

Faith Lutheran Church
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First Sunday After Christmas
December 29, 2024

Hymns: **116** **148:1-3** **149** **161:1-3**
(Words are printed in this folder)

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TODAY'S DIVINE SERVICE

(Rite II—pp. 60-85, *Evangelical Lutheran Hymnary*)

1. A HYMN: 116 “Angels We Have Heard on High”

1 Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains.

Gloria in excelsis Deo;
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

2 Shepherds, why this jubilee?

Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heav'nly song?
Gloria in excelsis Deo;
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

3 Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the new-born king.

Gloria in excelsis Deo;
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

4 See, within a manger laid,
Jesus, Lord of heav'n and earth,
Lend your voices, lend your aid
To proclaim the Savior's birth!
Gloria in excelsis Deo;
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

2. THE INVOCATION (*Stand*)

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: ♪ Amen.

3. THE CONFESSION OF SIN

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C: ♪ Who made heaven and earth.

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions to the Lord;

C: ♪ And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

P: Let us bow before the Lord and confess our sins.

C: O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them, and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P: Hear the holy and comforting Word of our Lord: Come unto Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. For God so loved the world that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. Lift up your hearts! By the authority of God and of my holy office I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

4. THE INTROIT Psalm 93

P: Your testimonies are very sure, holiness adorns Your house O Lord, forever. Your throne is established from of old, You are everlasting. The Lord reigns, He is clothed with majesty; The Lord is clothed, He has girded Himself with strength.

5. THE GLORIA PATRI

C: ♪ Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, forevermore. Amen.

6. THE KYRIE ELEISON (Lord, have mercy)

C: ♪ Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

7. THE GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO

C: ♪ Glory be to God on high:

C: ♪ And on earth peace, good will toward men. We praise You, we bless You, we worship You, we glorify You, we give thanks to You, for Your great glory. O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, You take away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. You take away the sin of the world, receive our prayer. You are seated at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For You only are holy. You only are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the Holy Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

8. THE SALUTATION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: ♪ And with your spirit.

9. THE COLLECT (Prayer for the Day)

P: O almighty and everlasting God, mercifully direct our ways that we may walk in Your Law, and be made to abound in good works; through the same, Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.

C: ♪ Amen.

10. THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 50:4-9 (Sit)

⁴The Lord God has given me
the tongue of those who are taught,
that I may know how to sustain with a word
him who is weary.
Morning by morning he awakens;
he awakens my ear

to hear as those who are taught.
⁵ The Lord God has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious;
I turned not backward.
⁶ I gave my back to those who strike,
and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard;
I hid not my face
from disgrace and spitting.
⁷ But the Lord God helps me;
therefore I have not been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like a flint,
and I know that I shall not be put to shame.
⁸ He who vindicates me is near.
Who will contend with me?
Let us stand up together.
Who is my adversary?
Let him come near to me.
⁹ Behold, the Lord God helps me;
who will declare me guilty?
Behold, all of them will wear out like a garment;
the moth will eat them up.

11. THE GRADUAL **Psalm 45**

P: You are the most excellent of men: and your lips have been anointed with grace. My heart is stirred by a noble theme as I recite my verses for the king: my tongue is the pen of a skillful writer. Alleluia! Alleluia! The Lord reigns, he is robed in majesty: the Lord is robed in majesty and is armed with strength. Alleluia!

12. THE EPISTLE: Hebrews 2:10-18

¹⁰ For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the founder of their salvation perfect through suffering. ¹¹ For he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one source. That is why he is not ashamed to call them brothers, ¹² saying,

“I will tell of your name to my brothers;
in the midst of the congregation I will sing your praise.”

¹³ And again,

“I will put my trust in him.”

And again,

“Behold, I and the children God has given me.”

¹⁴ Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵ and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery. ¹⁶ For surely it is not angels that he helps, but he helps the offspring of Abraham. ¹⁷ Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. ¹⁸ For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

13. THE ALLELUIA (*Stand*)

C: ♪ Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

14. THE HOLY GOSPEL **Luke 2:22-40**

P: The Holy Gospel for this Sunday is written...

C: ♪ Glory be to You, O Lord

⁴¹ Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. ⁴² And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom. ⁴³ And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, ⁴⁴ but supposing him to be in the group they went a day's journey, but then they began to search for him among their relatives and acquaintances, ⁴⁵ and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him. ⁴⁶ After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷ And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸ And when his parents saw him, they were astonished. And his mother said to him, “Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress.” ⁴⁹ And he said to them, “Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?” ⁵⁰ And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them. ⁵¹ And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart.

⁵² And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.

P: This is the Holy Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

C: ♪ Praise be to You, O Christ.

15. THE CREED **Nicene Creed**

C: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, Begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, Begotten, not made, Being of one substance with the Father, By Whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; And He shall come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, Who spoke by the Prophets. And I believe one holy Christian and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, And I look for the Resurrection of the dead and the Life † of the world to come. Amen.

16. THE CHIEF HYMN: 148 vv. 1-3 “Praise God the Lord” (*Sit*)

1 Praise God the Lord, ye sons of men,
Before His highest throne;
Today He opens heav'n again
And gives us His own Son,
And gives us His own Son.

2 He leaves His heav'nly Father's throne,
Is born an infant small,
And in a manger, poor and lone,

Lies in a humble stall,
Lies in a humble stall.

3 He veils in flesh His pow'r divine
A servant's form to take;
In want and lowliness must pine
Who heav'n and earth did make,
Who heav'n and earth did make.

17. THE SERMON: “The Gift of God Gives Us a Substitute & Sacrifice” Luke 2:41-52

18. THE OFFERTORY VERSE (*Stand*)

C: ♪ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Your presence, and take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Your salvation, and uphold me with Your free Spirit. Amen.

19. OFFERING

20. THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH (*Stand*)

P: Let us pray for the Church and all people according to their needs: Almighty God and Father, we thank You for all Your goodness and tender mercies, especially for the gift of Your dear Son, through whom You have revealed Your grace. We pray that You would plant Your Word in our hearts that we may cling to it in faith and bear much fruit in well doing.

C: O God, in the multitude of Your mercy, hear us in the truth of Your salvation.

P: Strengthen and defend Your Church, that by Your Word and Sacraments faith may grow and love toward all increase. Guide and protect all who spread abroad the light of Your truth throughout the world. Bless the schools, colleges, and seminaries of the Church that they may send forth laborers to serve in the ministry of Your Word, in the ministry of mercy, and in all godly walks of life. Let the light of Your Word shine continually in our homes. Keep the children of the Church in the grace of their Baptism, and grant that all entrusted with their care may bring them up in true faith and obedience to Your will.

C: Let all rejoice who trust in You, let them shout for joy because You defend them.

P: Guide and bless all lawful authority, especially our President, the Congress, and the Governor and legislators of this state. Give them wisdom and sound judgement, that justice may prevail and wickedness be hindered and punished.

C: Hear, O Lord, and have mercy! Lord be our Helper.

P: We commend into Your care all who are in trouble, want, sickness, or any other adversity, especially those who are suffering for Your name and Your truth. Comfort them, O God, with Your Holy Spirit, that in all their afflictions they may acknowledge Your fatherly will and rejoice in Your gracious and speedy deliverance.

C: O Lord, be with all in trouble. Hear their prayers to the honor of Your name.

P: Let Your blessing rest upon seed time and harvest, on commerce and industry, on medicine and science; sanctify the arts and culture, the rest and leisure of Your people. Protect all who travel, and care for all whose labor is difficult or dangerous. Bless all who in their daily calling endeavor to do Your will, and give them the assurance that their work is pleasing in Your sight.

C: Blessed are You, O Lord, for You have not turned away from our prayer!

(Special intercessions may be added)

P: Protect our bodies and souls from all harm and danger; support us in our last hour with Your mercy; and finally admit us into Your eternal joy, to love and serve You in the blessed company of Your saints and angels forevermore; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

C: The Lord is near to those who have a broken heart, and saves such as have a contrite spirit. The righteous cry out and the Lord hears, and delivers them out of all their troubles.

The Service of Holy Communion

Our Communion Practice:

Faith Lutheran Church practices closed communion, admitting to the Lord's Supper only those who are members of our Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS) or of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS). We ask that all others refrain from communing out of respect for our practice.

If you would like to receive a blessing during the Lord's Supper, please come forward and signify by crossing your arms across your chest. Please speak with our Pastor if you have questions. Thank you.

21. A HYMN: 149 "In Thee Is Gladness" (*Sit*)

1 In Thee is gladness
Amid all sadness,
Jesus, Sunshine of my heart!
By Thee are given
The gifts of heaven;
Thou the true Redeemer art.
Our souls Thou wakest;
Our bonds Thou breakest.
Who trusts Thee surely
Has built securely
And stands forever: Alleluia!
Our hearts are pining
To see Thy shining,
Dying or living
To Thee are cleaving;
Naught can us sever: Alleluia!

2 If He is ours,
We fear no powers,
Not of earth or sin or death.
He sees and blesses
In worst distresses;
He can change them with a breath.
Wherefore the story
Tell of His glory
With heart and voices;
All heav'n rejoices
In Him for ever: Alleluia!
We shout for gladness,
Triumph o'er sadness,
Love Him and praise Him
And still shall raise Him
Glad hymns for ever: Alleluia!

22. THE PREFACE (*Stand*)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: ♪ And with your spirit.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: ♪ We lift them up unto the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: ♪ It is good and right so to do.

23. THE PROPER PREFACE AND SANCTUS (Holy, Holy, Holy)

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. For in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory, that, seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may be drawn to the love of those things which are not seen. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

C: ♪ **Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth; Heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

24. THE LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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

25. THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples saying: "Take, eat; this is My † body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying: "Drink of it all of you; this cup is the New Testament in My † blood, which is shed for you and for many, for the remission of sins. This do as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

26. THE PAX DOMINI (The Peace of the Lord)

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: ♪ Amen.

27. THE AGNUS DEI (Lamb of God)

C: ♪ **O Christ, the Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, the Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, the Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world, grant us Your peace. Amen.**

28. THE DISTRIBUTION (Sit)

A HYMN: 144 vv. 1,3,5,7 "Thy Little Ones, Dear Lord, Are We"

1 Thy little ones, dear Lord, are we,

And come Thy lowly bed to see;

Enlighten ev'ry soul and mind,
That we the way to Thee may find.

3 Now welcome! From Thy heav'nly home
Thou to our vale of tears art come;
Man hath no off'ring for Thee save
The stable, manger, cross, and grave.

5 O draw us wholly to Thee, Lord,

Do Thou to us Thy grace accord,
True faith and love to us impart,
That we may hold Thee in our heart.

7 Until at last we, too, proclaim,
With all Thy saints, Thy glorious name;
In Paradise our songs renew,
And praise Thee as the angels do.

29. THE NUNC DIMITTIS (*Stand*)

C: ♪ Lord, now You let Your servant depart in peace according to Your word. For my eyes have seen Your salvation, which You have prepared before the face of all people, a Light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Your people Israel. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, forevermore. Amen

30. THE COLLECT OF THANKSGIVING

P: O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good.

C: ♪ And his mercy endures forever.

P: Let us pray: We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through these salutary gifts, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through them in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.

C: ♪ Amen.

31. THE SALUTATION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: ♪ And with your spirit.

32. THE BENEDICAMUS

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: ♪ Thanks be to God.

33. THE BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord look upon you with His favor and give † you peace.

C: ♪ Amen, amen, amen.

34. CLOSING HYMN: 161 vv. 1-3 “O Jesus Christ, Thy Manger Is” (*Sit*)

1 O Jesus Christ,
Thy manger is
My paradise at which my soul reclineth.
For there, O Lord,
Doth lie the Word
Made flesh for us herein Thy grace forth shineth.

2 He whom the sea
And wind obey
Doth come to serve the sinner in great meekness.
Thou, God’s own Son,
With us art one,
Dost join us and our children in our weakness.

3 Thy light and grace
Our guilt efface,
Thy heav’nly riches all our loss retrieving.
Immanuel,
Thy birth doth quell
The pow’r of hell and Satan’s bold deceiving.

CALENDAR & ANNOUNCEMENTS for December 29, 2024

Wednesday	9:30 AM: Women’s Bible Study - Resumes January 7:00 PM: Men & Women’s Bible Study - Resumes January
Saturday	4:00 PM: Faith Christmas Party at Ferns’ Residence
Sunday	9:00 AM: Sunday School & Bible Study 10:30 AM: Divine Service