



*The Fourth Sunday in Advent
December 22, 2013*

*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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The flowers on the altar are given today to the glory of God by Don Smith
+ + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +

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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Events/Activities This Week around Faith:

| | | | | | |
|--------------|---------|------------------|------------|---------|----------------|
| Today | 9:15am | Sunday School | Thu. 12/26 | 9:15am | No WCS |
| | 10:30am | Worship | | 1:00pm | No Bible Study |
| | 6:00pm | Potluck/Prog | Sun. 12/29 | 9:15am | S.S. |
| Tue. 12/24 | 10:00pm | Xmas Eve worship | | 10:30am | Worship |
| Wed. 12/25 | 7:00pm | No Confirmation | | | |

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Announcements

The State of Indiana advised the Literacy Center Steering Committee that they will not be able to provide laptops as originally expected. Additional computer laptops will be required in order for the Literacy Program to operate as we would like it to. Anyone wishing to donate a computer laptop with Windows software should contact Rick Barr ([812-246-4056](tel:812-246-4056)). Remember that your donation is tax deductible. Donate today to assist the Literacy Center and to get a tax deduction for 2013

Join us tonight at 6pm for our annual Christmas Potluck and Program. Bring a dish to share and plan to stay for the production. It promises to be a good time as we make our final preparations to celebrate the nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Christmas Eve worship with candlelight will be held on Tuesday, December 24 at 10pm.

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, our life, our mercy, our might.
Amen.

As we await the day of the Lord, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

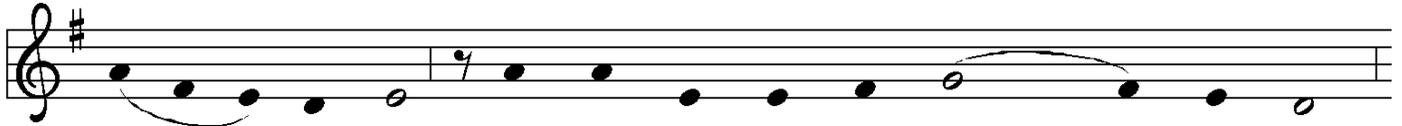
Great and Holy One,
**in this time of waning daylight,
we confess the shadows of sin in our lives.
We build ourselves up at the expense of others.
We rely on our own efforts to make our lives secure.
Yet you, O Lord, are the potter, and we are the clay.
Come to restore us in your image,
remake us into your people,
and rebuild what sin has broken,
that we and the whole creation may rejoice. Amen.**

Fear not, people of God:
the Almighty has done great things for us.
God casts away our sin from us
and makes of us a new creation.
In + Jesus Christ, God comes to set you free.
Take heart in the tender compassion of our God.
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-joice! Re-joice!
in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.
and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.

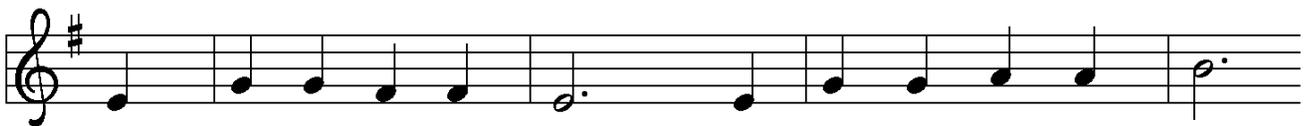


Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit 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!

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH: ADVENT

Choir sings verse 4 of Christ, Be our Light as all four advent candles are lit. If you wish to follow along with the words, they are found at ELW #715

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**

CANTICLE OF PRAISE



- 1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
- 2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
- 3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray....Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that hinders our faith, that eagerly we may receive your promises, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

FIRST READING: Isaiah 7:10–16

¹⁰Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, ¹¹Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. ¹²But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. ¹³Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore the LORD himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. ¹⁵He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 80:1–7, 17–19

The Psalm for the day is sung.

¹Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph [|] like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned up- [|] on the cherubim.

²**In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, [|] and Manasseh,
stir up your strength and [|] come to help us.**

³Restore [|] us, O God;
let your face shine upon us, and we [|] shall be saved.

⁴**O LORD [|] God of hosts,
how long will your anger fume when your [|] people pray?**

⁵You have fed them with the [|] bread of tears;
you have given them bowls of [|] tears to drink.

⁶**You have made us the derision [|] of our neighbors,
and our enemies laugh [|] us to scorn.**

⁷Restore us, O [|] God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we [|] shall be saved.

GOSPEL: Matthew 1:18–25

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew, the first chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Listen as Matthew's story of Jesus' birth focuses on the role of Joseph, who adopts the divinely-begotten child into the family of David and obediently gives him the name Jesus, which means "God saves."

The gospel concludes:

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

The assembly is seated. Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

HYMN OF THE DAY: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (ELW 257)

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

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

In hope and anticipation, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation. *A brief silence.*

Continually restore and give life to the people of your covenant established in Christ. Use our presence in the world to reveal your salvation for all people. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Reveal your light to those who dwell in darkness during this season. Awaken all creation to the hope of new life through your promised coming. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Secure your grace and your peace among the nations. Lead us in ways of unity and justice to work with one another for the sake of all people. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Deliver the hope of Emmanuel, God with us, to all who suffer loneliness and despair. Send your Spirit to accompany those who long for your healing *especially* Anne Steaban, Fred Steaban, John Taylor, Beth Wright, Dennis Yellina, Megan Bartram, Liz Booker, Brad Boston, Gwen Doering, J.J. Edrington, Sally Gettelfinger, Tammy Goatley, Norma Hamilton, Bruce Harding, Martha Harding, Phil Lakes, Richard Lewman, Shelly Marshall, Jennifer Mitchell, Richard Peter, J C Richardson, Angela Rutledge, Douglas Sagstetter, Karen Sackstader, Theresa Sizen, Ken Walker, Bill Winn, Jim Wheat. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Prepare a way of safety and security for children to grow up free from fear or threat. Establish prosperity in every land, that no child may go hungry. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

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 Tami Czerwonka, Becky Hall, Carol Taylor, Lauren Rayborn, and Charles Scott with birthdays this week. Be present at empty tables, filling the hungry and the lonely with hope. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We give thanks that you welcome the saints into your eternal dwelling place. Train us to look forward to the day when you come to dwell among all your people for all time. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Almighty God, we entrust to you all for whom we pray, confident that you fulfill your promises through Christ our Savior and 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



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 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

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

We give you thanks, Father, through Jesus Christ, your beloved Son, whom you sent in this end of the ages to save and redeem us and to proclaim to us your will.

He is your Word, inseparable from you, through whom you created all things, and in whom you take delight. He is your Word, sent from heaven to a virgin's womb. He there took on our nature and our lot and was shown forth as your Son, born of the Holy Spirit and of the virgin Mary. He, our Lord Jesus, fulfilled all your will and won for you a holy people; he stretched out his hands in suffering in order to free from suffering those who trust you.

He is the one who, handed over to a death he freely accepted, in order to destroy death, to break the bonds of the evil one, to crush hell underfoot, to give light to the righteous, to establish his covenant, and to show forth the resurrection, taking bread and giving thanks to you, said: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

In the same way 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.

Remembering, then, his death and resurrection,
we take this bread and cup,
giving you thanks that you have made us worthy
to stand before you and to serve you as your priestly people.

Send your Spirit upon these gifts of your church;
gather into one all who share this bread and wine;
fill us with your Holy Spirit to establish our faith in truth,
that we may praise and glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ;
through whom all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father,
with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, both now and forever. **Amen.**

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

Come to the table where Christ comes to make a home in you.

COMMUNION



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

SONG DURING COMMUNION: *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*
(ELW 254)



1 Come, thou long-ex - pect-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.

Communion will be by intinction. When instructed by the ushers, please come forward and receive the wafer from the pastor. DO NOT EAT IT. Take it to the assistant who is holding either wine (dark liquid) or grape juice (light liquid). Dip the wafer in the wine or juice and eat them together. Return to your pew for reflection. When all have communed, the pastor continues:

Now may 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....God of wonder, we give thanks that you have fed us once again with this foretaste of the feast to come. Strengthen us through this gift to serve our neighbor with joy, that all may come to see your glory reflected in the lives of your people; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

The God of hope, through Christ our peace, in the power of the Holy Spirit, + bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG: *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* (ELW 631)



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to
2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - 'ry
3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy
4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less



earth come down! Fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy
trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us
life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -



faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,
find thy prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;
more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,
ly re - stored in thee! Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,



pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Bring good news to the poor. **Thanks be to God.**

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PRAYER CONCERNS

Members

Anne Steaban, recovering from colon cancer surgery

Fred Steaban, rehabbing from back surgery

John Taylor, health concerns

Beth Wright, recovering from thyroid treatments

Dennis Yellina, brain cancer

Family & Friends

Megan Bartram, health issues

Liz Booker, breast cancer treatments

Brad Boston, closed head injury

Gwen Doering, stage 4 cancer chemo treatment

J.J. Edrington, health issues

Sally Gettelfinger, health issues

Tammy Goatley, lung cancer

Norma Hamilton, cancer treatment

Bruce Harding, health issues

Martha Harding, health issues

Phil Lakes, recovering from stroke and heart condition

Richard Lewman, bone cancer

Shelly Marshall, breast cancer surgery

Jennifer Mitchell, breast cancer

J C Richardson, health concerns

Angela Rutledge, heart attack

Douglas Sagstetter, Hodgkins lymphoma

Karen Sackstader, health concerns

Theresa Sizen, health issues, asthma

Ken Walker, cancer of the tongue

Jim Wheat, cancer of the kidney

Bill Winn, dementia

*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

Don Smith, Windsor Ridge

Norma Boehme, Westminster Village

Walter Clive, at home

Dorothy Clerici, Lincoln Hills Health Center

Service agencies/programs/special needs

CLM

Eric Hall Foundation

Members of our Armed Forces

This Week at Faith

| | | | |
|------------------|------------|--------------------|----|
| Current Offering | \$4,611.00 | Worship attendance | 72 |
| Other Offering | 190.00 | Nursery attendance | 3 |
| Total Offering | \$4,801.00 | Total attendance | 75 |

We need \$3,596 in current each week to continue the missions of our church4 Cycle A. 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 | Scott Meier |
| Assistant | |
| Organist | Barb Brewster |
| Children's Church | Kate Blough |
| Acolyte | |
| Altar Guild | Barb Brewster |
| Greeters | |
| Ushers | Brent/Bev Haire |
| Audio | Rick Barr |
| Nursery | Lisa Peter |
| Social | Kate Blough |
| Financial Assistant | Rick Barr |
| Ambassador | |

SERVING NEXT WEEK IN WORSHIP

| | |
|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Pastor | Scott Meier |
| Assistant | |
| Organist | Barb Brewster |
| Children's Church | Kate Blough |
| Acolyte | |
| Altar Guild | Barb Brewster |
| Greeters | |
| Ushers | Brent/Bev Haire |
| Audio | Rick Barr |
| Nursery | Lisa Peter |
| Social | |
| Financial Assistant | Rick Barr |
| Ambassador | |

Scripture Readings for next week: Lessons and Carols