


THE HOLY EUCHARIST

The First Sunday of Advent
Faith Lutheran Church, ELCA

December 1, 2024



*Then they will see
“the Son of Man
coming in a cloud”
with power and
great glory.*

Luke 21:27, NRSV



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

As followers of Jesus Christ, we embrace, reflect and proclaim 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 (Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying)

J. S. Bach

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.





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; a - wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, at last.
 heart with joy is spring-ing. She wakes, she ris - es from her gloom.
 an - gels sing be - fore you, 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: "Come forth, you maid-ens! Night is past.
 grace, in truth vic - to - rious: her star is ris'n; her light is come.
 bliss be - yond all dream - ing, with an - gel choirs a - round your throne.



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



Al - le - lu - ia! Rise and pre - pare the feast to share;
 Sing ho - san - na! Oh, hear the call! Come one, come all,
 of such glo - ry. There we will go: what joy we'll know!



go, meet the bride - groom, who draws near.
 and fol - low to the ban - quet hall.
 There sweet de - light will ev - er flow.

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.**





1 As the dark a - waits the dawn,
 2 As the blue ex - pec - tant hour
 3 As the moon re - flects the sun
 4 Shine your fu - ture on this place,



so we a - wait your light. O Star of
 be - fore the sil - v'ring skies, we long to
 un - til the night's de - crease, may we your
 en - light - en ev - 'ry guest, that through us



prom - ise, scat - ter night, lov - ing bright, lov - ing
 see your day a - rise, whole and wise, whole and
 heal - ing light re - lease, liv - ing peace, liv - ing
 stream your ho - li - ness, bright and blest, bright and



bright, till shades of fear are gone.
 wise, O lu - cent Morn - ing Star.
 peace, un - to your ho - ly dawn.
 blest; come dawn, O Sun of grace.

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)*

Refrain:



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



place my trust in you a-lone: your prom-ise and your name.

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

⁹How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? ¹⁰Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. ¹¹Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. ¹²And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. ¹³And 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



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

(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*



1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;
 2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain pro - claim the bride - groom near;
 3 The saints, who here in pa - tience their cross and suf - f'ring bore,
 4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



the eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.
 go forth as he ap - proach - es with al - le - lu - ias clear.
 shall live and reign for - ev - er when sor - row is no more.
 a - rise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this be - night - ed sphere.



The bride - groom is a - ris - ing and soon is draw - ing nigh.
 The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; the gates wide o - pen stand.
 A - round the throne of glo - ry the Lamb they shall be - hold;
 With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see



Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; at mid - night comes the cry.
A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; the bride-groom is at hand.
in tri - umph cast be - fore him their di - a - dems of gold.
the day of earth's re - demp - tion that sets your peo - ple free!

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 *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 GAN, Welsh melody
Text © 2006 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

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:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,



heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the



high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the



name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the



high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

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)*

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

The first line of music consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). It contains a series of chords and a melodic line. The lower staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature, providing a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics "Wait for the Lord, whose day is near." are written below the staves.

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

The second line of music also consists of two staves in the same key signature and time signature as the first line. It continues the musical setting with similar chordal and melodic patterns. The lyrics "Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!" are written below the staves.



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



Sending Hymn

ELW 248

People, Look East



1 Peo - ple, look east. The time is near of the crown - ing
 2 Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is
 3 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the
 4 An - gels an - nounce with shouts of mirth him who brings new



of the year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble,
 plant - ed there. Give up your strength the seed to nour - ish,
 bowl shall brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er,
 life to earth. Set ev - 'ry peak and val - ley hum - ming



trim the hearth and set the ta - ble. Peo - ple, look
 that in course the flow'r may flour - ish. Peo - ple, look
 bright as sun and moon to - geth - er. Peo - ple, look
 with the word, the Lord is com - ing. Peo - ple, look



east, and sing to - day— Love, the Guest, is on the way.
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Rose, is on the way.
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Star, is on the way.
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Dismissal

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

Postlude

People Look East

setting by Steven Went

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

8:30am In-Person Worship
11:00am In-Person/Livestream
Worship
12:00pm Confirmation
3:00pm FLY Ice Skating

Monday, December 2

5:00pm FLLC Youth Room
6:15pm AA
7:00pm Worship & Music Comm.

Wednesday, December 4

4:00pm Children's Choir
6:00pm AA (Faith House)
7:00pm Parish Choir

Thursday, December 5

7:15am Men's Group (First Watch)
4:30pm Eurhythmics

Friday, December 6

10:00am Piano Tuning

Saturday, December 7

10:00am Take Down Eclectic Expressions
4:00pm Ruth Lundborg Recital

Sunday, December 8

8:30am In-Person Worship
11:00am In-Person/Livestream
Worship
12:00pm Young Adult Lunch
3:00pm Thomas Keesecker Program
7:00pm FLY Christmas Lights