

Faith Lutheran Church
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Second Sunday of Advent

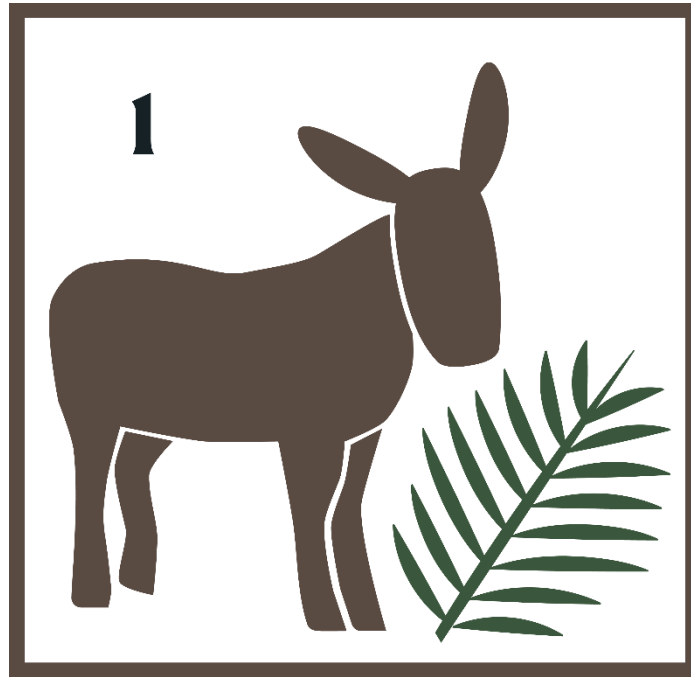
December 8, 2024

Hymns: **98 106 102 105:3-4**
(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: **98 “Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending”**

1 Lo! He comes with clouds descending,
Once for our salvation slain;
Thousand thousand saints attending
Swell the triumph of His train:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Christ reveals His endless reign.

2 Ev'ry eye shall now behold Him,
Robed in dreadful majesty;
Those who set at nought and sold Him,
Pierced and nailed Him to the tree,
Deeply wailing, deeply wailing, deeply wailing,
Shall the true Messiah see.

3 Those dear tokens of His Passion
Still His dazzling body bears,
Cause of endless exultation
To His ransomed worshipers.
With what rapture, with what rapture, with what rapture
Gaze we on those glorious scars!

4 Yea, amen, let all adore Thee,
High on Thine eternal throne;
Savior, take the pow'r and glory,
Claim the kingdom for Thine own.
O come quickly, O come quickly, O come quickly!
Alleluia! Come, Lord, come!

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

P: Daughter of Zion, surely your Salvation is coming. The Lord will cause His glorious voice to be heard, and you shall have gladness of heart. Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, You who lead Joseph like a flock; Stir up Your strength, and come and save us!

5. THE SALUTATION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: ♪ And with your spirit.

6. THE COLLECT (Prayer for the Day)

P: Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only begotten Son, so that by His coming we may worship You with pure minds; through the same, Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.

C: ♪ Amen.

7. THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Malachi 3:1-7 (*Sit*)

“Behold, I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me.

And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. ² But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap. ³ He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the Lord. ⁴ Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

⁵ “Then I will draw near to you for judgment. I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired worker in his wages, the widow and the fatherless, against those who thrust aside the sojourner, and do not fear me, says the Lord of hosts.

⁶ “For I the Lord do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed.

⁷ From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you, says the Lord of hosts. But you say, ‘How shall we return?’

8. THE GRADUAL Psalm 50 & Matthew 24

P: From Zion, perfect in beauty, God shines forth: our God comes. Gather to me my consecrated ones: who made a covenant with me by sacrifice. Alleluia! Alleluia! The

heavenly bodies will be shaken: at that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. Alleluia!

9. THE EPISTLE: Philippians 1:3-11

³ I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, ⁴ always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, ⁵ because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶ And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. ⁷ It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸ For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. ⁹ And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, ¹⁰ so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, ¹¹ filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

10. THE ALLELUIA (*Stand*)

C: ♪ Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

11. THE HOLY GOSPEL Luke 3:1-6

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

C: ♪ Glory be to You, O Lord

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, ² during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³ And he went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁴ As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet,

“The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.

⁵ Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall become straight,
and the rough places shall become level ways,

⁶ and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”

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

C: ♪ Praise be to You, O Christ.

12. 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.

13. THE CHIEF HYMN: 106 “On Jordan’s Bank the Herald’s Cry” (*Sit*)

1 On Jordan's bank the herald's cry
Announces that the Lord is nigh;
Awake and harken, for he brings
Glad tidings of the King of kings.

2 Then cleansed be ev'ry Christian breast,
And furnished for so great a Guest;
Yea, let us each our hearts prepare
For Christ to come and enter there.

3 For Thou art our salvation, Lord,
Our Refuge and our great Reward;
Without Thy grace we waste away,

Like flow'rs that wither and decay.

4 To heal the sick stretch out Thine hand
And bid the fallen sinner stand;
Once more upon Thy people shine
And fill the world with love divine.

5 All praise, eternal Son, to Thee,
Whose advent set Thy people free;
Whom with the Father we adore
And Holy Ghost, for evermore.

14. THE SERMON: “A Real Christmas is Rooted in Repentance” Luke 3:1-6

15. 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.

16. OFFERING

17. 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.

18. A HYMN: 102 "Comfort, Comfort Ye My People" (*Sit*)

1 "Comfort, comfort ye My people,
Speak ye peace," thus saith our God.
"Comfort those who sit in darkness,
Mourning 'neath their sorrows' load.
Speak ye to Jerusalem
Of the peace that waits for them;
Tell her that her sins I cover,
And her warfare now is over."

2 Yea, her sins our God will pardon,
Blotting out each dark misdeed;
All that well deserved His anger
He will no more see or heed.
She hath suffered many a day;
Now her griefs have passed away.
God will change her pining sadness
Into ever-springing gladness.

3 Hark, the herald's voice is crying
In the desert far and near,
Bidding all men to repentance,
Since the kingdom now is here.
O that warning cry obey!
Now prepare for God a way;
Let the valleys rise to meet Him
And the hills bow down to greet Him.

4 Make ye straight what long was
crooked;
Make the rougher places plain.
Let your hearts be true and humble
As befits His holy reign.
For the glory of the Lord
Now o'er earth is shed abroad,
And all flesh shall see the token
That His Word is never broken.

19. 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.

20. 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. On the tree of the cross You gave salvation to all mankind that, whence death arose, by the fault of one man, thence also life might arise by the obedience of one Man; and that even as Satan once overcame by a tree, likewise by a tree he was overcome, through the death of Jesus Christ, our Lord. 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.

21. 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

22. 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."

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

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

C: ♪ Amen.

24. 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.

25. THE DISTRIBUTION (*Sit*)

A HYMN: 327 vv. 1 “O Lord, We Praise Thee”

1 O Lord, we praise Thee, bless Thee and adore Thee,
In thanksgiving bow before Thee.
Thou with Thy body and Thy blood didst nourish
Our weak souls that they may flourish.
O Lord, have mercy!
May Thy body, Lord, born of Mary,
That our sins and sorrows did carry,
And Thy blood for us plead
In all trial, fear, and need:
O Lord, have mercy!

26. 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

27. 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.

28. THE SALUTATION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: ♪ And with your spirit.

29. THE BENEDICAMUS

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: ♪ Thanks be to God.

30. 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.

31. CLOSING HYMN: 105 vv. 3-4 “Rise, Children of the Kingdom” (*Sit*)

3 Arise, ye much afflicted!
The King is not afar.
Rejoice, ye long dejected!
Behold the Morning Star.
The Lord will give you joy,
Though troubles now distress you,
With comfort He will bless you,
E'en death He will destroy.

4 Arise, ye poor and needy!
The King provides for you.
He comes with succor speedy,
With mercy ever new.
Receive your gracious King,
The giver of all blessing.
Hail Him, His name confessing,
And glad Hosannas sing.

CALENDAR & ANNOUNCEMENTS for December 8, 2024

Tuesday 7:00 PM: **SABBSA**

Wednesday 7:00 PM: **Advent Service** - The Priestly Ram
Isaiah 53:7

Saturday 1:00 PM: **Dealing with Grief Class**

Sunday 9:00 AM: **Sunday School & Bible Study**
10:30 AM: **Divine Service**
(Voter's with potluck after service)

Dec. 14th - Game Day 12PM at Faith Lutheran Church

Dec. 14th - Caroling at the Pearl 7PM with WELS Cross of Christ Congregation

Dec. 21st - Rehearsal for Sunday School Christmas Program

Dec. 24th - Christmas Eve Service 5:30 PM

Dec. 26th - Caroling at Heartis Assisted Living 11 AM

A Special Offering is being asked to send as a gift to our adopted seminarian Noah Schleusener. Noah is in his second year of seminary.