutheran Renewal For Life The Renewal For Life next quarterly meeting will be held on Monday, January 16, 2012 at 7 p.m. Josh Thorpe from the Department of Social Services will make a presentation regarding resources in the community for children. If you have an interest, or know of someone who may have an interest, please join us. There is no obligation to become a permanent member of the group. All those in attendance to the meetings are given a precious feet pin. Not to mention some pretty good treats!

The Renewal For Life's focus in 2012 will be “End of Life” issues from a biblical and Lutheran perspective. We will begin discussion of this at our January meeting after the DSS

presentation.

FOSTER PARENTS make a world of difference in the lives of South Dakota children and their families. More foster families are needed in our community to help keep siblings together and keep children in their home community. **PRIDE** (Parents Resource for Information Development and Education) foster parenting classes begin the evening of January 24th in Pierre, SD. If you would like more information, please contact the Department of Social Services at 773.3612. ext. 213.

LYF & JYM YOUTH NEWS

LYF Bake Sale Thank You An enormous thank you to—

- Everyone who bought baked goods
- The LYF Youth who gathered in the kitchen of Ben & Loni Shoup and made 40 kuchen.
- For overflowing generosity of \$811.00.
- The Thrivent of Lutherans Branch for matching the gifts with an additional \$333.00.
- As our LYF Youth decided, one half will help the group with outings, one fourth is being given to Carissa Brandt's family and one fourth to Brooks Monfore's family to help each with medical expenses and to encourage them. We are grateful Carissa and Brooks are a part of our LYF crew.

What a bunch of kids! We thank Michael Shoup for his leadership with the High School youth and all the parents who pitched in!

Puns for Youthful Educated Minds:

Atheism is a non-prophet organization.

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 25, 2011 – Kid' Crossing - Watch as the "Puzzle Club" kids solve the Christmas Mystery.

The featured speaker is Rev. Dan Deardoff from Blessed Redeemer Lutheran Church in Brandon, SD. The sermon theme is "The Wonder of Christmas." The hymns are Angels from the Realms of Glory; Oh Come All Ye Faithful; and Joy to the World. The Main Street Living choir will

provide the hymns. The program is interpreted for the hearing impaired.

Jan. 01, 2012 – Kid’s Crossing introduces Epiphany with the retelling of the Wise Men’s visit and our need to seek Jesus.

The featured speaker is Rev. Bill Sabol from Trinity Lutheran Church in Jasper, MN. The sermon theme is “What’s in a name? The hymns are Oh Come All Ye Faithful; Jesus Name of Wondrous Love; and Savior Again to Thy Dear Name. The Main Street Living choir will provide the hymns. The program is interpreted for the hearing impaired.

Jan. 08, 2012 – Kid’s Crossing looks at baptism as Simon asks the usual silly questions.

The featured speaker is Rev. Keith Bicknase from Emanuel Lutheran Church in Milbank, SD. The sermon theme is “Created and remade!” The hymns are How Great Thou Art; Lift High the Cross; and Praise to the Lord, The Almighty. The Main Street Living choir will provide the hymns. The program is interpreted for the hearing impaired.

Life Quotes “We pray that ... you continue to see the lowly Jesus of the manger in the lowliness of the unborn, the despairing, the infirm, and the dying. We pray that you would do unto them as you would do unto Him so that they in turn would see in you the love and hope and help of Jesus, and together we would join the angels and sing, ‘Glory to God in the highest.’” *Rev. Dr. James I. Lamb, executive director of Lutherans For Life – A “Life Quote” from Lutherans For Life – www.lutheransforlife.org*

