

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 18, 2016 A.D.
Faith Ev. Lutheran Church – Pierre, SD
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*A Christ Caring People Who Gather Around Word and Sacrament,
Yoked Together, In Personal Service to Christ in World Wide Missions*



The Gift of Life

The free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 6:23

“From heav’n above to earth I come to bear good news to ev’ry home;
Glad tidings of great joy I bring, whereof I now will say and sing:

“To you this night is born a child of Mary, chosen virgin mild;
This little child of lowly birth shall be the joy of all the earth.

“He will on you the gifts bestow prepared by God for all below,
That in his kingdom, bright and fair, you may with us his glory share.”

Welcome to earth, O noble Guest, through whom the sinful world is blest!
You came to share my misery that you might share your joy with me.

THE OPENING LITANY

- P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**
P Every good and perfect gift is from heaven above,
C **Coming down from the Father of lights.**
P We gather to celebrate the good and perfect gift of life.
C **And so with King Hezekiah we confess to you, O God—**
P In your love you save us from the pit of destruction.
C **You put all our sins behind your back.**
P The living, the living—
C **They praise you, as we are doing today.**
P The LORD will save us.
C **And we will sing all the days of our lives.**
P For the wages of sin is death.
C **But the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord!**

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates! Behold, the King of glory waits.
The King of kings is drawing near; the Savior of the world is here.
Life and salvation he doth bring; therefore rejoice and gladly sing.
To God the Father raise your joyful songs of praise.

- P On this fourth Sunday in Advent we light a candle and call it Life.
(The acolyte lights three purple candles and one pink candle.)
P When we were slaves to sin—
C **Those things resulted in death.**
P But now that we have been set free from sin—
C **The result is eternal life.**
P For the wages of sin is death.
C **But the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord!**

Fling wide the portals of your heart; make it a temple set apart
From earthly use for heav'n's employ, adorned with prayer and love and joy.
So shall your Sov'reign enter in and new and nobler life begin.
To God alone be praise for word and deed and grace!

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P Let us confess our sins to God, our kind and merciful Father.
- C **We have looked for life in all the wrong places.**
- P We believe that when people approve of us—
- C **Then we'll really live.**
- P We believe that when we have enough money—
- C **Then we'll really live.**
- P We believe that when we get control of situations and circumstances—
- C **Then we'll really live.**
- P We believe that when we get that job, that raise, that promotion—
- C **Then we'll really live.**
- P We believe that when we go on that vacation, experience that place, dine at that restaurant—
- C **Then we'll really live. Forgive us, Father, for placing our affection in all the wrong places and on all the wrong people.**
- P Hear the best news you will ever hear! I declare to you that in him you have forgiveness, love and life. A righteous Helper comes to thee. His chariot is humility, his kingly crown is holiness, his scepter, pity in distress. The end of all our woe he brings. Therefore the earth is glad and sings. To Christ the Savior raise your grateful hymns of praise. For the wages of sin is death.
- C **But the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord!**

Redeemer, come and open wide my heart to thee; here, Lord, abide!
O enter with thy grace divine; thy face of mercy on me shine.
Thy Holy Spirit guide us on until our glorious goal is won.
Eternal praise and fame we offer to thy name.

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING ... Isaiah 38:17-20

THE EPISTLE READING ... Romans 6:20-23

THE SPECIAL MUSIC

*"Advent Alleluia" ...arr. Keith Christopher
Faith Choir*

THE GOSPEL READING ... John 1:1-5

THE SPECIAL MUSIC

*“An Advent Alleluia”... (based on KANON in D & HYFRYDOL) Arr. Douglas L Wagner
Faith Choir*

THE SERMON

“The Gift of Life”

Pastor Daniel Barbey

THE OFFERING

THE PRAYERS

Each petition ends with the following response:

- P O Christ, you came that we might have life,
C **and have it abundantly.**

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.

HOLY COMMUNION

8:20 service

The Liturgy LSB Pages 197-198

THE DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

*“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” LSB 357 verses 1-3
“Prepare the Royal Highway” LSB 343*

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” LSB 357 verses 4-7

THE BENEDICTION

- P Jesus comes to give life: forgiven life, abundant life, joyful life, hopeful life, resurrection life! For the wages of sin is death.
- C **But the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord!**

On Jordan’s bank the Baptist’s cry announces that the Lord is nigh;
Awake and hearken, for he brings glad tidings of the King of kings.

Then cleansed be ev’ry life from sin; make straight the way for God within,
And let us all our hearts prepare for Christ to come and enter there.

Lay on the sick thy healing hand and make the fallen strong to stand;
Show us the glory of thy face till beauty springs in ev’ry place.

By Dean Nadasdy and Reed Lessing. © 2016 Creative Communications for the Parish. All rights reserved.

Welcome to Faith Evangelical Lutheran on this Fourth Sunday of Advent! We are delighted to have you in worship with us. If you are visiting from out of town, we bid you welcome and God-speed on your journey. Should you be from our community, and have no church home, we invite you to make Faith your church home. Greeting you this morning:

Before Early Service

Lee & Lennis Axdahl
Marvin & Mary Buxcel

After Early Service

Greg Otkin
Scott & Melanie Fuerst



Before Late Service

Jerry & Lois Erbe
Craig & Peggy Urquhart

After Late Service

Grace Schmitgen & Linda Nill

Preaching this morning is Reverend Daniel Barbey, our Intentional Interim Pastor. Reverend Joshua Baumann, our Associate Pastor, is our Liturgist.

Holy Communion is celebrated at our 8:20 service this Sunday. In this Sacrament, our Lord brings us strength and forgiveness to be about His vision and mission. Those confirmed Lutherans who come to the Sacrament of the Altar today are asked to read the communion side of our information card found in the pew rack and to sign the bottom of the reverse side so that our



communion records might be complete.



Adult Bible Study Sunday morning Bible Class will resume on January 8th. Bible stories for adults will start in Genesis. Join us at 9:45 a.m.

Sunday School Sunday School is for all children age 3 by September 1, 2016.

Nursery Nursery is available during the 11:00 service. Nursery is located in the **F/G Room downstairs**. It is for children ages infant through 5 year olds.

Nursing Moms can find a comfortable rocker in the Daycare. This is NOT a Nursery for young children, just a quiet, private place for nursing moms.

God Be With You!

Our Broadcasts Our Sonrise and Cable Broadcasts are made possible this week by Ben & Loni Shoup in thanksgiving to God for their 51st wedding anniversary today. Thanks Loni & Ben, may God continue to bless your lives shared together.

Did you know that "Sonrise" is streamed on KCCR live? If you are away, log on to www.TodaysKCCR.com. The Broadcast schedules are on the traveling Bulletin board, which is in the Narthex. Our Cable Broadcast is also on our Website. Take a look at www.faithluth.com.

COST: You may sponsor the radio broadcast of Sonrise for \$30.00. This radio broadcast is on 1240 AM KCCR at 6:40 a.m. on Sunday morning. The cost of sponsoring the cable broadcast of our worship service is \$35.00. This cable access broadcast is televised on Wednesday evening at 7:00 p.m. on Channel 8. If you choose to sponsor both, the cost is \$60.00.

Wed., Dec. 7 Att. 55; Advent Offering \$167.34; **Sun., Dec. 11 Att. 625;** General Fund \$7,575.00; Building Fund \$1,395.00 (Debt Retirement \$1,395.00); Christmas Program \$353.00; Love Fund \$200.00; Broadcasts \$60.00; Contingency Fund \$100.00; Thrivent Automatic Withdrawal \$1,305.00 (General \$1,260.00, Debt \$45.00); Flowers \$46.00; Endowment Fund in memory of Don Hughes \$25.00; SD District Endowment Interest Check \$573.26.

This Week at Faith Lutheran

Today: Dec. 18 Advent 4

8:20 am Communion
9:20-10:15 Oatmeal Feed for Hong Kong
9:45 am NO SUNDAY SCHOOL
11:00 am Worship
2:00 pm Maryhouse/Parkwood Christmas

Chapel

Mon: Dec. 19

6:30 pm Christ Care

Tues: Dec. 20

8:25 am Staff Devotions

10:15 am SOUL SPA Bible Study

6:30 pm Choir
7:30 pm Pickleball
Wed: Dec. 21
10:30 am Preschool Christmas Program
6:30 pm NO MIDWEEK
Thurs: Dec. 22
8:25 am Staff Devotions
10:30 am Preschool Christmas Program
2:30 pm Preschool Christmas Program
7:00 pm Mary/Martha Circle

Fri: Dec. 23
OFFICE CLOSED AFTER NOON
Sat: Dec. 24 Christmas Eve
5:00 pm Christmas Eve Worship
7:30 pm Christmas Eve Worship
Sun: Dec. 25 Christmas Day
10:00 am Christmas Day Worship



BUILDING NEWS

Thank you for your continued gifts to our Building Fund – We thank you for your gifts last Sunday to the Building Fund of \$1,440.00. The gifts were designated as follows:

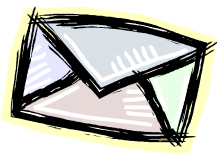
The Debt Retirement Account: \$1,440.00

The Building Account: \$0.00

Debt Retirement Thanks to your generosity we have been able to send in two additional payments with our regular December payment. Thus far we have made 168 additional payments which have saved us \$565,266.63 in interest. Our current balance is \$360,293.53.

Debt Retirement Challenge A generous family of our Faith congregation has graciously offered to match up to \$10,000.00 for Debt Retirement. The challenge will last the final quarter of our year from October 1 through December 31. ***Through the end of November we received \$20,454.50 toward the challenge.*** Would you please consider joining the *Debt Retirement Challenge*? **In the memo line just indicate Debt Retirement Challenge or “DRC” for short.** What an opportunity, for which we say, *“Praise God from Whom all blessings flow,”* and *“Thank you!”*

All 2016 contributions need to be in no later than **December 31**. Anything coming in January 1 and following but dated in 2016 will be credited to 2017.



*** Reminder*** Please pick up your 2017 offering envelopes **today**. Even if you have automatic giving there are special giving envelopes for Missions, holidays, etc. that could also be utilized. We would prefer to save the expense of mailing all the envelopes that are left

here beyond December. Thanks for your help in this matter.

* * *

Altar Guild is requesting that whoever borrowed the large and small battery operated white candles please return them to the sacristy. Thank you.



The Mums by the Altar are in memory of Frederick Marso Jr. son of Fred and Anita Marso. Thanks Anita & Fred for the beautiful remembrance.

Board of Missions will be holding an Oatmeal Fundraiser to support members of the church headed to Hong Kong for a mission trip in the near future. Please join us **today** from 9:20-10:15. There will be a free will offering and any donation is appreciated. Oatmeal will be served with ice cream and peaches. Hope to see you there!

Aquatic Family Fun Night The Board of Parish Fellowship is sponsoring a Family Fun Night at the Oahe Aquatics Center on January 15th, 2017 from 6:00-8:30 pm. Friends are welcome. There is a sign-up sheet on the information table in the Narthex so they might be able to order enough pizza for all who attend.



17th Annual Christmas Concert featuring Surprise Package will be held on Sunday, December 18 at 2:30 pm at the First United Methodist Church located at 117 N Central Avenue. Free admission and free-will donations will be accepted.

Main Street Living Did you know the Main Street Living program is broadcast throughout South Dakota and into bordering states on two TV stations: KDLT in Sioux Falls at 10:00 AM central and KEVN at 8:00 AM Mountain time in Rapid City?

Kid's Crossings-Kid's Crossing tells the story of Hans, the shoemaker, as he learns that the true meaning of Christmas is found in giving. Join us for "Red Boots for Christmas"

December 18, 2016-Rev. Daniel Dearduff of Blessed Redeemer Lutheran Church in Brandon, South Dakota brings us today's message "God With Us...Do You Believe It?", based on Matthew

1: 18-25. The Main Street Living Choir will lead the singing of: A Great and Mighty Wonder; Oh Come, Oh Come Emmanuel; and O Little Town of Bethlehem. The program is interpreted and closed captioned for the hearing impaired.

Life Quotes “As Christmas approaches, I’m reminded of another man more than 2,000 years ago who also made a difficult choice about a mother and a baby. Joseph could have cut and run, but he didn’t. When men commit themselves to stand for life and for their families, they experience blessings far greater than wealth and fame.” *Bradley Mattes, executive director of Life Issues Institute – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

Faith Lutheran Youth - F.L.Y.

Here’s what happening with the youth of Faith Lutheran....



Acolytes for November

December 18

Early: Rebecca Norris, Kenzie Trujillo

Late: Britney Hicks, Bailey Siebrasse

Cassie Axtell, Biale Siebrasse, Samantha Axtell

December 24 Christmas Eve

5:00 (need 5) Nathan Shoup, Tucker Berens,
Joseph King, Daniel Voita, Cassandra
VanDeWiele

***December 25 Christmas Day - *Worship
time subject to change potentially***

10:00 a.m. Kassie Tronvold, Kailee Schultz

December 31 New Year’s Eve

6:30 Trever Hayes, Adam Schochnemaier

7:30 (need 5) Hannah Lingle, Megan Pease,

*An acolyting schedule has been sent to each high school family for 2016/2017. If your high schooler did not receive one please let Pastor Baumann know! This list is complete through the end of June 2017. A sub list with contact information was also included in a golden rod packet of paper. If acolytes are not able to be present for their assigned day, it is their responsibility to call someone else to find a replacement and then notify the church office. Thank you so very much!

Verse(s) of the Week: (NIV)

Luke 22:19b “This is My body given for you; do this in remembrance of Me.”

→ PRAYERS of all types and sorts:

In your prayers this week, we lift up before our Good and Gracious God: this Church and all those who serve and worship here, that God would keep us faithful to His commands

and guide us toward loving acts of service and also lead us in the midst of the Calling of a Senior Pastor. Bless and keep the man and his family that have been called.

Lord in Your mercy...Hear our prayer.

Reminder to Parents There will be **NO** Sunday School class Dec. 18th or the 25th of Jan. 1st for the holidays!

→ **Advent Services and Midweek Class:** This year, the Advent Worship services leading up to Christmas will take a different start time than in years past. On Wed. Dec: 21st Advent Services will begin at 6:30 p.m. instead of 7:55 pm and end in roughly 45 minutes or less. No Midweek classes on Dec. 21st.

→ **Youth in 1st through 5th grade...** Pastor Baumann invites you to join him on Friday, January 27th from 6 to 8 p.m. in the gym at Faith Lutheran. We will be having Root Beer Floats, Games, and Tie-dyeing t-shirts. It's a fun opportunity to get together for some activity and fellowship with those our own age. The only thing you can bring besides yourself... is a white t-shirt to tie-dye, oh...and bring a friend too! The rest will be provided. Parents are certainly welcome to come, help out, and stay for the two hours. Can't wait to see you!

→ **8th Graders** are welcomed to join HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP please just come Wednesdays at 8 pm in the gym unless directed otherwise!!!

→ **HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP** meets every Wednesday @ 8:00 p.m. at faith. Open to anyone in high school and is intended to be a safe place where high school aged youth can come together to spend time and fellowship together as young Christians each week. Pastor Baumann and Michael Shoup co-lead the group and love to spend time with each person that comes. If you have an activity that you would like to do, please let either of us know! Creativity is welcome!

Upcoming Youth Dates to Keep In Mind:

Dec. 18, 25, Jan. 1 → No Sunday School Class

Dec. 21 & 28 → No Midweek Classes

Dec. 24th → Christmas Eve Worship - 5:00 / 7:30

Dec. 25th → Christmas Day Worship – 10:00 a.m.

Jan. 1st → New Year's Day Worship – 10:00 a.m.

Jan. 4th → Midweek Resumes

Jan. 8th → Sunday School Resumes

On the Lighter Side...

A boy asks his father, "Dad, are bugs good to eat?"

"That's disgusting — don't talk about things like that over dinner," the dad replies.

After dinner the father asks, "Now, son, what did you want to ask me?"

"Oh, nothing," the boy says. "There was a bug in your soup, but now it's gone."





Christmas Eve Worship
5:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

Christmas Day Worship
With Holy Communion
10:00 a.m. only

New Year's Eve Worship
With Holy Communion
6:30 p.m.

New Year's Day Worship
With Holy Communion
10:00 a.m. only

Congregational Prayers

Dottie Bossman
Martha Vance
Ben Shoup
Richard Zoller
Julian Olson
Elaine Phillips
Gene Schlichenmayer
Mike Youngberg
Zoe Jones
Signe Gaasch (Urbach's) 5/2/16
Elaine Wagner 6/30/16
Greg Iversen 7/10/16
Jeannette Protexter 7/18/16
David Peterson 8/26/16
Ripley Olson (Alberta Olson) 8/4/16
Doyle Charron (Jochim) 8/8/16
Ron Lawrence 8/14/16
Jim Steele 8/14/16
Red Westall 8/21/16
Jennifer Moser (Darline Fuoss) 9/4/16
Logan Krause (Kenefick-Aschoff) 9/4/16
Phil Baker 10/02/16
Myrna Hartmann 10/02/16
Grace Erickson (Mark Erickson) 10/9/16
Jodi Williams 10/17/16
Betty Fuhrman (Sheri Adney's mom)
10/23/16
Phyllis Barber (John Barber) 10/25/16
Susan Bennett 10/31/16
Richard Adney 10/31/16
Ginger Niemann 11/10/16
Jill Burger 11/10/16
Betty Lindquist 11/10/16
Cliff Thorn 11/16/16
Rene Liegl 12/5/16
Meghan Merrill 12/6/16
Lance Hildebrandt (Liza Frederick)
12/13/16

Missionaries

Pastor Andrew Utecht and Pastor Albert Sutton and their families on the Rosebud and Pine Ridge Reservations

Pastor Matthew Nix

Pastor Alan Ludwig – Siberia, Russia

Janet Borchard – Papua New Guinea

Pastor Daniel Jastram – Japan

Baptisms

Sutton Everett Boyle, son of Joshua Boyle & Megan Schaap.

Brodie Carl Rathbun, son of Carlie Rathbun.

Tyler James Carl Rathbun, son of Nathan Eckstrom & Jordain Rathbun.

Comfort *Deut. 34:8*

Wanda (Erbe) Hughes and family upon the death of her husband Don Hughes. 11/28/16

Marilyn Penrod and family upon the death of her son Richard Penrod. 12/4/16

Rick Newman and family upon the death of his wife Barb Newman. 12/5/16

The Christian Church on Earth that it may grow and prosper and especially for the safety of Christians in Somalia, Yemen, Pakistan and Afghanistan.

If you have not
already done so,
PLEASE pick up
your 2017
offering
envelopes today.