



# First Lutheran Church

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Sunday, December 12, 2021 · 8:30 AM · 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

# WELCOME

*Christ's presence in our midst in the wonder of the holy supper is cause for singing. The nearness of the God in prayer, in every circumstance, is cause for rejoicing. The coming of one "more powerful" than John, even with a winnowing fork in hand, is good news and cause for exultation for us who are being saved. Great joy is the tone for the third Sunday of Advent.*

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

## INVOCATION

### ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING & HYMN

*Light One Candle*

ELW #240 vs. 3

- 3 Light three candles to watch for Messiah: let the light banish darkness.  
Lift your heads and lift high the gateway for the King of glory.

### GATHERING HYMN

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

ELW #257 vs. 5 & 6

- 5 O come, O Key of David, come, and open wide our heav'nly home;  
make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.

**Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

- 6 O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer; O Sun of justice, now draw near.  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadow put to flight.

**Refrain**

## CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

**P/C: God for whom we wait, in the presence of one another, we confess our sin before you. We fail in believing that your good news is for us. We falter in our call to tend your creation. We find our sense of self in material wealth. We fear those different from ourselves. We forget that we are your children and turn away from your love. Forgive us, Blessed One, and assure us again of your saving grace. Amen.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**C: Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the preaching of John, that, rejoicing in your salvation, we may bring forth the fruits of repentance; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## HYMN OF PRAISE

*What Child is This?*

ELW #296

- 1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping?  
This, this is Christ the king, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!
- 2 Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.  
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;  
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mary!
- 3 So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, peasant, king, to own him.  
The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.  
Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby;  
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!

## FIRST READING

*Zephaniah 3:17-20*

**RESPONSIVE READING***Isaiah 12:2-6*

R: Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid, for the Lord God is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation.

**C: With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.**

R: And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name; make known his deeds among the nations; proclaim that his name is exalted.

**C: Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth.**

R: Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

**SECOND READING***Philippians 4:4-7*

R: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION***On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry*

ELW #249 vs. 5

All praise to you, eternal Son, whose advent  
has our freedom won, whom with the Father  
we adore, and Holy Spirit, evermore.

**GOSPEL READING***Luke 3:7-18*

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

Pr. Lauryl Ivers

**HYMN OF THE DAY***Joy to the World*

ELW #267

- 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 all 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 sin and sorrow 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.

**STATEMENT OF FAITH***Apostles' Creed*

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

P: Lord in your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

**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.**

**SHARING OF PEACE**

**OFFERING & OFFERTORY PRAYER**

P/C: Loving God, receive this offering for the building up of your kingdom: the proclamation of your word and the loving of our neighbor. Amen.

**BENEDICTION**

**SENDING HYMN**

*Angels We Have Heard on High*

ELW #289

1 Angels we have heard on high,  
sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
and the mountains in reply,  
echoing their joyous strains.

**Refrain: 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?     **Refrain**

3 Come to Bethlehem and see  
him whose birth the angels sing;  
come, adore on bended knee  
Christ the Lord, the newborn king.     **Refrain**

**SENDING**

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.     **C: Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

**Join Us For Worship**

**Radio**—Broadcast on KDLM 1340-AM and 93.1-FM at 10:00 AM.

**Webcast**—Services are live-streamed on [firstlutheranchurch.com](http://firstlutheranchurch.com)

**In Person**—In the sanctuary Sundays at 8:30 AM or 10:45 AM & Wednesdays at 6 PM.

**Television**—On Saturdays at 9:00 AM on Arvig Cable channel 14.

**Donate via text**—Text amount with \$ sign to 218-228-0042. *(requires a one-time setup)*

**Donate online** at [www.firstlutheranchurch.com/give](http://www.firstlutheranchurch.com/give)

**Welcome Visitor!**

Date of Visit: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Street City State Zip Code*

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I am a guest of: \_\_\_\_\_ I am a member of: \_\_\_\_\_

I am interested in learning more about First Lutheran Church.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**ADVENT CONCERTS**—Wednesdays in Advent concert series is back! First Lutheran will host the Wednesdays in Advent series of mini-concerts for the season of Advent. Concert dates and times are December 15, & 22 from 12:05 PM to 12:30 PM each week. Musical performances will be given by a variety of area Musicians. Concerts will be offered both in person, and online through live streaming. Masks are recommended for in person concerts. These concerts are free and open to the public! All are welcome to attend!

**ORDER YOUR POINSETTIAS NOW!** - The Advent and Christmas season is made more beautiful when the church is filled with beautiful poinsettias. If you would like to share flowers, please complete a form, located in the church office, or on the table in the narthex. Cost is \$12 per plant. Order deadline is December 14th.

**CHRISTMAS AT OUR HOUSE** has been an important First Lutheran Church ministry for many years (until last year when Covid didn't allow us to offer this). We provide a full Christmas dinner, prepared at First Lutheran, and served to anyone in our community, at no cost. We distribute it after our Christmas Day Worship Service. This year we'd plan to make the dinner available as a curbside pick-up, or a delivery to local people unable to pick it up. Volunteers are needed to co-chair this ministry with Jim McCormack, and prepare, distribute, deliver and clean up on Christmas Day. Families are welcome to volunteer! If you're interested, contact Jim at [jkmdvm@gmail.com](mailto:jkmdvm@gmail.com).

**CHRISTMAS ANGEL TREE**—The Christmas Angel Tree Is Here! - Choose an angel from the tree in the commons before December 17th, write down your choice in the book, return the wrapped gift...and help others in our community!!

**JUBILATE CHOIR CANTATA**—The Jubilate Choir Cantata will be on Sunday, December 19 at both the 8:30 and 10:45 Worship Services. Please join us!

**CHRISTMAS TREAT SALE**—On Sunday, December 19 during the fellowship hour, the WFLC will be selling Christmas treats to fundraise for various causes in the community and around the world. They are looking for individuals willing to donate treats for them to sell. If you have treats to donate, please drop them off at the church on Friday, December 17 or Saturday, December 18 from 10 AM to 2 PM.

**CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SERVICES**— 3 PM Contemporary Worship, 4 to 5 PM Live Nativity, 5 PM Contemporary Worship, 6 PM Radio Broadcast Service on KDLM and 8 PM Traditional Candlelight Service.

**CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP SERVICE**—11 PM Worship Service.

**CHRISTMAS CAROLING CANCELLED**—Unfortunately due to COVID restrictions at local nursing homes, we are unable to do our annual Christmas Caroling on Wednesday, December 15. Instead we will serve a meal starting at 5:15 PM with a family movie beginning at 6 PM. We will be screening The Polar Express. Stay tuned to the FLC Facebook page, Emma's emails and texts for more information!

**HOMELESS AND FIRE VICTIM NEEDS**—All furniture, baby girl essentials & space heater.

**REMEMBER TO CHECK FOR VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**—Please sign up to volunteer for the many ministries of FLC at the Volunteer Table downstairs.

**WELCOME BABY GIGSTEAD**—Congrats to parents Daniel and Serena Gigstead for the birth of their baby boy Knox Daniel Gigstead born on November 29th.



### Prayers for God's People

Brent Blake  
Opal Hanson  
Ruth Balega  
Pam Magee  
Beverly Elletson  
Tae Sun Nygaard  
Robb Flint  
Brandon Goff  
Nadine Sagen  
Gene Prechel  
Baby Ella  
Frank Diaz  
Nick & Family  
Jim Mott  
Del Hultgren  
Marcia Otte  
Jan Fingalson  
Lyle Leegard  
Bob Jernberg  
Melvin

### Prayers of Comfort to the family of

Cleo Hames  
Josie Huseby,  
Mother of  
Betty Schroeder  
Ron Smedshammer,  
brother of  
Grace Dunham

*Names are kept on the prayer list for 3 weeks; please update the office, if you wish to remain on the list longer.*