

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD: CHRISTMAS EVE

December 24, 2025 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*



✠ DIVINE SERVICE ✠

PROCESSIONAL HYMN "O Come, All Ye Faithful" (LSB 379)
(All turn towards the back of the church to face the cross. Continue facing the cross as it enters the sanctuary until it is placed in front of the altar)

- 1 O come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold Him Born the king of angels: **Refrain**
- ref O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!**
- 2 Highest, most holy, Light of Light eternal,
Born of a virgin, a mortal He comes;
Son of the Father Now in flesh appearing! **Refrain**
- 3 Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God In the highest: **Refrain**
- 4 Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, Born this happy morning;
Jesus, to Thee be glory giv'n!
Word of the Father Now in flesh appearing! **Refrain**

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INVOCATION AND LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P On this holy night, we light all four candles and the center candle, on the Advent wreath. The Light of the World has come to make his home with us. Jesus Christ is born!

C Shine through the darkness and light our path to you, O Lord.

P The Son of God humbled himself to dwell with us. The newborn Savior was wrapped in swaddling cloths and laid in a manger in Bethlehem when there was no other place for him. The infant King was welcomed by Mary and Joseph, worshipped by shepherds and praised by angels. Tonight, we join them in glorifying our Emmanuel. To us a Child is born, to us a Son is given!

C Enlighten us, O Lord, with your presence every day of our lives and forevermore.



CONFESSION *and* ABSOLUTION

P Let us come before our Lord this night to confess our sins:

C O Lord, since Adam and Eve sinned in the Garden of Eden, the human race has been sinful, and we know that we are sinners, and we are sincerely sorry for disobeying you in so many ways. We have not followed the Ten Commandments, we have not loved you and others as we ought, we have not respected and honored your precious gifts to us. We kneel at your manger and humbly confess our sins, seeking your forgiveness and love.

P Children of God, I have good news of great joy for you today. Because of the birth of the Christ Child who has come to save us, through his death on the cross, your sins are forgiven. Your misdeeds are erased. Your wayward behavior has been taken away forever. You are free to live a new life in his mercy and grace.

C Amen.

SALUTATION *and* COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray. Almighty God, as you made this night glad with the songs of angels and filled it with the brightness of the true Light, let the Light of Christ shine among us

that we, too, may give you everlasting praise; through Christ who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

(Please be seated)

AN OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 35:1-10 (The Ransomed Shall Return)

35 The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus; 2 it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God.

3 Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees.

4 Say to those who have an anxious heart, "Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you."

5 Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

6 then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy. For waters break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down, the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

8 And a highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Way of Holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it. It shall belong to those who walk on the way; even if they are fools, they shall not go astray.[\[a\]](#)

9 No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there.

10 And the ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy,

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

P Who knew?

C Isaiah knew.

ANTHEM	2:00 pm	"Celebrate the Child" (arr. Stan Pethel) Moriah Gross, violin soloist
	5:00 pm	"How Far Is It to Bethlehem" (arr. Fettke, Grassi) Helen Kiepke, vocal soloist
	7:30 pm	"One Small Child" (David Meece) Andrew Wulf, flute soloist

AN OLD TESTAMENT READING Micah 5:2-5 (A Promised Ruler from Bethlehem)

² ^[a] But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days.

³ Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has given birth; then the rest of his brothers shall return to the people of Israel.

⁴ And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth.

⁵ And he shall be their peace.

[L] This is the Word of the Lord.

[C] Thanks be to God.

[P] Who knew?

[C] Micah knew.

(Please stand)

HOLY GOSPEL Luke 2:1-20 (The birth of Jesus Christ)

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

[C] Glory to You, O Lord.

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ And all went to be registered, each to his own town. ⁴ And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, ⁵ to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. ⁶ And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. ⁷ And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in

Sa-ges, leave your con-tem-pla-tions, Bright-er vi-sions beam a-far;
Seek the great De-sire of na-tions, Ye have seen His na-tal star. **Refrain.**

Saints be-fore the al-tar bend-ing, Watch-ing long in hope and fear,
Sud-den-ly the Lord, de-scend-ing, In His tem-ple shall ap-pear. **Refrain.**

All cre-a-tion, join in prais-ing God the Fa-ther, Spir-it, Son,
Ev-er-more your voic-es rais-ing To the e-ter-nal Three in One. **Refrain.**

SERMON

*"Who Knew?"
Pastor Brad Urbach*

(Isaiah 12:1-6)

HYMN OF RESPONSE "Angels We Have Heard on High" (LSB 368)

An-gels we have heard on high, Sweet-ly sing-ing o'er the plains,
And moun-tains in re-ply, Ech-o-ing their joy-ous strains.

Refrain: Glo - - - - ri-a in ex-cel-sis De - o.
Glo - - - - ri-a in ex-cel-sis De - o.

Shep-herds, why this ju-bi-lee? Why your joy-ous strains pro-long?
What the glad-some tid-ings be Which in-spire your heav'n-ly song? **Refrain.**

Come to Beth-le-hem and see Him whose birth the an-gels sing;
Come, a-dore on bend-ed knee Christ the Lord, the new-born King. **Refrain.**

APOSTLES' CREED

C I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, The holy Christian Church, the community of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERING AND GREETING OF ONE ANOTHER

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P Lord Jesus, we thank you for the great joy of this night. Fill our hearts with excitement for you. Let us love one another and you with all our hearts. Bring gladness to the saddened. Bring rejoicing to the weeping. Bring laughter to the groaning. On this holy night, be a beacon of heavenly light. O Jesus Christ, the Good News of Great Joy,



C come and make your home within our hearts.

P Lord Jesus, warm the homes of all who gather here and bring families and friends together in love and thankfulness to you for all your blessings to them. Fill living rooms, dining rooms, family rooms and kitchens with festive celebrations that honor you as the reason for the season and the source of all our joy. O Jesus Christ, the Good News of Great Joy,

C come and make your home within our hearts.

P Lord Jesus, we pray this night for those who are away from home or cannot be home for Christmas. Remind them that they are loved. Reveal to them your graciousness. Connect them from afar with family and friends through phone calls and FaceTime and Zoom sessions. Make your presence known to them that they may feel at home with you, O Jesus Christ, the Good News of Great Joy,

C come and make your home within our hearts.

P Lord Jesus, our hearts go out to those who do not have a home to go to this Christmas. Guide them to services and shelters that can house them and help them. Allow us to be of service to them by providing clothing and food and other resources that they need to survive in this world. And may they abide with you. O Jesus Christ, the Good News of Great Joy,

C come and make your home within our hearts.

P Lord Jesus, for these and all other things we ask, we give you thanks, trusting in your mercy to make your dwelling place in every dwelling place where your spirit rests.

C Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

“Hark the Herald Angels Sing”

(LSB 380)

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, Join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold Him come, Offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see, Hail the incarnate Deity!
Pleased as Man with man to dwell, Jesus, our Immanuel!
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings, Ris'n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by, Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

“Away in a Manger”

(LSB 365)

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the sky--looked down where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

Be near me, Lord Je-sus; I ask Thee to stay
Close by me for-ever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear child-ren in Thy ten-der care,
And take us to heav-en to live with Thee there.

"Go Tell It on the Mountain"

(LSB 388)

**Refrain: Go tell it on the moun-tain, O-ver the hills and ev'ry-where;
Go tell it on the moun-tain That Jesus Christ is born!**

While shep-herds kept their watch-ing O'er si-lent flocks by night,
Be-hold, through-out the heav-ens There shone a ho-ly light. **Refrain.**

The shep-herds feared and trem-bled When lo, a-bove the earth
Rang out the an-gel cho-rus That hailed our Sav-ior's birth. **Refrain.**

Down in a lone-ly man-ger The hum-ble Christ was born;
And God sent us sal-va-tion That bless-ed Christ-mas morn. **Refrain.**

LIGHTING OF THE CHRISTMAS CANDLES

*The light for our candles is taken from the Christ candle on the Advent wreath.
Jesus the light of the World has come! As we share that light, we remember that
Jesus calls us to be lights in the world, to share the Good News of salvation with
others.*

*As the light is passed down the aisle, always tip the unlit candle toward the burning
candle. Keep the burning candle upright to prevent wax from dripping. The lights in
the sanctuary will be dimmed as we sing and rejoice our Savior's birth.*

HYMN

"Silent Night, Holy Night"

(LSB 363)

1. Si-lent night, ho-ly night! All is calm, all is bright
Round yon vir-gin moth-er and child. Ho-ly In-fant, so ten-der and mild,
Sleep in heav-en-ly peace, Sleep in heav-en-ly peace.
2. Si-lent night, ho-ly night! Shep-herds quake at the sight;
Glo-ries stream from heav-en a-far, Heav'n-ly hosts sing, Al-le-lu-ia!
Christ, the Sav-ior is born! Christ, the Sav-ior is born!
3. Si-lent night, ho-ly night! Son of God, love's pure light
Ra-diant beams from Thy ho-ly face With the dawn of re-deem-ing grace,
Je-sus, Lord, at Thy birth, Je-sus, Lord, at Thy birth.

BENEDICTION

P The Almighty and merciful God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you and bring you great peace and joy now and forever.

C Amen.



RECESSIONAL HYMN

"Joy to the World"

(LSB 387)

(All face the cross as it leaves the sanctuary, reminding us that we follow Christ from this place. Once the cross has left, you may face the front of the sanctuary)

- 1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.
- 2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let men their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
- 3 No more let sins and sorrows grow Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found, Far as, far as the curse is found.
- 4 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love, And wonders, wonders of His love.

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CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

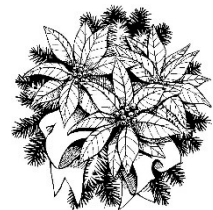
John & Carlene Barber
The Fosheim family
The Fosheim family
Hinckley & Dunn families
Marrill & Sandy Bales
Tim & Jan Larson
The Monfore family
Tony & Melissa Neyhart

Randy & Jodi Hartmann
Pastor Brad & Susan Urbach
Doreen & Ron Kayser

Bob & Deb Green
Sheridan Hansen, Tiger & Cece
Daris & Kelsey Kampfe
Mary Lou Dunwoody
Melodee, Michael & Ann Shoup
Anita Marso

Terry, Clareen & Karrie James
Lois Erbe & family
Diane Hansen & family
Dale & Donna Gohl
Char Russell

In thanksgiving for family
In memory of Vic Fosheim
In memory of Judy Gerig
In memory of Robert 'Mal' Hinckley
In thanksgiving for our family
In thanksgiving for faithful parents
In memory of Brooks
In memory of John Sundahl, Trevor Sundahl
and Kurt Neyhart
In thanksgiving for a growing family
In thanksgiving for our parents
In memory of JoAnn Sanders & Margaret
Kayser
In memory of Forrest & Alice Wixon
In memory of Gloria Hansen
In memory of son Noah
In memory of husband Dick
In memory of parents, Ben & Loni Shoup
In memory of Fred Marso Sr. & Freddie
Marso Jr.
In thanksgiving for family
In memory of Jerry Erbe
In memory of David Hansen
In thanksgiving for family
In memory of Jim Russell & Shirley English





**Join us tomorrow morning at 9:00
for our Christmas Worship
“In Our Hearts”**