



**The Third Sunday in Advent
December 16, 2012**

**Faith Lutheran Church
2014 Allison Lane
Jeffersonville, IN 47130
(812) 282-6993
www.flcjeff.org**

FAITHFUL LUTHERANS SENT BY CHRIST TO SERVE GOD'S CHILDREN

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WELCOME!

All are welcome at Faith Lutheran Church today as we continue our journey of faith. Join with us as we offer our praises to God. There is a nursery available for those who need it.

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The flowers today are given to the glory of God

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Events/Activities This Week around Faith:

| | | | | | |
|--------------|---------|--------------|-------------|---------|--------------------|
| Today | 9:15am | S.S. | Thur. 12/20 | 9:15am | Xmas Prog. WCS |
| | 10:30am | Worship | | 1:00pm | Bible Study |
| | 12:00pm | Council | Sat. 12/22 | 10:00am | SS Prog. Rehearsal |
| Tue. 12/18 | 9:15am | WCS | Sun. 12/23 | 9:15am | S.S. |
| Wed. 12/19 | 7:00pm | Confirmation | | 10:30am | Worship |
| | | | | 6:00pm | SS Potluck/Prog |

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Announcements

Church Council meets today at noon.

Mark your calendars for Sunday, December 23, 2012 at 6:00pm for our annual Christmas Potluck and Play. The youth participating in the play are reminded that rehearsal is set for Saturday, December 22 at 10am

The celebration of the Nativity of our Lord will take place on December 24, 2012 at 10:00pm. This will be a candlelighting service. Please plan to join us as we celebrate the birth of Christ.

A special project that the Congregational Council has been developing is the sponsoring of a seminarian. Although we are not in a financial position to help with tuition, we can help by giving the family gift cards and establishing a transportation fund. We have received the name of Benjamin Sloss. Ben attends Trinity Lutheran Seminary in Columbus, OH. He is the son of Pastor Mark Sloss who served for a time in Kokomo, IN. Ben's address is as follows.

**Benjamin Sloss and Family
2192 E. Main Street. Apt. D
Columbus, OH 43209**

If you would like to send Ben and his family a card this Christmas or a gift card, be sure to let him know that you are praying for him and his preparation for ministry. Any gift will be appreciated.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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, the Lord of Israel who comes to set us free, the mighty Savior who comes to show mercy, the Dawn from on high who guides us into peace. **Amen.**

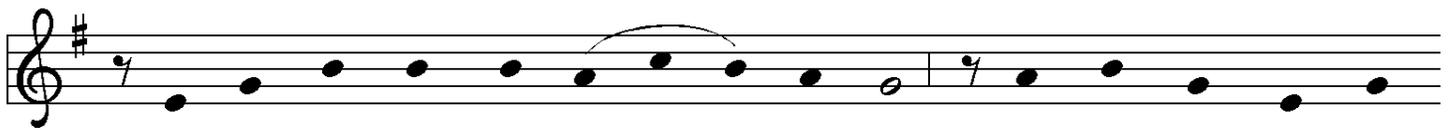
Let us come before God in confession.

Silence is kept for reflection.

To you, O God,
we lift up our souls.
You know us through and through;
we confess our sins to you.
Remember not our sins;
remember us with your steadfast love.
Show us your ways;
teach us your paths;
and lead us in justice and truth,
for the sake of your goodness
in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Sisters and brothers, come with joy
and draw water from the well of salvation.
Remember the gift of baptism:
your sin is washed away in the name of + Jesus;
you belong to Christ;
you are anointed to serve.
Stand up and raise your heads!
The reign of God is near.
Amen.

GATHERING SONG: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (ELW 257)



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.



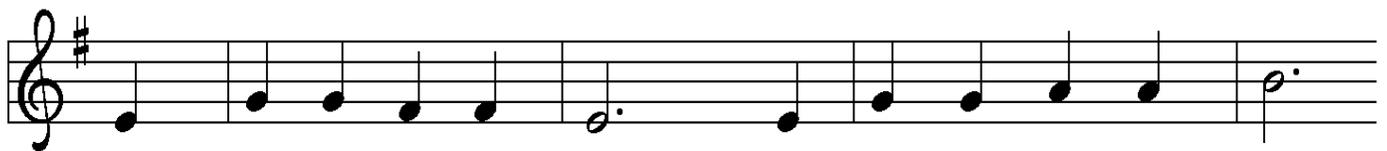
Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the refining fire of the Holy Spirit, and the peace of God, which surpasses understanding, be with you all.

And also with you.

KYRIE



1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray....Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the preaching of John, that, rejoicing in your salvation, we may bring forth the fruits of repentance; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

The choir sings: Light One Candle while the acolyte lights three candles on the Advent wreath. The pastor offers the following blessing.

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe. Your prophets spoke of a day when the desert would blossom and waters would break forth in the wilderness. Bless us as we light the candles on this wreath. Strengthen our hearts as we prepare for the coming of the Lord. May he give water to all who thirst, for he is our light and our salvation. Blessed be God forever.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

FIRST READING: Zephaniah 3:14–20

¹⁴Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart,

O daughter Jerusalem!

¹⁵The LORD has taken away the judgments against you,
he has turned away your enemies.

The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst;
you shall fear disaster no more.

¹⁶On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion;
do not let your hands grow weak.

¹⁷The LORD, your God, is in your midst,

a warrior who gives victory;
he will rejoice over you with gladness,
he will renew you in his love;
he will exult over you with loud singing
¹⁸as on a day of festival.

I will remove disaster from you,
so that you will not bear reproach for it.
¹⁹I will deal with all your oppressors
at that time.

And I will save the lame
and gather the outcast,
and I will change their shame into praise
and renown in all the earth.

²⁰At that time I will bring you home,
at the time when I gather you;
for I will make you renowned and praised
among all the peoples of the earth,
when I restore your fortunes
before your eyes, says the LORD.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Isaiah 12:2–6

The Psalm for the day is sung.

²Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not¹ be afraid,
for the LORD GOD is my strength and my might,
and has become¹ my salvation.

³**With joy you¹ will draw water
from the wells¹ of salvation.**

⁴And you will say in that day:

Give thanks to the LORD, call¹ on God's name;
make known the deeds of the LORD among the nations;
proclaim that this name¹ is exalted.

⁵**Sing praises to the LORD, who has done¹ gloriously;
let this be known in¹ all the earth.**

⁶Shout aloud and sing for joy, O¹ royal Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy¹ One of Israel.

them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." ¹⁴Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

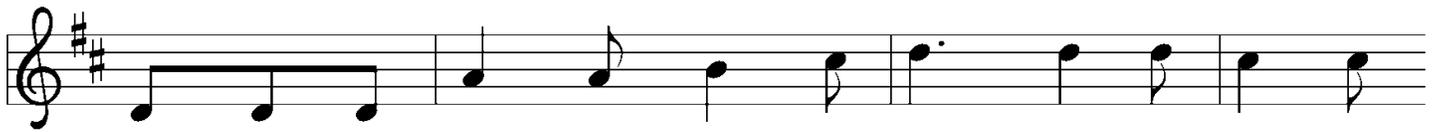
¹⁸So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

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

The assembly is seated.

SERMON *Silence for reflection follows the sermon.*

HYMN OF THE DAY: *People, Look East* (ELW 248)



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.

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

Filled with expectation and longing, let us pray for the church, those in need,
and all of God's creation. *A brief silence.*

God of the universe, we pray for your church, that it might rejoice in the Lord
always; for our full communion partners; for our companion synods around
the globe *especially Indonesia and Chile*; for congregations in our
neighborhood Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of this world, we pray for the earth, that it be renewed with love; for old growth forests and polar ice caps; for lakes and rivers; and for the place we call home. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of all nations, we pray for all nations, that war and disaster cease; for countries recovering from famines or earthquakes; and for people whose human rights have been violated. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of mercy and grace, we pray for those whose hands or hearts have grown weak; for the outcast; for those weighed down with shame; for the dying and the sick *especially* Peg Gernand, Sandy Neathamer, Joyce Parish, Fred Steaban, Anne Alia, Chuck Boston, Marsha Brewer, Marcella Denton, Kathy Dycus, Kathy Gilmore, Flynn Hewitt, Pat Hudson, Phil Lakes, Addison Licavaro, Guy McCauley, Dodie McEuen, Donna McMichael, J C Richardson, Angela Rutledge, Heidi Tahquehi, Ken Walker. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of power and might, we pray for this gathering, for our congregational leaders, and for those who with their prayers sustain our common life, that with John the Baptist we might proclaim the good news to everyone we meet. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Hear, O God, the prayers of your faithful people, either silent or spoken aloud.

Be present at celebration tables, increasing the joy of those who gather for birthdays, weddings, and parties especially Amy Jo Holaday, Dana Glaab, Sylvia Scott and Don Smith with birthdays this week and Mike and Donna Baugh with an anniversary this week. Be present at empty tables, filling the hungry and the lonely with hope. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

God of all eternity, we remember those who have died and now rejoice in your glory. Give us voices to sing your praise in every time and place. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Hear the prayers of your people, O God, and in your mercy grant us all we need, for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE

*The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ. The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.** The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words. The assembly is seated.*

OFFERING

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. During this time, the table is set. After the offering is gathered, the assembly stands. Bread, wine, money, and other gifts may be brought forward.



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be



fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -



nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your



pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER

The assisting minister offers the following prayer:

Let us pray...God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

DIALOGUE

The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks.

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.

PREFACE

The presiding minister continues:

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer,
through whom you will also make all things new
in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY



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



heav'n 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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

The presiding minister continues, using one of the following or another appropriate form.

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is ris-en. Christ will come a - gain.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your

own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints. To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.



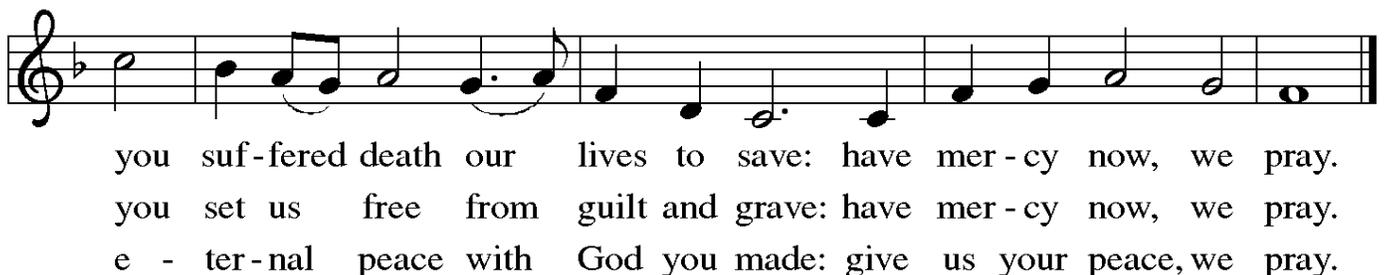
LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

God fills the hungry with good things. Taste and see that the Lord is good.



COMMUNION

SONG DURING COMMUNION: *What Feast of Love* (ELW 487)



- 1 What feast of love is of - fered here, what ban-quet come from heav - en?
- 2 What light of truth is of - fered here, what cov - e - nant from heav - en?
- 3 What wine of love is of - fered here, what crim-son drink from heav - en?



What food of ev - er - last-ing life, what gra - cious gift is giv - en?
What hope of ev - er - last-ing life, what won-drous word is giv - en?
What stream of ev - er - last-ing life, what pre - cious blood is giv - en?



This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heav - en.
This, this is Christ the king, the sun come down from heav - en.
This, this is Christ the king, the sweet - est wine of heav - en.



Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the man - na giv - en!
Oh, see and hear and sing! The Word of God is giv - en!
Oh, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is giv - en!

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, bless you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The assisting minister offers the following prayer:

Let us pray...Holy One, we give you thanks that in this bread and cup we have feasted again on your endless love. Let that love overflow more and more in our lives, that we may be messengers to prepare your way, harvesters of justice and righteousness, and bearers of your eternal Word, our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

BLESSING

May God direct your ways in peace, make you abound in love for one another and for all, and strengthen your hearts until the coming of our Lord Jesus. Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Brief announcements may be made, especially those related to the assembly's participation in God's mission in the world. Affirmation of Christian Vocation may be used here.

SENDING SONG: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (ELW 257)

Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.

5 O come, O Key of David, come,
and open wide our heav'nly home;
make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery. Refrain

6 O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer;
O Sun of justice, now draw near.
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadow put to flight. Refrain

7 O come, O King of nations, come,
O Cornerstone that binds in one:
refresh the hearts that long for you;
restore the broken, make us new. Refrain

8 O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear. Refrain

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you. Thanks be to God.

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PRAYER CONCERNS

Members

Peg Gernand, preparing for surgery
Sandy Neathamer, broken tailbone
Joyce Parish, recovering at home
Fred Steaban, broken femur in rehab

Family & Friends

Anne Alia, health issue
Chuck Boston, alcohol relapse
Marsha Brewer, recovering from a fall
Marcella Denton, intestinal illness
Kathy Dycus, in recovery in Carmel, IN
Kathy Gilmore, health concerns
Flynn Hewitt, (newborn) hole in heart
Pat Hudson, treatment for leukemia
Phil Lakes, stroke and heart condition
Addison Licavaro, (newborn) heart murmur
Guy McCauley, health issues
Donna McMichael, brain tumor
Dodie McEuen, health issues
J C Richardson, health concerns
Angela Rutledge, heart attack
Heidi Tahquehi, accident, fractured
Ken Walker, cancer of the tongue

*Please note, we reset the Family & Friends portion of prayer concerns each month, please let us know of anyone you would like to remain on or be placed on the list.

Shut-in

Edwina Andregg, Autumn Woods
Norma Boehme, Westminster Village
Dorothy Clerici, Lincoln Hills Health Center
Ken Steward, Westminster Village
Walter Clive, at home

Service agencies/programs/special needs

Veronica Rife, deployed by Corp of Engineers to Afghanistan
CLM
Eric Hall Foundation
Members of our Armed Forces at home and abroad
Members of Faith who have lost jobs and are seeking employment
Lapsed members and visitors seeking a church home
American Foundation for Suicide Prevention
Families affected by Hurricane Sandy

This Week at Faith

| | | | |
|------------------|-------------|--------------------|----|
| Current Offering | \$ 6,087.00 | Worship attendance | 59 |
| Other Offering | 165.00 | Nursery attendance | 5 |
| Total Offering | \$ 6,252.00 | Total attendance | 64 |

We need \$3,596 in current each week to continue the missions of our church. How did we do last week? Thanks to all who worship, work, give, and pray at Faith in thanks to God for God's blessings.

SERVING THIS WEEK IN WORSHIP

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Pastor | Pastor Scott Meier |
| Assistant | Virginia Klemens |
| Organist | Barb Brewster |
| Children's Church | Judy Bartrum |
| Acolyte/Crucifer | Reagan Zimmerman |
| Altar Guild | Barb Brewster |
| Greeters | Dennis & Arlys Johnson |
| Ushers | |
| Audio | Chuck Landis |
| Nursery | Lisa Peter |
| Social | Dennis & Arlys Johnson |
| Financial Assistant | Sandy Neatham |

SERVING NEXT WEEK IN WORSHIP

| | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Pastor | Pastor Scott Meier |
| Assistant | Carol Taylor |
| Organist | Barb Brewster |
| Children's Church | Kate Blough |
| Acolyte/Crucifer | Davis Jancosek |
| Altar Guild | Barb Brewster |
| Greeters | Kathy Farmer and Edie Woodward |
| Ushers | |
| Audio | Chuck Landis |
| Nursery | Lisa Peter |
| Social | |
| Financial Assistant | Sandy Neatham |

Scripture Readings for next week: Micah 5: 2-5a; Luke1:46b-55; Hebrews 10: 5-10; Luke 1: 39-45