

## FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

PO Box 925  
Sequim, Washington 98382  
December 29, 2024

[www.faithlutheransequim.org](http://www.faithlutheransequim.org)

Rev. Roger Stites  
Rev. William Cwirla  
Music Director - Pat Marcy

### 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Christmas

### A CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

WELCOME. *Dear Guest! We are happy to have you join us for worship today. May the Lord speak to your heart and supply help for your life as we listen to God's Word. Please sign the Guest Book in the narthex or fill out a Welcome Card to place in the offering boxes and come back soon!*

PRAYER AS WE PREPARE TO WORSHIP: Dear Father in heaven, thank You for this time set aside to worship You. Please help me today, through the liturgy, Bible readings, hymns, and spoken message, to be strengthened by You for daily living throughout the new Church Year. Amen.

### Welcome and Announcements

+ *please silence cell phones* +

### Prelude

“Now Sing We, Now Rejoice”

(German/J.S. Bach)

### Carol Sing

#### “Angels from the Realms of Glory”

Angels, from the realms of glory, Wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
Ye, who sang creation's story, Now proclaim Messiah's birth.  
Come and worship, come and worship; Worship Christ, the new-born King.

Shepherds, in the fields abiding, Watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with us is now residing, Yonder shines the Infant Light:  
Come and worship, come and worship; Worship Christ, the new-born King.

#### “From Heaven Above”

From heaven above to earth I come, To bear good news to every home;  
Glad tidings of great joy I bring, Whereof I now will say and sing.

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.

#### “O Come, Little Children”

O come, little children, O come, one and all. To Bethlehem haste, to the manger so small,  
God's Son for a gift has been sent you this night, to be your Redeemer, your joy and delight.  
Kneel down & adore him with shepherds today, Lift up little hands now, & praise him as they;  
Rejoice that a Savior from sin you can boast, And join in the song of the heavenly host. Amen.

## “Gentle Mary Laid Her Child Lowly in a Manger”

1. Gentle Mary lad her child Lowly in a manger;  
There He lay, the Undefined, To the world a stranger.  
Such a babe in such a place, Can He be the Savior?  
Ask the saved of all the race Who have found his favor.
3. Gentle Mary laid her child Lowly in a manger;  
He is still the Undefined But no more a stranger.  
Son of God of humble birth, Beautiful the story;  
Praise His name in all the earth; Hail the King of glory.



## “Go Tell It on the Mountain”

*Refrain:* Go tell it on the mountain, Over the hills and ev’rywhere;  
Go tell it on the mountain, That Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching, O’er silent flocks by night,  
Behold, throughout the heavens, There shone a holy light. (*Refrain*)

Down in a lonely manger, The humble Christ was born;  
And God sent us salvation, That blessed Christmas morn. (*Refrain*)

### *Stand*

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

**C** Amen.

**P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** who made heaven and earth.

**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

**C** and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

*Silence for reflection on God’s Word and for self-examination.*

**P** O almighty God, merciful Father,

**C** I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

**P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## Introit [sung by the Cantor]

The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the | nations,\*  
and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation | of our God.  
Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done | marvelous things!\*  
His right hand and his holy arm have worked salva- | tion for him.  
The LORD has made known his sal- | vation;\*  
he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the | nations.  
He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of | Israel.\*  
All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation | of our God.  
Make a joyful noise to the LORD, | all the earth;\*  
break forth into joyous song and sing | praises!  
**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\***  
**and to the Holy | Spirit;**  
**as it was in the be- | ginning,\***  
**is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

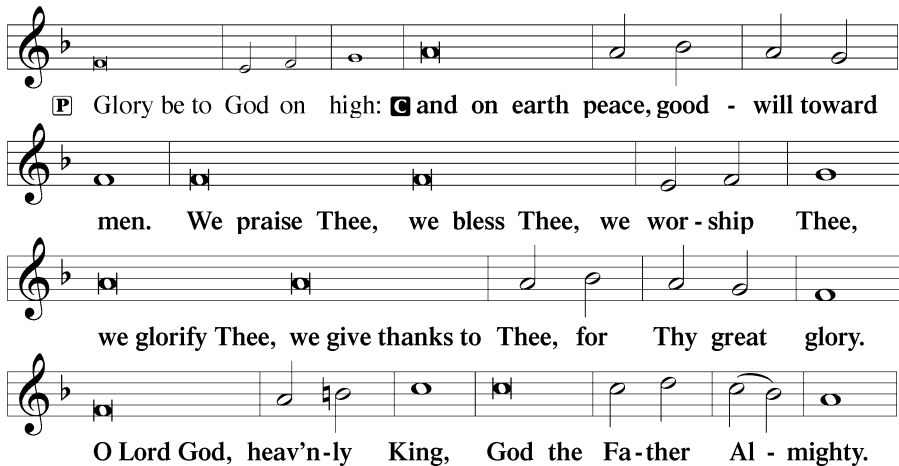
The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the | nations,\*  
and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation | of our God.

## Kyrie



Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -  
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

## Gloria in Excelsis



Glory be to God on high: and on earth peace, good - will toward  
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,  
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.  
O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.

O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-

on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on-ly art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,

art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

### Salutation and Collect of the Day

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And with thy spirit.
- P** Let us pray.

O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

Sit

## Old Testament Reading

*Exodus 13:1–3a, 11–15*

<sup>1</sup>The LORD said to Moses, <sup>2</sup>“Consecrate to me all the firstborn. Whatever is the first to open the womb among the people of Israel, both of man and of beast, is mine.”

<sup>3</sup>Then Moses said to the people, “Remember this day in which you came out from Egypt, out of the house of slavery, for by a strong hand the LORD brought you out from this place. . . .

<sup>11</sup>“When the LORD brings you into the land of the Canaanites, as he swore to you and your fathers, and shall give it to you, <sup>12</sup>you shall set apart to the LORD all that first opens the womb. All the firstborn of your animals that are males shall be the LORD’s.

<sup>13</sup>Every firstborn of a donkey you shall redeem with a lamb, or if you will not redeem it you shall break its neck. Every firstborn of man among your sons you shall redeem.

<sup>14</sup>And when in time to come your son asks you, ‘What does this mean?’ you shall say to him, ‘By a strong hand the LORD brought us out of Egypt, from the house of slavery.

<sup>15</sup>For when Pharaoh stubbornly refused to let us go, the LORD killed all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both the firstborn of man and the firstborn of animals. Therefore I sacrifice to the LORD all the males that first open the womb, but all the firstborn of my sons I redeem.’”

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Gradual [sung by the Cantor]

To us a child is born, to us a son is | given;\*

and the government shall be upon his | shoulder.

And his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, | Mighty God,\*

Everlasting Father, | Prince of Peace.

Sing to the Lord a | new song,\*

for he has done | marvelous things!

## Epistle

*Colossians 3:12–17*

<sup>12</sup>Put on then, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, <sup>13</sup>bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

<sup>14</sup>And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

<sup>15</sup>And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. <sup>16</sup>Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. <sup>17</sup>And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

-5-

*Stand*  
**Alleluia**



**Holy Gospel**

*Luke 2:22–40*

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

**C** **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

<sup>22</sup>When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, [Mary and Joseph] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord <sup>23</sup>(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”) <sup>24</sup>and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.” <sup>25</sup>Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. <sup>26</sup>And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ. <sup>27</sup>And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, <sup>28</sup>he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said, <sup>29</sup>“Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word; <sup>30</sup>for my eyes have seen your salvation <sup>31</sup>that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, <sup>32</sup>a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel.”

<sup>33</sup>And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. <sup>34</sup>And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, “Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed <sup>35</sup>(and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.”

<sup>36</sup>And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, <sup>37</sup>and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. <sup>38</sup>And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

<sup>39</sup>And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. <sup>40</sup>And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

## Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life  $\dagger$  of the world to come. Amen.

*Sit*

### Sermon

**P** The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. **C** Amen.

*Stand*

### Create in Me

**C** Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it  
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -  
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

## Prayer of the Church

### Preface

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And with thy spirit.**

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

**P** Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

**C** **It is meet and right so to do.**

**P** It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory that, seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may know and love those things which are not seen. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

### Sanctus



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.



## 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.

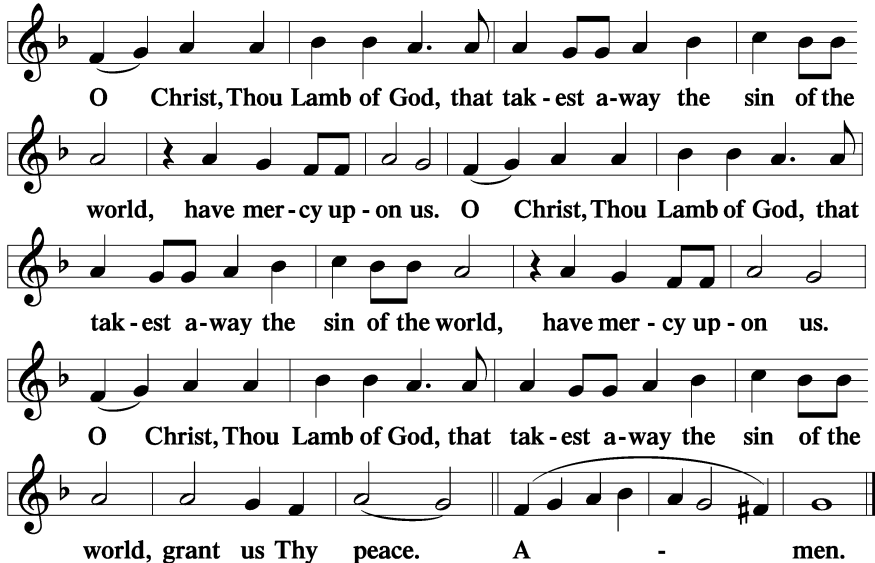
## The Words of Our Lord

### Pax Domini

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** Amen.

### Agnus Dei



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

*Sit*

### Distribution

*For our visitors this morning:*

Our Lord Jesus Christ comes to us in a special way in Holy Communion. As Lutheran Christians we believe and confess that our Savior Jesus is truly present in this holy meal, sharing His forgiveness, life, and salvation with us and with all who come in repentant faith. Baptized Christians who have been instructed in the Sacrament and share this belief and understanding are invited to join us in the Lord's Supper. If you are unsure about your participation please speak with the Pastor before the service.

To receive the host, please extend your hand clearly, so that the distributing elder can place it in your hand. Then Pastor will distribute the individual cups of wine (you will dispose of the empty cup in the basket as you return to your pew). If you are not partaking, please cross your arms in front of you so that Pastor can give you a blessing.

# Communion Music

# “Gesu, Bambino”

(Pietro Y Yon)

[Violin: Peggy Nogle-Mott]

*Stand*

## The Dismissal

**P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart  $\text{✠}$  in peace. **C** Amen.

## Nunc Dimittis

**C** Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people, a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

## Post-Communion Collect & Benediction

**P** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

**C** And His mercy endures forever.

**P** Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C** Amen. -10-

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And with thy spirit.**

**P** Bless we the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.

**C** **Amen.**

*Sit*

## **Carol Sing**

### **“Now Sing We, Now Rejoice”**

Now sing we, now rejoice, Now raise to heav’n our voice;

He from whom joy stream-eth Poor in a manger lies;

Not so brightly beam-eth The sun in yonder skies.

Thou my Savior art! Thou my Savior art!

Come from on high to me; I cannot rise to Thee.

Cheer my wearied spirit, O pure and holy Child;

Through Thy grace and merit, Blest Jesus, Lord most mild,

Draw me unto Thee! Draw me unto Thee!

### **“Once in David’s Royal City”**

Once in royal David’s city Stood a lowly cattle shed,

Where a mother laid her baby In an manger for His bed:

Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.

And our eyes at last shall see Him, Through His own redeeming love;

For that child so dear and gentle Is our Lord in heav’n above;

And He leads His children on To the place where He is gone.

### **“Angels We Have Heard On High”**

Angels we have heard on high Sweetly singing over the plains,

And the mountains in reply, Echoing their joyous strains.

Glo-ori-a In excelsis de-o; Glo-ori-a In excelsis de-o.

Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing;

Come, adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King

Glo-ori-a In excelsis de-o; Glo-ori-a In excelsis de-o.



**Joy to the World!**

## “What Child is This”

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!



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!



## “God Rest You Merry Gentlemen”

God rest you merry gentlemen, Let nothing you dismay,  
Remember Christ our Savior Was born on Christmas Day,  
To save us all from Satan’s power, When we were gone astray;  
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy, O tidings of comfort and joy.



From God our Heav’nly Father, A blessed Angel came;  
And unto certain Shepherds, Brought tidings of the same:  
How that in Bethlehem was born The Son of God by Name.  
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy, O tidings of comfort and joy.



## Silent Prayer

### Postlude

“Cold December Flies Away”

(French/Bosarow)

*Offering - please place in offering boxes near sanctuary exits*

**FAMILY PRAYERS:** We continue to pray for all those undergoing medical care or recovering including: Bob Donaldson, Jennifer Benson, Rosemarie Schlegel, Erik Simpson, Diane Clark, Lawrence Kettel, Linda Bruce, Deacon Tim Bruce, Tom & Bonita Hoskins, Dorothy Ludke, Bob Schoessler, Fred Swenson, Bob Barclay, Carolyn Stephens, Jean Collinson, Pat Skinner, Don Haas, Debbie Hayes, Larry Latson, Jean Gookins, Bruce Ludke, and for all our shut-ins. Missionaries of the month: Rev. Tim & Heidi Norton & their children Philip & Leslie serving in Navajo, N.M.

**THOSE SERVING TODAY:** **Elder:** (8:30) Jerry Walker; (11:00) Don Brueckner  
**Greeters:** (8:30) Karen Cwirla; (11:00) Victor & Patti Vardanega; **Altar Care:** Sylvia Baxter  
**Counters:** Paul & Traci Kaiser; **Lectors:** (8:30) Rev. Mark Smith; (11:00) Don Brueckner  
**Ushers:** (8:30) Bill Eichler, Roger Harmann; (11:00) Lynn & Jane Thompson  
**Audio/Visual Team:** Pat Moored, Paul Schwabe, George Haslett

## Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book Unless otherwise indicated. Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright. © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2024 Concordia Publishing House.