

THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

January 5, 2024 A.D.
Faith Ev. Lutheran Church – Pierre, SD
Website: www.faithluth.com
Email: faith@faithluth.com
Church Phone – (605) 224-2216

Rev. Sam Handschke – (314) 489-9181
Senior Pastor
Rev. Brad Urbach – (605) 280-2838
Visitation Pastor
Church Fax – (605) 224-2226



*A Christ Caring People Who Gather Around Word and Sacrament,
Yoked Together, In Personal Service to Christ in Worldwide Missions*



✠ DIVINE SERVICE ✠

OPENING HYMN "Songs of Thankfulness and Praise" (LSB 394)

INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

CONFESSION *and* ABSOLUTION

- C** Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.
- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

✠ WORD ✠

INTROIT

Psalm 45:6–8a; antiphon: v. 17

- P** I will cause Your name to be remembered in all generations; therefore nations will praise You forever and ever.
- C** Your throne, O God, is forever and ever. The scepter of Your kingdom is a scepter of uprightness;
- P** You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness.

C Therefore God, Your God, has anointed You with the oil of gladness beyond Your companions; Your robes are all fragrant with myrrh and aloes and cassia.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

P I will cause Your name to be remembered in all generations;

C therefore nations will praise You forever and ever.

KYRIE



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

LSB 946 Glory to God, We Give You Thanks and Praise



1 Glo - ry to God, we give You thanks and praise;
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, the Fa - ther's on - ly Son,
3 A - lone, O Christ, You on - ly are the Lord,



Of heav'n - ly joy and earth - ly peace we sing.
You bore for us the load of this world's sin.
At God's right hand in maj - es - ty most high:



We wor - ship You, to You our hearts we raise,
O Lamb of God, Your glo - rious vic - t'ry won,
Who with the Spir - it wor - shiped and a - dored,



Lord God, al - might - y Fa - ther, heav'n - ly King.
Re - ceive our prayer, grant us Your peace with - in.
With all the heav'n - ly host we glo - ri - fy.

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SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray. Almighty God, You have poured into our hearts the true Light of Your incarnate Word. Grant that this Light may shine forth in our lives; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

✠ **WORD** ✠

OLD TESTAMENT *Isaiah 60:1-6* (Isaiah boldly predicts that nations from everywhere would come to the light of their Messiah, which they have and still are doing.)

After the reading:

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

"No Eye Had Seen" (Smith/Grant, arr. L. Larson)
Helen Kiepke, vocal soloist

EPISTLE *Ephesians 3:1-12* (He was revealed to and for the Gentiles as well as the Jews.)

After the reading:

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 2:1-12* (The wickedness of Herod, the flight to Egypt, and the slaughter of the innocents, fulfilling prophecy.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

After the reading:

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

BIBLE LESSON

SERMON HYMN

"The First Noel"

1. The first No-el, the an-gel did say, Was to cer-tain poor shep-herds in fields as they lay; In fields where they lay keep-ing their sheep, On a cold win-ter's night that was so deep.

Refrain: No-el, No-el, No-el, No-el, Born is the King of Is-ra-el.

2. They look-ed up and saw a star Shin-ing in the east, be-yond them far, And to the earth it gave great light, And so it con-tin-ued both day and night. **Refrain**
3. And by the light of that same star Three wise-men came from coun-try far; To seek for a king was their in-tent, And to fol-low the star where-ev-er it went. **Refrain**
4. This star drew nigh to the north-west, O'er Beth-le-hem it took its rest, And there it did both stop and stay, Right ov-er the place where Je-sus lay. **Refrain**
5. Then en-tered in those wise-men three, Full rev-er-ent-ly up-on the knee, And of-fered there, in his pres-ence, Their gold and myrrh and frank-in-cense. **Refrain**

SERMON

"Star Light, Star Bright"

(Matthew 2:1-12)

Pastor Brad Urbach

CREED

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Inside back cover of the Lutheran Service Book

OFFERING AND SHARING GOD'S PEACE

(Please stand)

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH



- P** Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Holy God, eternal Light, the darkness of sin covers the earth and its peoples. Let the light of the Gospel lead us to Him who was born King of the Jews. Give us humble and grateful hearts that bow down and worship Him and willingly offer the most precious gifts we have to give. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C** hear our prayer.

- P** From distant lands and far off places, You gather a people to bear Your name and live in the light of Your Word. Bless the Church, that she may be united in doctrine, live in harmony and peace, and labor to bring the light of Christ to those still dwelling in darkness and death. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C** hear our prayer.

- P** You have established Your Church and drawn into her people from every race, tribe and nation. Bless those entrusted with the leadership of the Church. Give to pastors and missionaries the boldness of Your Spirit, that they may proclaim the saving truth of Your Word without fear. Bless those who hear, that they may be brought to faith. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C** hear our prayer.

- P** Holy God, eternal Light, the psalmist begged that You would endow the king with Your justice. Grant the same gift to the leaders of our nation and every nation. Fill them with wisdom, compassion and care, so that, unlike Herod, they would seek to uphold life and watch over the welfare of the governed. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C** hear our prayer.

- P** Give to all people the comfort of Your presence, healing according to Your will, relief in suffering, and an end to the terrors of mind and heart. *[We pray especially for _____ and those we name in our hearts.]* Sustain the weary with Your Word, the wounded with hope and the dying with peace. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C** hear our prayer.

- P** You have made us Your chosen people, members of Christ's Body, co-heirs with Him of all the riches of Your grace, including the privilege of this holy table. Bless our communion in Christ and bring peace and unity, that we may see the day when

no divisions prevent us from kneeling in Your presence and receiving this blessed Sacrament for the life and salvation of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P May Your light shine on us and bring forth the fruits of repentance in our daily lives. Give us confidence in Your Word, that we would embrace Your holy will without fear. Hear and answer us, we pray, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

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.

IN REGARD TO HOLY COMMUNION: According to Scripture, Holy Communion should be celebrated by those who are: **United in a common faith** (1 Cor. 10:16-17, 21-22; Rom. 16:17); **Repentant of sins** (1 Cor. 5:11, Matt. 18:17-18); **Able to examine their lives** (1 Cor. 11:27-29); and believe that in this precious meal they **receive the true body and blood of Jesus** given and shed for the forgiveness of their sins (Luke 22:19-22).



Since Scripture teaches that those people who do not fully understand the meaning of this meal eat and drink to their own harm (1Cor. 11:27-29), and because the Lord's Supper is the supreme act of stating our unity in faith and doctrine, we would ask those people who are visiting with us to **please speak with our pastors**, before communing, in order that we might fulfill our responsibility of properly instructing people in the right use of the precious Sacrament.

Communion Distribution: We offer both the common cup and individual cup. If you desire to receive Jesus' blood in the common cup, you are invited to come forward in the first group (after the Elders and Pastors receive communion). If you desire to receive his blood in the individual cups, you may remain in your seat and the Ushers will dismiss you row by row. If you desire to receive Jesus' body and blood in your seat, please let one of our Ushers know and we will bring you communion at the end of the distribution.

✠ **SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT** ✠
Both services

WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matt 26:26–28; Mk 14:22–24; Lk 22:19–20; 1 Cor 11:23–25

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

(Please be seated)

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“As With Gladness, Men of Old” (LSB 397)

“Here, O My Lord, I See Thee Face to Face” (LSB 631)



(Please stand)

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P Let us pray. Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICAMUS and BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24–26

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.





CLOSING HYMN "The Star Proclaims the King Is Here" (LSB 399)

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ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS



AS WE GATHER Have you ever received a surprise present, one that was out of your own price range to get? That, in a nutshell, describes Epiphany. The Wise Men came to give presents, and instead received one their wealth could not have bought. We are included in this. We are baptized for the forgiveness of sins by His blood on the cross that covers our sins, once for all. That water and blood give us the greatest—and most expensive—gift in the world. Here we see Jesus revealed, manifested, in a star, in the coming of the Magi and the gifts they bring.

*Since all He comes to ransom, By all be He adored,
The infant born in Bethl'em, The Savior and the Lord.
Proclaim the Savior's birth: "To God on high be glory And peace to all the earth!"*
LSB 383:4

If there are prayer concerns for you, your family, your friends, or your neighbors, please put them on the back of the blue attendance/communion card.
Our Board of Elders are prayerful with our pastors about these joys and struggles of our earthly journey.
"The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective." James 5:16b

Welcome to Faith Evangelical Lutheran on this Second Sunday after Christmas! 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.

Preaching this morning is Rev. Brad Urbach, our Visitation Pastor. Rev. Sam Handschke is our Liturgist.

Holy Communion is celebrated at both services this Sunday. In this Sacrament, our Lord gives His true body and blood for our forgiveness. Those who confess the faith declared at this altar and who desire to receive communion today are asked to read our communion statement found in the bulletin. Thank you.



STEWARDSHIP CORNER

Wed. Dec. 18, Att. 128; Offering \$690.22; **Sun., Dec. 22, Att. 272;** General Fund \$10,236.14; Sunday School \$.90; Building Fund \$100.00; Love Fund \$105.05; Contingency Fund \$100.00; Security System \$800.00; Bible Study Books \$50.00; Refund \$34.84; Mexico Mission \$1,100.00; Thanksgiving \$25.00; LYF \$281.00; Flowers \$200.00; Endowment Fund in memory of Fred Marso (Blessings) \$100.00.

Tues. Dec. 24 Christmas Eve, Att. 590; Offering \$7,098.40;
Wed., Dec. 25 Christmas Day, Att. 78; Offering \$2,520.00.

Sun., Dec. 29, Att. 264; General Fund \$57,951.83; Building Fund \$25.00; Love Fund \$100.00; Contingency Fund \$100.00; Security System \$11,500.00; Bible Study \$50.00; Refund \$666.63; Mexico Mission \$1,250.00; Bus Maintenance \$400.00; TIM \$1000.00; Flowers \$25.00; Lutheran Family Services \$2,000.00; New Year's Eve \$425.00; Endowment Fund (Blessings) \$3,500.00; Endowment Fund in memory of Fred Marso (Blessings) \$50.00.

Thank You-By the Numbers

\$80,080.00. The past year our Sanctuary Heating and Cooling system was replaced. The cost of \$80,080.00 was paid for by our church family over and above our general budget. THANK YOU. **\$30,080.00** was the cost of a new security system. It added cameras and new locks because of a break-in to our church. As of last week, we had \$18,557 toward this. We had a number of families generously pay off the balance. So, to all of you a big THANK YOU!

\$45,000.00. This is our Mission commitment to District and Synod. At the end of our calendar year, we have fully met our mission commitment. That helps our District and Synod mission work we could not do on our own. THANK YOU.

\$654, 833.00 was our Work Program for 2024. We don't spend it all, rather it is a goal of what we would desire to do. By the end of 2024 we have met all of Faith's commitments. THANK YOU!

So-
By the Numbers
THANK YOU!

First Sunday of the Month Morning Coffee is hosted by our Board of Stewardship. Get a star cookie and a cup of coffee and enjoy a big THANK YOU. Normally Priscilla Circle would serve this first Sunday, but they have graciously deferred to serve our “Second” Sunday of the month coffee. Thank you, Priscilla Circle!

Offering Envelopes The 2025 offering envelopes are on the tables in the Narthex. *Please pick yours up today.* Even if you give on-line there are additional envelopes you can use: Building, Endowment, Special Missions, Lent and Advent. The use of envelopes is helpful for our counters and posters. If you don’t use envelopes, it is helpful if you put your envelope number on your check. **A few new boxes were put out on Monday. Check to see if yours are there. If not, let Helen know or leave a note in the office on her desk.**

Main Street Living “Main Street Living” is a liturgical worship service broadcasting a different local pastor each Sunday morning. It airs along with the classic Lutheran Hour program, “This is the Life.” Both can be viewed on KDLT (NBC) & KEVN (FOX) Visit www.mainstreetliving.com to view current and past episodes. **Did you know** you can see the Worship Service and Kid's Crossing on our website at anytime? All programs are streamed on www.mainstreetliving.com, and are available the day before they are broadcast.

Jan. 5, 2025

“The Other Wiseman” - Another Magi, making his journey to the Christ child, encounters others and shows kindness along the way.

10:30 AM - Reverend David Otten, pastor at Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Gettysburg, South Dakota presents a message titled “Lost Child.” This sermon is based on Luke 2:49. This program is interpreted and closed captioned for the deaf and hard of hearing. For more information visit: www.mainstreetliving.com

Life Quotes “Let the peace of Christ change how you live—clothing yourself with godly virtues reflecting a thankful heart. Carry this peace that the angels proclaimed and Simeon saw. It sets the tone for the coming year, another year you get to live as God’s child in the peace of Jesus.” *Rev. Peter Sulzle, St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls, Minnesota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

Faith Lutheran Youth

Sunday School resumes today. Midweek resumes Wednesday, January 8th.

This Week at Faith Lutheran

Today: January 5

8:30 am Communion
9:30 am First Sunday Fellowship
9:45 am Sunday School/Adult Study
11:00 am Worship
5:00 pm Bd. of Parish Fellowship
6:00 pm Board of Elders

Mon: Jan. 6

7:00 pm Men's Club in gym

Tues: Jan. 7

8:00 am Staff Devotions
10:30 am Women's Bible Study
5-7 pm SC Youth BB

Wed: Jan. 8

6:00 pm Midweek/Catechism
6:00 pm *Luke* Bible Study
6:00 pm *Jeremiah/Lamentations* Study

6:30 pm *Jesus* Bible Study in homes

7:00 pm Chapel/Communion

8:00 pm LYF

Thurs: Jan. 9

8:00 am Staff Devotions

11:30 am Ministerium

6-8 pm MOPS

7:00 pm Faith Circle

Sun: Jan. 12

8:30 am Worship

9:45 am Sunday School/Adult Study

11:00 am Communion

11:00 am Board of Missions/Evang.

2-5 pm Softball



EPIPHANY OF THE LORD