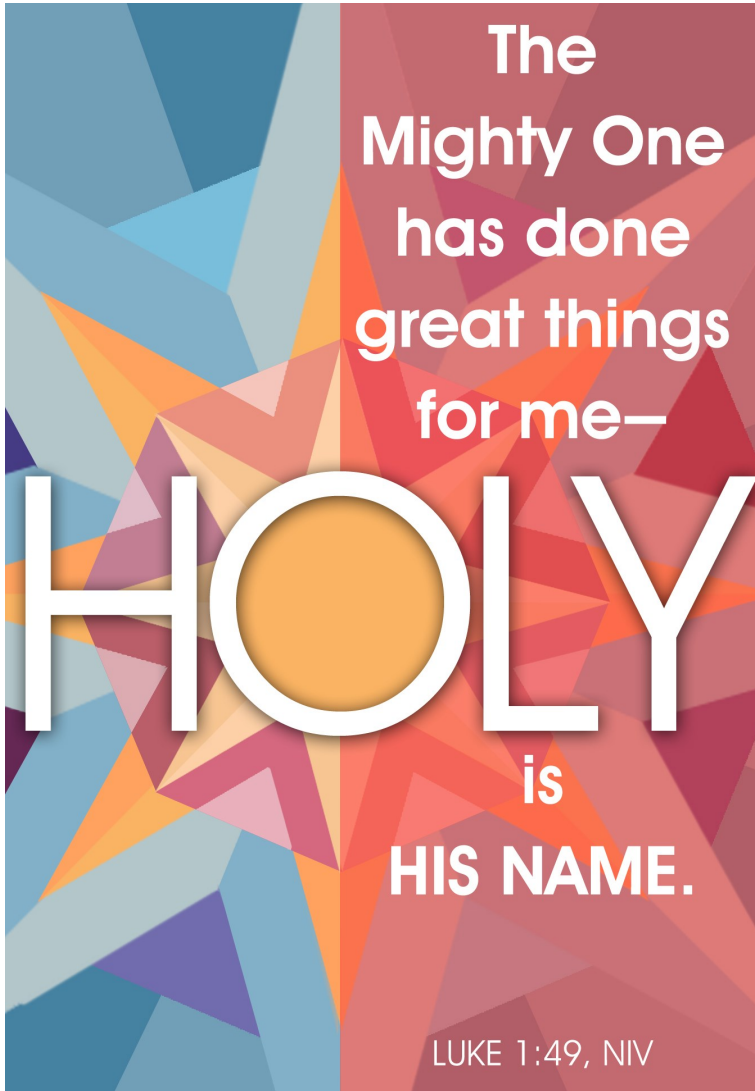


THE HOLY EUCHARIST

The Fourth Sunday of Advent
Faith Lutheran Church, ELCA
December 22, 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

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

As the Dark Awaits the Dawn

setting by David Lasky

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 Come, thou long-ex - spect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;
 2 Born thy peo-ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king;



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
 born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king-dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art,
 By thine own e - ter - nal Spir-it rule in all our hearts a - lone;



dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long-ing heart.
 by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788

Music: JEFFERSON, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

Lighting of the Fourth Advent Candle

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe. In your Son, Emmanuel, you have shown us your light and saved us from the power of sin. Bless us as we light the candles on this wreath. Increase our longing for your presence, that at the celebration of your Son's birth his Spirit might dwell anew in our midst, for he is our light and our salvation. Blessed be God forever. **Amen.**

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 Micah 5:2-5a From Bethlehem comes a ruler

² But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. ³ Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has

brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. ⁴ And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; ^{5a} and he shall be the one of peace.

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

Psalmody Luke 1:46b-55 *A Responsorial Magnificat* Donald Rotermund
(cantor sings verses; assembly sings refrain)



My soul doth mag - ni - fy the Lord, in God my Sav - ior I re-joice!

Second Reading Hebrews 10:5-10 *Rejoice, the Lord is near*

⁵ Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; ⁶ in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. ⁷ Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will, O God' (in the scroll of the book it is written of me)." ⁸ When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), ⁹ then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. ¹⁰ And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

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) Here I am, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word. (Repeat alleluia.)

Gospel Luke 1:39-45 *Blessed are you among women*

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

³⁹ In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, ⁴⁰ where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹ When Elizabeth heard

Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit⁴² and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb."⁴³ And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me?⁴⁴ For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy.⁴⁵ And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

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.





1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the
 2 Though I am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . .
 3 From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a
 4 Though the na - tions rage from . . age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the
 work great . . things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the
 stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your
 mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
 depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
 jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant . . . from his throne.
 liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
 Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
 The hun - gry poor shall . . weep no more, for the
 This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my
 those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the
 food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry
 prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.



Refrain
My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

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

My Soul Now Magnifies the Lord setting by Evelyn R. Larter Parish Choir

My soul now magnifies the Lord; my spirit leaps, by joy possessed. You keep me in your kind regard all generations call me blessed. For you alone, O God of might, have done amazing things for me.

Your mercy flows; your name like light remains in time perpetually.

Your arm is strong; your strength is great. You scatter those of proud intent and cast them down from high estate; then give the low your nourishment. You feed the hungry as your own; the wealthy leave with empty hands. You give your help to Israel; your gracious promise always stands.

Sing glory to the Holy One, give honor to the incarnate Word, and praise the Power of God most high, from age to age by all adored.

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.

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.

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)

Musical score for "Wait for the Lord" in G major, 4/4 time. The score consists of two systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are: "Wait for the Lord, whose day is near." and "Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!". The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody.

ELW 253 *He Came Down*

Musical score for "He Came Down" in G major, 7/8 time. The score is a single line of music with a treble clef. It features a melodic line with two triplet markings over the notes G4, A4, and B4. The lyrics are: "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;".

- 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; hal - le - lu - jah for - ev - er - more.
he came down that we may have peace;
he came down that we may have joy;

When all have communed, we stand.

Post Communion Prayer

Blessing

Sending Hymn

ELW 257

O Come, O Come Emmanuel (stanzas 1-4)



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things
3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on
4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;
Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law
tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!
in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.
and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

Dismissal

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

Postlude

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

setting by Austin C. Lovelace

Liturgy and hymns from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* © 2006, Augsburg Fortress, and *All Creation Sings*, © 2020 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-702378.



Serving Today

Assisting Minister	(8:30) Jennifer Polnisch (11:00) Roland Born
Organist/Pianist	Kathy Egner
Cantor	Elijah Garrett
Ushers	(8:30) Chris & LaDawn Reynolds (11:00) Gordon Grotrian & Debbie Rosenberg
Greeter	(8:30) Jim & Judy Knauss (11:00) David Templar
Sacristan	(8:30) Jennifer Klee (11:00) David Templar
Counters	Judy Page & Elaine Billington
Livestream Operator	Helen Born
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 29)

10:00

Assisting Minister	Leslie Hughes
Cantor	Teri Applegate
Ushers	Phyllis Hasbrouck & Charlie Hamilton
Greeter	Diana Shappley
Sacristan	Phyllis Hasbrouck
Counters	Judy Page & Elaine Billington
Livestream Operator	Debbie Rosenberg

Tuesday Bible Study

The Tuesday morning Bible study is taking a long holiday. We will not be meeting again until January 14 at which time we will continue our study of 1 Peter.

(we're on the lithium chapter). All are welcome to join.

Communion Cards

In order to help us keep accurate membership records, we ask all members of FLC to fill out and turn in a green Communion Card periodically through the year. To be a voting member of the congregation, you have to have communed at least once and made a contribution of record annually.



RISING ARTISTS Concert on Sunday, January 26 at 3:00 pm. A showcase of the winners of the 2024 Harstad Scholarship Contest with Elisabeth Howard (dance), Hannah Kang (viola), and Bonnie Speck (dance), and the Central Kentucky Youth Orchestras (CKYO) Jazz Arts Orchestra led by Raleigh Dailey.

THIS WEEK AT FAITH

Sunday, December 22

8:30am In-Person Worship
11:00am In-Person/Livestream
Worship
2:00pm Visuals Team
6:00pm Blue Christmas Service

Monday, December 23

FLLC Closed

6:15pm AA

Tuesday, December 24

FLLC Closed

7:00pm Christmas Eve service

Wednesday, December 25

FLLC Closed

FLC Office Closed

Merry Christmas

Thursday, December 26

FLLC Closed

7:15am Men's Group (First Watch)

Friday, December 27

FLLC Closed

Sunday, December 29

10:00am In-Person/Livestream
Worship