

THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS NEW YEAR'S EVE

December 31, 2023 A.D.
Faith Ev. Lutheran Church – Pierre, SD
Website: www.faithluth.com
Email: faith@faithluth.com
Church Phone – (605) 224-2216

Rev. Sam Handschke – (314) 489-9181
Senior Pastor
Rev. Brad Urbach – (605) 280-2838
Visitation Pastor
Church Fax – (605) 224-2226



*A Christ Caring People Who Gather Around Word and Sacrament,
Yoked Together, In Personal Service to Christ in World Wide Missions*



✠ DIVINE SERVICE ✠

OPENING HYMN "Angels from the Realms of Glory" (LSB 367)

INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

EXHORTATION

- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C **who made heaven and earth.**
P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**
P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the gifts of our Lord Jesus Christ through Word and Sacrament, 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.

CONFESSION *and* ABSOLUTION

- C** Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.
- P** 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 \dagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

\dagger WORD \dagger

INTROIT

Ps. 98:1-4; (antiphon: Is. 52:10)

- P** The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.
- C** **O sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things! His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.**
- P** The LORD has made known his salvation; he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.
- C** **He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.**
- P** Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!
- C** **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**
- P** The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

KYRIE



C Lord, have mer - cy: Christ have mer - cy: Lord, have mer - cy.



GLORIA IN EXCELSIS



- C** 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro-claimed at Je-sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

SALUTATION *and* COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray. O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT *Isaiah 61:10–62:3* (Nations will acknowledge His righteousness.)

After the reading:

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

"Christmas Angels" GLORIA, MEHDELSOHN, arr. Lloyd Larson
Helen Kiepke, vocal soloist

EPISTLE *Galatians 4:4-7* (At the right time, God sent His Son into the world.)

After the reading:

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA and VERSE



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
C These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that
Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.
C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 2:22-40* (Jesus is presented in the temple by Mary and Joseph.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

After the reading:

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON HYMN "Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord" (LSB 352)

SERMON "Not See Death" (Luke 2:26)

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



PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

- P** Eternal Lord God, in the fullness of time, You sent forth Your Son, born of a woman, born under the Law, to redeem us and give us the adoption as Your sons and heirs. Hear us, Father, as we call to You in His name. Give us grace to rejoice in Christ's blessed incarnation, and grant us a glad new year. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**
- P** Lead Your Church, Lord, to follow the example of blessed Simeon, that all baptized Christians would embrace the Christ Child by Word and faith, and so be ready to depart whenever they are called. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**
- P** Heavenly Father, from whom all fatherhood on earth is named, bless Christian families with Your promises. Give parents diligence and delight in their work, and grant Your favor on all children, that they may grow in strength and wisdom. Bless widows, orphans and broken families also with Your mercy, and give them joy in the redemption You have won for us in Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**
- P** Holy God, mighty Lord, You have given power to the nations and to those who govern for the good of their people. Bless our president, Congress, governor and all our leaders, that justice may prevail and Your people would be free to live at peace with all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**
- P** Gracious Lord, receive our prayers for those who suffer from loneliness. Comfort them with the sure and certain knowledge that You will never forsake them. Give them family and friends within the household of faith with whom they can find loving companionship. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Blessed Lord, help the sick and suffering, especially those who desire our prayers [including _____]. Surround them with Your love in Christ and, according to Your gracious will, heal them. Comfort those who mourn, [especially _____,] and fill their hearts with the certain hope of the resurrection. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Father of lasting peace, show Your mercy to those who receive the Lord's Supper this day, that they would behold their salvation in the very body and blood of Christ given for them and, with St. Simeon, be well-prepared to depart in peace according to Your Word. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Lord God, heavenly Father, we here remember the sufferings and death of Your dear Son, Jesus Christ, for our salvation. Praising His victorious resurrection from the dead, we draw strength from His ascension before You, where He ever stands for us as our own High Priest. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us, for to You alone we give all glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

C **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.**

IN REGARD TO HOLY COMMUNION: According to Scripture, Holy Communion should be celebrated by those who are: **United in a common faith** (1 Cor. 10:16-17, 21-22; Rom. 16:17); **Repentant of sins** (1 Cor. 5:11, Matt. 18:17-18); **Able to examine their lives** (1 Cor. 11:27-29); and believe that in this precious meal they **receive the true body and blood of Jesus** given and shed for the forgiveness of their sins (Luke 22:19-22).

Since Scripture teaches that those people who do not fully understand the meaning of this meal eat and drink to their own harm (1Cor. 11:27-29), and because the Lord's Supper is the supreme act of stating our unity in faith and doctrine, we would ask

those people who are visiting with us to **please speak with our pastor**, before communing, in order that we might fulfill our responsibility of properly instructing people in the right use of the precious Sacrament.

✠ **SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT** ✠
Both Services

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san - na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;
Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

C Amen.

WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matt 26:26–28; Mk 14:22–24; Lk 22:19–20; 1 Cor 11:23–25

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

AGNUS DEI

C 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.

(Please be seated)

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

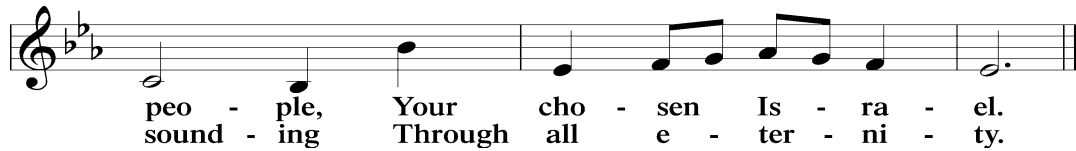
- "Of the Father's Love Begotten" (LSB 384)
- "Gentle Mary Laid Her Child" (LSB 374)



(Please stand)

NUNC DIMITTIS

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three - in - One;
A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -



POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P Let us pray. Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C Amen.

BENEDICAMUS and BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

P 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.

CLOSING HYMN

“Let Us All with Gladsome Voice”

(LSB 390)

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ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS



AS WE GATHER How much time do we spend waiting? A study by the Timex Corporation revealed that the average American spends thirty-eight hours annually waiting in traffic and thirteen hours each year on the telephone waiting for customer service. Waiting is not always easy, but certain kinds of waiting are truly

worthwhile. The Gospel for the First Sunday after Christmas takes us to the temple in Jerusalem, where Simeon, a “righteous and devout” man is “waiting for the consolation of Israel” (Luke 2:25). And his wait is more than worthwhile. He gets to hold the infant Christ Child and to express his thanks firsthand for the salvation that Jesus will accomplish. The waiting for Simeon was over. God knew the exact right time for His beloved Son to come to earth into this sin-filled world. God had a plan for salvation that was carried out faithfully and completely by Jesus. As we worship, we echo the words of Simeon, thankful that our waiting for Immanuel is over and that we are assured of the salvation brought by Jesus, the one for whom Simeon was waiting so patiently. I will greatly rejoice in the LORD; my soul shall exult in my God, for He has clothed me with the garments of salvation; He has covered me with the robe of righteousness.
Isaiah 61:10a

If there are prayer concerns for you, your family, your friends, or your neighbors, please put them on the yellow prayer request 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

Welcome to Faith Evangelical Lutheran on this First Sunday after Christmas! 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.

Preaching this morning is Rev. Sam Handschke.

Holy Communion is celebrated at both services this Sunday. In this Sacrament, our Lord gives His true body and blood for our forgiveness. Those who confess the faith declared at this altar and who desire to receive communion today are asked to read our communion statement found in the bulletin. Thank you.



STEWARDSHIP CORNER

Wed. Dec. 20, Att. 132, Offering \$1,983.00; Sun., Dec. 24 Advent, Att. 118; Offering \$6,029.11; Christmas Eve, Att. 517, Offering \$5,835.00; Mon. Dec. 25 Att. 55; Offering \$6,414.25; Building Fund \$75.00; Love Fund \$5,200.00; Contingency Fund \$100.00; Flowers \$60.00; Elder Advent Meal \$181.00; Mexico Mission \$2,400.00; HVAC \$5,600.00; Lutheran Family Services \$2,000.00; Fed by Faith \$500.00;

Endowment Fund in memory of Cordell Costar (Generations) \$20.00; Endowment Fund (Generations) \$1,000.00.

Endowment Fund There are lime green envelopes on the back side of the large center support post in the Narthex for your use. Donations do not have to be in memory of someone, they can be in celebration of an event in your lives, to the glory of God, or any number of happenings in your lives. The envelopes have an area where you can designate where you wish the funds to go. Please use a separate **check** for your donation. Where we deposit the funds does not take cash, so **it needs to be in the form of a check**. The counters cannot always find checks to cover when cash is given. Thanks for your help!

Congregational Pictorial Directories are here!!! You may pick up **ONE** per family. Please sign the sheet as you take your directory so we will know who has taken theirs.

Offering Envelopes Our 2024 offering envelopes are on the tables beneath the confirmation pictures. They are numerically and semi-alphabetically arranged on the tables. **Please pick yours up today**. If you do not find yours let Helen know and she will make sure you get them. Even if you give automatically or by your cell phone there are special envelopes you can use throughout the year, **please take them home**. Please do not use before January 1, 2024.

Portals of Prayer The Portals of Prayer for the first quarter of 2024 are on the table with the offering envelopes. There are both regular and large print. Please pick yours up today.

Main Street Living “Main Street Living” is a liturgical worship service broadcasting a different local pastor each Sunday morning. It airs along with the classic Lutheran Hour program, “This is the Life.” Both can be viewed on KDLT (NBC) & KEVN (FOX) Visit www.mainstreetliving.com to view current and past episodes. **Did you know** you can see the Worship Service and Kid's Crossing on our website at anytime? All programs are streamed on www.mainstreetliving.com, and are available the day before they are broadcast.

Dec 31, 2023

KDLT (NBC) channels 5.1 / 46.1

10:00 AM - “Burden Made Light” - The housekeeper helps a family through the struggle of an increasingly sick child.

10:30 AM - Rev. Greg Lehr, pastor at Zion Lutheran Church in Sioux Falls, presents a message titled “The Waves of Life.” This sermon is based on Romans 8:31b-39. This program is interpreted and closed captioned for the deaf and hard of hearing. For more information visit: www.mainstreetliving.com

Life Quotes “While it is true that we need to be good stewards of God’s earthly gifts, it is sinful to think that we are in full control of preserving this world. It is sinful to fret about the destruction of this world before the Last Day. This world will not run out of natural resources. We will not be wiped out by climate change, a worldwide pandemic, or a meteor shower if and when those things happen. God says that as long as this earth endures—until Judgment Day—seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease. God is in control. God will protect, provide, and preserve this world. Trust in God and see His grace and mercy, especially when sin affects this world. Trust that He gives you what you don’t deserve and more than you could imagine.” *Rev. Peter Sulzle, St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls, Minnesota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

Faith Lutheran Youth

Bible Bowl 2024 We received word from the South Dakota LCMS district on the 2024 Bible Bowl. The books of the Bible are Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, and Philemon. Students from sixth grade to seniors are eligible to participate. The statewide competition is before Palm Sunday. **The Bible Bowl is set for March 23, 2024.** For more information or to register please see Bible Bowl coach LeRoy Kropuenske. He is around on Sunday for Sunday School and Wednesday for confirmation.

Higher Things Retreat

Theme: Eyes to See - learn to distinguish between God's truth and the devil's lies.

When: January 14-15; 6pm Sunday to 3pm Monday

Who: high school and college age young adults

How much: Just come!

What: food, activities, learning, snacks.

Bring your Bible, notebook, sleeping bag, and pillow, and get ready to learn and have some fun!



This Week at Faith Lutheran

Today: Dec. 31 New Year's Eve

8:30 am Communion
11:00 am Communion

Mon: Jan. 1

Office Closed

Tues: Jan. 2

8:00 am Staff Devotions
9:30 am *Truth Project*
5:30-6:45pm Soccer

Wed: Jan. 3

6:00 pm Midweek/Catechism
6:00 pm *Luke Bible Study*
6:00 pm *Engagement Project*
6:30 pm *John* (in homes)
7:00 pm Chapel/Communion
8:00 pm LYF

Thurs: Jan. 4

8:00 am Staff Devotions
5:30-6:45 pm Soccer
6:00 pm Psalms Study

Sun: Jan. 7

8:30 am Communion
9:45 am Sunday School/*Luke*
Study
9:45 am Board of Missions
11:00 am Worship
4:30-6:30 pm Softball
5:00 pm Board of Parish
Fellowship
6:00 pm Board of Elders
6:30 pm *1, 2, 3 John Bible Study*

NEW
YEAR'S
EVE
WORSHIP

