THE HOLY EUCHARIST

The First Sunday of Advent Faith Lutheran Church, ELCA December 1, 2024



Welcome

And thank you for worshipping with us today.

If you are a visitor, we are so glad you came! We hope that you will fill out a yellow or green card in your pew and either drop it in the offering plate or leave it at the *Welcome Place* as you leave today. We hope to see you again soon!

Children of all ages are welcome in our worship service and will learn to participate at a young age if present. If your child needs to leave for all or part of the service, a fully staffed nursery is available at both services for infants through age five. The nursery is located in the lower level of the church. Please ask an usher if you need help locating it.

If you have a **prayer request** or would like a **pastoral visit**, please fill out a green card in your pew and place it in the offering plate.

Adults and children who receive **Holy Communion** in their home church are invited to receive the sacrament with us. All others are invited to the table to receive a blessing. We use **grape wine** and **wheat bread**. Gluten free wafers are available (please let Pastor know when you come forward if you need one). The fullness of the sacrament is available in either form: if for reasons of health or conscience, you can only receive the bread or the wine, please let Pastor know.

After each morning service we invite you to join us for **refreshments and conversation** in the gathering area adjacent to the worship area.

In order to **prepare for worship**, please:

keep **silence** for 10 minutes prior to worship for prayer and meditation. **silence** all electronic devices.

refrain from talking during the **prelude**, which is the beginning of our worship service.

Our Mission

 ${\it As followers of Jesus \, Christ, we \, embrace, \, reflect \, and \, proclaim \, {\it God's \, unconditional \, love.}}$

Our Vision

To provide an active and visible Lutheran presence in the Lexington area by:

maintaining our doctrinal, spiritual, and liturgical heritage;

creating a community of disciples committed to growing in their spiritual lives; engaging in a vigorous lifestyle of evangelism;

working to preserve the dignity of all God's people.

Prelude

Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme J. S. Bach Ar

(Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying)

Amelia Johnson, oboe

Confession and Forgiveness

We stand. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

We kneel or stand.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

We stand.



ELW 436

Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying



1 Wake, a - wake, for night is fly - ing, the watch-men 2 Zi - on hears the watch-men sing - ing, and all her 3 Glo - ri - a! Let heav'n a - dore you! Let saints and



on the heights are cry - ing; heart with joy is spring-ing. an - gels sing be - fore you, a - wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, at last. She wakes, she ris - es from her gloom. with harp and cym-bal's clear-est tone.



Mid-night hears the wel-come voic - es, and at the Her dear friend comes down, all glo - rious, the strong in Gates of pearl, twelve por - tals gleam - ing, lead us to



thrill-ing cry re - joic - es: grace, in truth vic - to - rious: bliss be - yond all dream - ing, "Come forth, you maid-ens! Night is past. her star is ris'n; her light is come. with an - gel choirs a - round your throne.



The bride - groom comes! A - wake; Now come, O Bless - ed One, No eye has caught the light, your lamps with glad - ness take!"
Lord Je - sus, God's own Son.
no ear the thun-d'ring might





We sit...

Lighting of the First Advent Candle

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe. You call all nations to walk in your light and to seek your ways of justice and peace, for the night is past, and the dawn of your coming is near. Bless us as we light the first candle of this wreath. Rouse us from sleep, that we may be ready to greet our Lord when he comes and welcome him into our hearts and homes, for he is our light and our salvation. Blessed be God forever. **Amen.**

Musical Offering by the Children's Choir

Advent is a Time to Wait Get Ready for the Baby

The children are singing today to honor God not to perform. Please do not clap for them. Instead you may affirm their offering by saying, "Amen."

Children Invited to Attend Children Worship and Wonder

We stand.

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**





Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953 Music: LUCENT, Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929 Text © 1996 Susan Palo Cherwien, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Music © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

Prayer of the Day

First Reading Jeremiah 33:14-16 A righteous branch springing up from David

¹⁴The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in

the land. ¹⁶In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

The word of the Lord or Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalmody Psalm 25:1-10 (cantor sings verses; assembly sings refrain)

To you, O God, I lift my soul, oh keep me free from shame. I



Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 Strengthen hearts of holiness

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you?
Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.
Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you.
And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you.
And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

The word of the Lord or Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

We stand to welcome the reading of the Gospel.

Gospel Acclamation



(cantor) Stand up and raise your heads, your redemption is drawing near. (Repeat alleluia.)

Gospel Luke 21:25-36 Be alert for the coming of the Son of Man

The holy gospel according to Luke. Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ²⁵"There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. ²⁶People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the

heavens will be shaken. ²⁷Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. ²⁸Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." ²⁹Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³²Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. ³⁴"Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, ³⁵like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

The gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

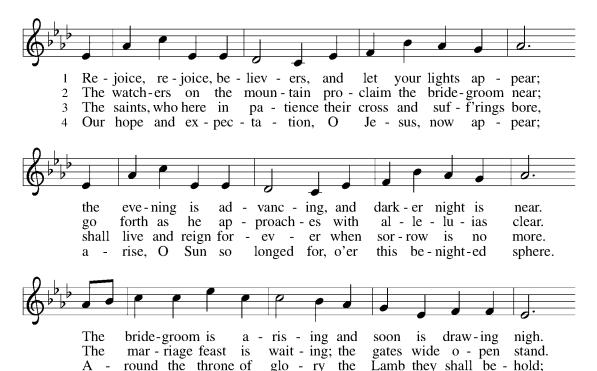
We sing the acclamation and then we sit.

Sermon Pastor Dana Lockhart

We stand to proclaim the word of God in song.

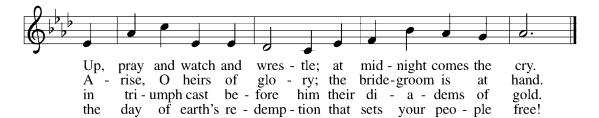
Hymn of the Day ELW 244 Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we



plead, O Lord, to

see



Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660–1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823–1907 Music: HAF TRONES LAMPA FÄRDIG, Swedish folk tune

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Lord, in your mercy, receive our prayer.

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

We share the peace of Christ with one another and then sit.

Welcome and Announcements

(11:00) Choral Offering

We are Waiting

John Helgen/arranged by Pricilla Lamparter Landis Parish Choir

We are waiting for Jesus; Jesus brings peace. We are waiting for Jesus, Jesus brings peace. Sun of justice, shine upon us; we are trusting in your promise. We are waiting for Jesus, Jesus brings peace.

We are waiting for Jesus, Jesus brings peace. We are waiting for Jesus, Jesus brings peace. Loving Shepherd, walk beside us; stir our hearts, and gently guide us. We are waiting for Jesus, Jesus brings peace.

We stand.

Offering Song ACS 901 N

Now the Heavens Start to Whisper



- 1 Now the heav ens start to whis per, as the veil is grow-ing thin.
- 2 Heav y clouds that block the moon-light now be gin to drift a way.
- 3 Christ, e ter nal Sun of jus tice, Christ, the rose of wis-dom's seed,



Earth from slum - ber wakes to lis - ten to the stir - ring, faint with -in: Dia - mond bril - liance through the dark - ness shines the hope of com - ing day. come to bless with fire and fra-grance hours of yearn - ing, hurt, and need.



seed of prom-ise, deep-ly plant-ed, child to spring from Jes - se's stem! Christ, the morn-ing star of splen-dor, gleams with-in a world grown dim. In the lone-ly, in the strang-er, in the out-cast, hid from view;



Like the soil be-neath the frost-line, hearts grow soft to wel-come him. Heav-en's em - ber fans to full-ness; hearts grow warm to wel-come him. Child who comes to grace the man-ger, teach our hearts to wel-come you.

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953 Music: SUO GÂN, Welsh melody

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Offering Prayer

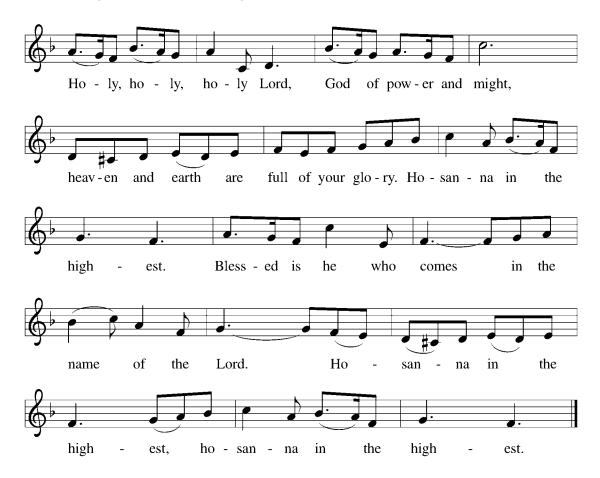
Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right...join their unending hymn:



Music: Per Harling, b. 1948 Music © 2004 Augsburg Fortress

Eucharistic Prayer

- ...the mystery of faith: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.
- ...with hope for his coming. Come, Lord Jesus.
- ...peace on earth. Come Holy Spirit.

Lord's Prayer

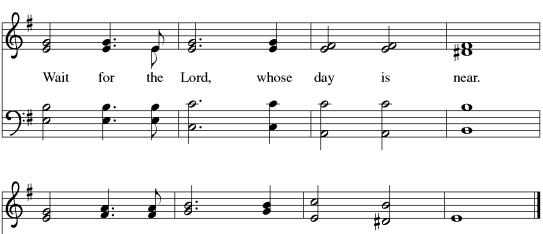
Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread and Invitation to Communion

God feeds us with tender mercy. Come to the table.

Music during Communion

ELW 262 Wait for the Lord (cantor sings verses; assembly sings refrain)



ELW 253 He Came Down



- 1 He came down that we may have love;
- He came down that we may have light;
- 4 He came down that we may have joy;

he came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have light; 3 He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have joy;



he came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have joy;

hal-le-lu-jah for-ev-er-more.

When all have communed, we stand.

Post Communion Prayer Blessing





Dismissal

Go in peace. Love your neighbor. Thanks be to God.

Postlude People Look East setting by Steven Wente

Serving Today

Assisting Minister Ray Hughes

Organist/Pianist Kathy Egner
Cantor Sue Anne Lau

Ushers (8:30) Julie Keller & Richard Michel

(11:00) Ole & Kerstin Wendroth

Greeter (8:30) Diana Shappley

(11:00) Gisela Atkerson

Sacristan (8:30) Jennifer Klee

(11:00) David Templar

Counters Teri Applegate & Carol Buchanan

Livestream Operator Debbie Rosenberg

Ministers All Members of Faith

Pastor The Reverend Dana Lockhart Pastor Emeritus The Reverend Ron Luckey

Parish Administrator Amanda Nord
Director of Music Kathy Egner
Youth Assistant Paige Barricklow
Faith Learning Center Director Courtney Herald
Sexton Neil McComb

Worship Servants for Next Sunday (December 8)

8:30 11:00

Assisting Minister Jennifer Polnisch Shane Hadden
Cantor Ole Wendroth Ole Wendroth
Ushers Carolyn & William Holmes Kerstin Wendroth &

David Templar

Greeter Jim & Judy Knauss Debbie Rosenberg
Sacristan Jennifer Klee David Templar

Counters Teri Applegate & Carol Buchanan

Livestream Operator Jonathan Delap

Long-Range Planning Committee Meeting

The Long-Range Planning Committee will meet on Thursday, December 5, 2024 at 5:00 pm in the Narthex at Faith Church. If you a member of the committee or are interested in what our church is planning for the future, please make plans to attend!

Tuesday Bible Study

Tuesday Bible Study will not meet December 3. We will reconvene with a study of 1 Peter on December 10.

THIS WEEK AT FAITH

Sunday, December 1		Thursday, December 5	
8:30am	In-Person Worship	7:15am	Men's Group (First Watch)
11:00am	In-Person/Livestream	4:30pm	Eurhythmics
	Worship		Friday, December 6
12:00pm	Confirmation	10:00am	Piano Tuning
3:00pm	FLY Ice Skating	9	Saturday, December 7
Monday, December 2		10:00am	Take Down Eclectic Expressions
5:00pm	FLLC Youth Room	4:00pm	Ruth Lundborg Recital
6:15pm	AA	Sunday, December 8	
7:00pm	Worship & Music Comm.	8:30am	In-Person Worship
Wednesday, December 4		11:00am	In-Person/Livestream
4:00pm	Children's Choir		Worship
6:00pm	AA (Faith House)	12:00pm	Young Adult Lunch
7:00pm	Parish Choir	3:00pm	Thomas Keesecker Program
		7:00pm	FLY Christmas Lights