

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP  
2022



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH  
JACKSONVILLE, IL

## Welcome to Christmas Eve Worship at Faith Lutheran Church!

We are so glad you have come to celebrate the good news of great joy for all in Jesus Christ. Here at Faith, our mission is to “respond to God’s grace flowing through Christ as we grow in faith and show Christ’s love.” We pray that God’s grace will touch you through your time with us. Here are a few things to help make your worship with us comfortable and meaningful.

- You will see that we love **music!** Our music is a gift we give to God, and we invite you to sing joyfully together. All of the lyrics are printed in this bulletin and will be projected on the screens. Some hymns are selected from the red hymnal in your pew and are indicated with “ELW” and hymn number. You may find the full score there if you would like to read the notes and sing harmony.
- In the sacrament of **Holy Communion**, we believe that Christ is truly present in the bread and wine with gifts of love, forgiveness of sins, and new life. We celebrate an open table and welcome all who share in this belief. An usher will invite your row forward. After you receive the bread, you may select a prefilled cup of red wine or white grape juice. Empty cups can be placed in the separate empty tray. If you would like to learn more about our beliefs and practices, please schedule a time to talk with Pastor Adam.
- While we will not be passing offering plates, we welcome your financial support and partnership in our ministry. **Offering boxes** are located in the gathering area.
- You were given a **candle** as you entered the sanctuary. We will light these at the conclusion of the service for our carol sing. Remember, in order to prevent burns, never tip a lit candle. If you did not receive a candle, please notify an usher.
- Last but not least, **restrooms** are located across the gathering area before the ramp.

Thank you for worshipping with us tonight. We pray that the Holy Spirit stirs within you as you experience the love and peace of God in Jesus, the Christ Child. Please join us again for worship soon.

### **Christmas Morning Worship**

December 25, 9:30 a.m.

### **Lessons and Carols for Christmas**

January 1, 9:30 a.m.

### **Sundays**

9:30 a.m. with Sunday School for all afterwards

# CHRISTMAS EVE 2022

**WELCOME**

**PRELUDE** – “Silent Night” – Exaltation Ringers

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** – “Emmanuel”

*Please stand and face the back of the sanctuary. Children are invited to come and join the procession and stay at the altar for the Children's Sermon. After the Faith Singers introduce our song, all may join in for the bold print.*

*Emmanuel, Emmanuel  
A child is born, A child is born  
Sing glory unto God on high  
Joy to all the world this night  
And to all people, peace, and to all people, peace  
Remember Him, oh, little star. Remember Him and shine  
Around the world, in every heart  
On this holy night, lead us to His light*

**Emmanuel, Emmanuel  
A child is born, A child is born  
Sing glory unto God on high  
Joy to all the world this night  
And to all people, peace, and to all people, peace  
Remember Him, the angels sing, and do not be afraid  
Into this world, good news we bring  
Love has overcome! Behold a Son!**

**Emmanuel, Emmanuel,  
A child is born, A child is born  
Sing glory unto God on high  
Joy to all the world this night  
And to all people, peace, and to all people, peace**

## **\*BIDDING PRAYER FOR CHRISTMASTIDE**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Beloved in Christ, this Christmastide, it is our duty and delight to prepare ourselves to hear again the message of the angels, and to go in heart and mind to Bethlehem, and see this thing which has come to pass, and the Babe lying in a manger. Therefore, let us hear again from Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our sin until the glorious redemption brought us by this holy Child; and let us make this house of prayer glad with our carols of praise.

But first, because this of all things would bring joy to Jesus' heart, let us pray to him for the needs of the whole world, and all his people;

For peace upon the earth he came to save;

For love and unity within the one Church he built;

For goodwill among all peoples.

**C: Hear us, good Lord.**

P: And particularly at this time let us remember the poor, the cold, the hungry, the oppressed; the sick and those who mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the little children; and all who don't know the Lord Jesus or have grieved God's heart of love.

**C: Hear us, good Lord.**

P: Lastly, we remember all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore and in a greater light, that multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in this Lord Jesus, we forevermore are one.

**C: Hear us, good Lord.**

P: Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. We pray that you would allow us to walk here on earth in the light of Jesus' presence, and in the last day wake to the brightness of your glory – in the name of the Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

## *He will be our PEACE*

**\*PROCESSIONAL SONG** – “Before the Marvel of this Night”

Before the marvel of this night, adoring, fold your wings and bow,  
Then tear the sky apart with light, and with your news the world endow.  
Proclaim the birth of Christ and peace, that fear and death and sorrow cease:  
Sing peace, sing peace, sing gift of peace, sing peace, sing gift of peace!

Awake the sleeping world with song, this is the day the Lord has made.  
Assemble here, celestial throng, in royal splendor come arrayed.  
Give earth a glimpse of heav'nly bliss, a teasing taste of what they miss:  
Sing bliss, sing bliss, sing endless bliss, sing bliss, sing endless bliss!

The love that we have always known, our constant joy and endless light,  
Now to the loveless world be shown, now break upon its deathly night.  
Into one song compress the love, that rules our universe above:  
Sing love, sing love, sing God is love, sing love, sing God is love!

### **CHILDREN’S SERMON**

**FIRST READING** – Isaiah 9:2-4, 6-7

Reader: Barb Davenport

<sup>2</sup>The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. <sup>3</sup>You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. <sup>4</sup>For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. <sup>6</sup>For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. <sup>7</sup>His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Reader: The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God!**

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION – “Holy Child Within the Manger”**

1. **Holy Child within the manger, long ago yet ever near;  
come as friend to ev’ry stranger, come as hope for ev’ry fear.  
As you lived to heal the broken, greet the outcast, free the bound,  
as you taught us love unspoken, teach us now where you are found.**
2. **Once again we tell the story – how your love for us was shown,  
when the image of your glory wore an image like our own.  
Come, enlighten with your wisdom, come and fill us with your grace.  
May the fire of your compassion kindle ev’ry land and race.**

**\*GOSPEL – Luke 2:1-14**

<sup>1</sup>In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>All went to their own towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup>Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. <sup>5</sup>He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup>While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup>And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. <sup>8</sup>In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup>to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup>This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.’ <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup>“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

P: The gospel of the Lord. C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

3. **Holy Child within the manger, lead us ever in your way,  
so we see in ev’ry stranger how you come to us today.  
In our lives and in our living give us strength to live as you,  
that our hearts might be forgiving and our spirits strong and true.**

**SERMON – “He will be our PEACE”**

**SONG OF THE DAY – “Peace on Earth”**

*introduced by the Faith Singers and congregation joins in bold*

*We come before You with hardships and fears  
We lay down our burdens, Lord, draw us near  
Blind to injustice, we've turned our eyes  
Lord, heal our brokenness, raise us to life*

*Peace on earth, Peace on earth  
Lord, hear our prayer, your peace on earth  
Peace on earth, Peace on earth  
Lord, hear our prayer, your peace on earth  
Peace, peace, peace*

**Jesus, our Savior, you've made us one  
Walls of division torn down by love  
The cross has redeemed us, all penance paid  
Love through forgiveness, we have been saved**

**Peace on earth, Peace on earth  
Lord, hear our prayer, your peace on earth  
Peace on earth, Peace on earth  
Lord, hear our prayer, your peace on earth  
Peace, peace, peace  
Peace, peace, peace**

**Friend of the widow, hope to the poor  
Proof to the doubting heart, end of all wars  
Mercy to sinners, light of the world  
All power and authority, Lord, speak Your word**

**Peace on earth, Peace on earth  
Lord, hear our prayer, your peace on earth  
Peace on earth, Peace on earth  
Lord, hear our prayer, your peace on earth  
Peace, peace, peace  
Peace, peace, peace**

## *He will be our SALVATION*

### **\*CHRISTMAS CONFESSION OF FAITH**

I believe in Jesus Christ and in the beauty of the gospel begun in Bethlehem.

I believe in the one whose spirit glorified a little town; and whose spirit still brings life to persons all over the world, even as we worship in our homes.

I believe in the one for whom the crowded inn could find no room, and I confess that my heart still sometimes wants to exclude Christ from my life today.

I believe in the one who the rulers of the earth ignored and the proud could never understand; whose life was among common people, whose welcome came from persons of hungry hearts.

I believe in the one who proclaimed the love of God to be invincible.

I believe in the one whose cradle was a mother's arms, whose modest home in Nazareth had love for its only wealth, who looked at persons and made them see what God's love saw in them, who by love brought sinners back to purity, and lifted human weakness up to meet the strength of God.

I confess my ever-lasting need of God: The need of forgiveness for our selfishness and greed, the need of new life for empty souls, the need of love for hearts grown cold.

I believe in God who loves unconditionally; Jesus, the Son, born in Bethlehem this night, for me and for the world; and the Holy Spirit, who makes our hearts its home.

**STEWARDSHIP** – “Looked Who Just Checked In,” by Stephen Hill & Daryl Williams  
*Chancel Choir*

*While we will not be passing offering plates, we welcome your financial support and partnership in our ministry. Offering boxes are located in the gathering area.*

*—Please take a moment to sign into the welcome folder in your pew—*

## *Holy Communion – He will be our LIFE*

**\*WORDS OF INSTITUTION** – to the tune of Cradle Song

### **\*LORD'S PRAYER**

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.



## COMMUNION HYMNS

“What feast of Love” (ELW 487)

What feast of love is offered here, what banquet come from heaven?

What food of everlasting life, what gracious gift is given?

This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heaven.

Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the manna given!

What light of truth is offered here, what covenant from heaven?

What hope of everlasting life, what wondrous word is given?

This, this is Christ the king, the sun come down from heaven.

Oh, see and hear and sing! The Word of God is given!

What wine of love is offered here, what holy drink from heaven?

What stream of everlasting life, what precious blood is given?

This, this is Christ the king, the sweetest wine of heaven.

Oh, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is given!

“Away in a Manger” (ELW 277)

Away in a manger, no crib for his 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.

The cattle are lowing; the poor baby wakes,  
but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.  
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky  
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay  
close by me forever and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in your tender care  
and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

Joyful joyful we adore thee God of glory, Lord of Love  
Lifting up our song before thee with the angel host above  
Glory, glory in the highest Peace on earth, good will has come  
Let all flesh behold the likeness of the Father's only Son.

God incarnate in the manger Joy to drive the doubt away  
Now behold the promised savior born to us on Christmas day  
Glory glory in the highest Love has come and all is well  
Where the light of hope is brightest now behold Emmanuel

Joyful is the celebration when we see the gift of God  
Joyful news for every nation let his name be sung abroad  
Glory glory in the highest echoed in the hearts of men  
Joyful now the praise that rises where the Savior enters in!

#### POST COMMUNION PRAYER

*He will be our LIGHT*

#### CAROL SING

“The First Noel” (ELW 300, vv. 1, 2)

1. The first Noel the angel did say  
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
In fields where they lay, keeping their sheep  
On a cold winter’s night that was so deep.

*Refrain: Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel! Born is the King of Israel.*

2. They looked up and saw a star  
Shining in the east beyond them far;  
And to the earth it gave great light,  
And so it continued both day and night. *Refrain*

“O Come, All Ye Faithful” (ELW 283, vv. 1, 3)

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: O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*

3. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God in the highest: *Refrain*

“What Child Is This” (ELW 296, vv. 1, 2)

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!**

**POEM:** excerpted from “Amazing Peace: A Christmas Poem” by Maya Angelou

“Silent Night”/“Night of Silence” (ELW 281)

*Choral Group:* Cold are the people, winter of life,  
We tremble in shadows this cold endless night,  
Frozen in the snow lie roses sleeping, Flowers that will echo the sunrise,  
Fire of hope is our only warmth, Weary, its flame will be dying soon.

*Choral Group:* Voice in the distance, call in the night  
On wind you enfold us, you speak of the light,  
Gentle on the ear you whisper softly, Rumors of a dawn so embracing  
Breathless love awaits darkened souls, Soon will we know of the morning.

**All: Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright  
Round yon virgin mother and child. Holy infant so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.**

**All: Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight;  
Glories stream from heaven afar, Heav’nly hosts sing, Alleluia!  
Christ, the Savior, is born, Christ, the Savior, is born.**

**All:**  
**Silent night, holy night!**  
**Son of God, love's pure light**  
**Radiant beams from your holy face,**  
**With the dawn of redeeming grace,**  
**Jesus, Lord, at your birth,**  
**Jesus, Lord, at your birth.**

*Choral Group:*

Spirit among us, shine like the star,  
Your light that guides shepherds and kings  
from afar,  
Shimmer in the sky so empty, lonely,  
Rising in the warmth of your Son's love,  
Star unknowing of night and day,  
Spirit we wait for your loving Son.

*He is the peace, salvation, life, and light... FOR ALL*

**\*BENEDICTION**

P: At the birth of Jesus, a multitude of heavenly host proclaimed, "Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth."

**C: We have joined in praise as we receive this good news.**

P: Isaiah writes, "how beautiful are the feet of the messenger who announces peace and brings good news" (Isaiah 52:7).

**C: We are messengers of this good news and instruments of God's peace, sent to share it with the world.**

P: My dear friends, in Jesus Christ +, "the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it" (John 1:5).

**C: Let us go forth in peace to share God's good news of great joy for all!**

**\*SENDING SONG**

"Joy to the World" (ELW 267, vv. 1, 2 & 4)

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive its King;  
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room 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, ...
4. He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the nations prove  
The glories of his righteousness And wonders of his love, ...

**\*DISMISSAL**

P: Go in PEACE, Share the good news,

**C: Thanks be to God!**

## \*POSTLUDE

Pastor: Adam Dichsen  
Pianist: Jean Welch  
Organist: Sandi Watts  
Music Director: Jean Welch  
Instrumentalists: Martha Krohe & Pastor Adam  
Guitarist: Bishop John Roth  
Acolyte: Louis Dichsen  
Crucifer: Beckham Oldenettel  
Readers: Barb Davenport & Karen Dean  
Greeter: Doris Robinson  
Chancel Committee: Martha Krohe  
Communion Assistant: Karen Sibert  
Ushers: Paul Scheerer & Sarah Sexton

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★



### *Song Credits:*

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“Night of Silence,” from **Hymnal Supplement**, © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc., Chicago, IL. Used by permission.

## Poinsettias

The Poinsettias were given by members and friends of Faith in celebration of the lives of those who were or are special to them.

Bob & Janet Williams Chipman	In memory of Charles & Wilma Williams
Donna Chenoweth	In memory of Donald & Mary Wamback
The Dichsen family	In Thanksgiving for our Faith Family
Judy Dillard	In memory of Chuck Dillard, Patsy Miller, & Alvin
Mary Jane & Steve Esslinger	In honor of family past & present
Kim & Pat Heise	In celebration of family past, present, & future
Char & Paul Hubbard	In memory of Joe
Greg & Terri Kimler	In memory of Al & Wanda Kimler & Bob Benz
Lillian Korous	In honor of my family past, present, & future
The Krohe family	In celebration of the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ
Curry May	In honor of Sue May
Hallie Mayner	Celebrating the season and family
Lori & Mike Oldenettel	In memory of Parker Oldenettel
Vicki Robson	In memory of David & Kelly Robson & Dolores Reichert
Theresa Savoie	In memory of John & Louise Savoie
Gayla Smith	In honor of Marilyn Smith
Carol Squibb & Imogene Lovekamp	In memory of Jim Squibb & Steve Thurman
Carol Squibb & Imogene Lovekamp	In memory of Stanley Lovekamp & Gregory Lovekamp
Carol Squibb & Imogene Lovekamp	In memory of CA "Barney" Barnard, Thomas Barnard, Terry Barnard, & Jennifer Barnard Miller
Eleanor Stevens	In memory of Dr. Tom Stevens
Kathy & Robert Trenter	In memory of Evelyn Hish & MaLinda Daniel
Bonnie & Rod Wallace	
Dixie & John Williams	In memory of family
Sharon Zuiderveld	In memory of Rudy Zuiderveld

*Flows. Grows. Shows*



*In response to God's grace **flowing** through Christ,  
we **grow** in faith and **show** Christ's love.*

Come and join us in the mission we share!

- Vibrant worship on Sunday mornings at 9:30, both in person and online.
- Sunday school for all ages following worship.
- Confirmation and youth group that meets twice each month.
- Lively music program that includes Faith Singers, Chancel Choir, Exaltation Ringers, and a number of small ensembles.
- Active outreach through Doorbell Dinners, Jacksonville Food Center, Salvation Army, partnering with local churches, and working together to "Share the Light."
- Growing small-group ministry including:
  - o Men's Prayer Group on Wednesdays at 7:00am.
  - o Women of Faith Fellowship Nights on 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays at 6:00pm.
  - o Discipleship Group on 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays at 10:00am.
  - o Men's Breakfast 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month at 9:00am..
  - o "Pastor's Pick" book of the month.
  - o "Films of Faith" movie showings.
- And more!

To learn more, contact the church office at 217-245-8919, by email at [faithlutheran62650@frontier.com](mailto:faithlutheran62650@frontier.com), online at [www.FaithLutheranJacksonville.com](http://www.FaithLutheranJacksonville.com), and on Facebook and YouTube.