



ADVENT

# WELCOME IN JESUS' NAME

*Alive in Christ to share life in Christ*



Welcome to Faith Lutheran Church! It is an honor and a privilege for us to have you here and to serve you with the Word of God. We pray that our time together may build each of us up in faith in Jesus Christ and encourage us in our service to Him in our lives.



In this bulletin you will find the order of worship we will use today. There is also an insert with more details about the service, Scripture lessons, message notes and announcements. Please take the insert home with you and leave this bulletin here to be used again.



The hymns we will sing today will all be on the screen. If you would like to see the music, you can follow along in Christian Worship, the red hymnal in your pew, or find the hymn printed on an insert. See the board in the front of the church for the hymn numbers.



We are thrilled to have your little ones in church; Jesus Himself said "Let the little children come to Me." We understand that the little ones can become unruly. If you find it necessary to step out momentarily, you can follow the service on the TV in the fellowship hall.



## A NOTE ABOUT WORSHIP TODAY

This special service for the season of Advent focuses on the coming Christ. During the time of Advent, the Church eagerly awaits the arrival of Jesus. The word "Advent" means "coming near." During these four weeks, we prepare to celebrate the commemoration of the birth of Jesus and we anxiously await His second coming when He will come back to take us to Heaven.

## LUTHER'S MORNING PRAYER

I thank You, my Heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger. Keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. Into Your hands I commend my body and soul and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen!

## THE INVOCATION



- Ⓟ In the name of the Father  
and of the Son (†)  
and of the Holy Spirit.  
© Amen!

## THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH



*The season of Advent consists of the four weeks before Christmas. During this time, it has been the custom of the Church to use an Advent wreath. Each week a candle is lit which corresponds with the theme of each Sunday: 1) hope, 2) peace, 3) joy and 4) love.*

## THE OPENING HYMN: YOU ARE THE LIGHT



*As we light the Advent wreath, we will join together in singing the opening hymn, "You Are the Light." As we light one more candle on the Advent wreath each week, we will also sing one additional verse to the hymn, culminating in a fully lit wreath on Christmas Day.*



You are the Light of Hope, O Lord, Bright Ray in  
You are the Light of Peace, O Lord, Our God of  
You are the Light of Joy, O Lord; Your praise is  
You are the Light of Love, O Lord, The End of  
You are the Light of Christ - mas Day, The Dawn of e -



dark - est night. You bring - Your peo - ple  
pow'r and might. You con - quer all our  
our de - light! You fill our souls with  
hate and strife. No great - er love knows  
ter - nal life! Now hope and peace and



Your GoodNews: Our hope ful-filled in Christ.  
e - ne - mies And bring us peace in Christ.  
Heav'n - ly bliss And un - bound - ed joy in Christ.  
an - y - one Than Your gift of love in Christ.  
joy and love Are born in Je - sus Christ.

# THE CONFESSION OF SINS



- Ⓟ Beloved in the Lord: the season of Advent is a time for us to prepare our hearts and lives for the coming of Jesus. We prepare to meet God face to face. Yet, we cannot come near a holy God because of our sin. Therefore, let us confess our sins to the Lord and plead for His mercy.
- Ⓢ Lord, I confess that I have often neglected to remember Your first coming and forgotten that You will come again. Instead of lifting up my head to see the approaching King of glory, I have buried myself in the affairs and concerns of this world. I have not spurred on others in their spiritual lives as we see the last day approaching. For these and all sins I have committed against You in thought, word, and deed, I ask You to forgive me for the sake of Your Son, my Savior, Jesus.

## AN ADVENT KYRIE: FORGIVE US, LORD



*Imitating the Advent wreath, we will sing one additional verse of this Advent prayer with each week, asking the Lord to have mercy on us.*

5

For - give us, Lord, when we have lost all hope, And looked a - way from  
 For - give us, Lord, for times we for - feit peace As pris'n - ers caught in  
 For - give us, Lord, when we've a - ban - doned joy, Ex - chang - ing Hea - ven's  
 For - give us, Lord, for times our love was lost And mo - ments when we

10

You to try and cope. For times that we de - spair and don't see That  
 sin's cap - ti - vi - ty. When, shack - led by our guilt and - shame, We  
 wealth for earth - ly void. When sad - ness clouds our trust in Your Word, We  
 lose sight of the cross. Cast out our sin - ful self ish - ness And

16

bet - ter things wait in e - ter - ni - ty. Have mer - cy, Lord! For - give us all our  
 fail to call u - pon our Sav - ior's name. Have mer - cy, Lord! For - give us all our  
 fail to find our true Joy in You, Lord! Have mer - cy, Lord! For - give us all our  
 fill us with Your true love's self - less - ness. Have mer - cy, Lord! For - give us all our

sins! Come, bring to us the hope that comes from Heav'n.  
 sins! Come, bring to us the peace that comes from Heav'n.  
 sins! Come, bring to us the joy that comes from Heav'n.  
 sins! Come, bring to us the love that comes from Heav'n.

## THE ABSOLUTION



- Ⓟ I bring you good news of great joy for all people, but especially for you: a Savior has been born to you—He is Christ the Lord! He has come to save His people from all their sins. Because of Jesus, your guilt is gone, your sins are forgiven, you are at peace with God. May Jesus, your Savior from all your sins, fill you with hope and peace and joy and love now and always!
- Ⓢ Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!

## THE HYMN OF PRAISE: BLEST BE THE GOD OF ISRAEL



Blest be the God of Is - ra - el, Who comes to set us free; He  
He from the house of Da - vid A child of grace has giv'n; A  
On pri - son - ers of dark - ness The sun be - gins to rise, The

vi - sits and re - deems us; He grants us li - ber - ty. The  
Sa - vior comes a - mong us To raise us up to heav'n. Be -  
dawn - ing of for - give - ness U - pon the sin - ner's eyes. He

pro - phets spoke of mer - cy, Of free - dom and re - lease; God  
fore Him goes His he - rald, Fore - run - ner in the way, The  
guides the feet of pil - grims A - long the paths of peace. Oh,

shall ful - fill His pro - mise And bring His peo - ple peace.  
pro - phet of sal - va - tion, The har - bing - er of day.  
bless our God and Sa - vior With songs that ne - ver cease.

## THE PRAYER OF THE DAY



- Ⓟ The Lord be with you.
- Ⓢ And also with you.
- Ⓟ Let us pray...  
*The Pastor says the Prayer of the Day.*
- Ⓢ ...Amen!

## THE FIRST LESSON



*You will find the First Lesson on the screen as well as on page two of the bulletin insert. After the lesson, the Pastor says:*

- Ⓟ Brothers and sisters, this is the Word of our Lord!
- Ⓢ **We praise You, O Lord!**

## THE PSALM OF THE DAY



*Please see the screen for the Psalm of the Day. You may also find it in the front part of the hymnal. The Pastor and the congregation will sing the Psalm of the Day as announced by the Pastor.*

## THE SECOND LESSON



*You will find the Second Lesson on the screen as well as on page three of the bulletin insert. After the lesson, the Pastor says:*

- Ⓟ Brothers and sisters, this is the Word of our Lord!
- Ⓢ **We praise You, O Lord!**

## THE VERSE OF THE DAY



- Ⓟ Alleluia! Alleluia! (*The Verse of the Day is read.*) Alleluia!
- Ⓢ **🎵 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!**

## THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



- Ⓟ The Holy Gospel according to \_\_\_\_\_ chapter \_\_\_\_\_.
- Ⓢ **Glory to God in the highest!**  
**Peace to God's people on earth!**

## THE GOSPEL OF OUR LORD



*You will find the Gospel on the screen as well as on page four of the bulletin insert. After the reading of the Gospel, the Pastor says:*

- Ⓟ This is the Gospel of our Lord!
- Ⓢ **Glory to God in the highest!**  
**Peace to God's people on earth!**

## THE HYMN OF THE DAY



*Please see the screen for the words of the Hymn of the Day. The hymns used in worship are also found in Christian Worship, the red hymnal in our pews, or printed on an insert.*

## THE SERMON



*The Pastor preaches a sermon based on one of the texts used in the worship service. Please turn to page five of the bulletin insert for some notes about the Pastor's message.*

## THE CONFESSION: THE EXPLANATION OF THE SECOND ARTICLE



**I believe that Jesus Christ,  
true God,  
begotten of the Father from eternity,  
and also true man,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
is my Lord.  
He has redeemed me,  
a lost and condemned creature,  
purchased and won me from all sins,  
from death and from the power of the devil,  
not with gold or silver,  
but with His holy, precious blood  
and with His innocent suffering and death.  
All this He did that I should be His Own,  
and live under Him in His kingdom,  
and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence and blessedness,  
just as He has risen from death and lives and rules eternally.  
This is most certainly true.**

## THE OFFERING



*One way that the members of Faith worship God is by giving generous monetary offerings to thank Him for His many blessings. If you are visiting and would like to participate in the offering, feel free to do so. But please do not feel that you are obligated to contribute; you are our guest. We thank you for the opportunity to share God's Word with you!*

## THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH



During the season of Advent, we join together in a historic, responsive prayer of the Church called the “O Antiphons.” United with the whole Christian Church on earth, we ask God for the many blessings that He has promised to His people.



Ⓟ O Wisdom- You came forth from the mouth of the Most High, and reach from one end of the earth to the other; mightily and sweetly ordering all things: come and teach us the way of prudence.

Ⓢ **Come, Lord Jesus!**



Ⓟ O Adonai, Ruler of the house of Israel- You appeared to Moses in the fire of the burning bush; on Mount Sinai You gave him Your Law: with outstretched arm, come and redeem us.

Ⓢ **Come, Lord Jesus!**



Ⓟ O Root of Jesse- You are fixed as a standard for Your people; before You kings shall keep silence, and all nations shall bow in worship: come and save us, and do not delay.

Ⓢ **Come, Lord Jesus!**



Ⓟ O Key of David and Scepter of the house of Israel- You open and no one closes; You close and no one opens: come and deliver us from the chains of prison, we who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death.

Ⓢ **Come, Lord Jesus!**



Ⓟ O Rising Dawn, Brightness of eternal light, Sun of righteousness- come and enlighten those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death.

Ⓢ **Come, Lord Jesus!**



Ⓟ O King of nations and their Desire- You are the Cornerstone that binds two into one; come and save the creatures whom You have fashioned from clay.

Ⓢ **Come, Lord Jesus!**



Ⓟ O Emmanuel, our King and Lawgiver, Hope of the nations and our Savior- come and save us, O Lord our God!

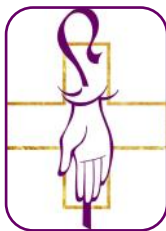
Ⓢ **Come, Lord Jesus!**



The preceding prayers, known as “the Great O Antiphons of Advent,” have been cherished for centuries by Christian worshipers. The importance of the “O Antiphons” is twofold: each one highlights a title for the Messiah: O Sapientia (O Wisdom), O Adonai (O Lord), O Radix Jesse (O Root of Jesse), O Clavis David (O Key of David), O Oriens (O Dayspring), O Rex Gentium (O King of the Nations), and O Emmanuel. Also, each one refers to a prophecy of Isaiah about the coming of the Messiah. If you begin with the last title and take the first letter of each one—**Emmanuel, Rex, Oriens, Clavis, Radix, Adonai, Sapientia**—they form the Latin words *ero cras*, which mean, “Tomorrow, I will come.” Therefore, the Lord Jesus, for Whose coming we have prepared in Advent and Whom we have addressed in these seven Messianic titles, now speaks to us, “Tomorrow, I will come.” Come quickly, Lord Jesus!



## THE LORD'S PRAYER



**Our Father in Heaven,  
Hallowed be Your name,  
Your kingdom come,  
Your will be done  
on earth as in Heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.**

**Lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power  
and the glory are Yours  
now and forever.**

**Amen!**

## OUR WORSHIP CONTINUES



*On Sundays when there is Holy Communion, the second and fourth Sundays of the month, the service continues on page eight with the Preparation for Holy Communion. When there is no communion, the service continues on page nine with the Closing Prayer.*

## PREPARATION FOR HOLY COMMUNION



- Ⓟ The Lord be with you.
- Ⓞ **And also with you.**
- Ⓟ Lift up your hearts.
- Ⓞ **We lift them up to the Lord.**
- Ⓟ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- Ⓞ **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**
- Ⓟ It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give You thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, because You consoled Your people with the promise of the coming of the Redeemer to free us from sin and from death and to raise our eyes to Heaven, where we will see our Savior coming again in glory. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the Heavenly hosts, we praise and magnify Your glorious name, singing Your praises forever, saying:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



- |                              |                              |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Ⓞ holy, holy, holy           | Hosanna in the highest!      |
| Lord God of pow'r and might, | How truly blessed is He      |
| Your glory earth and Heaven  | Who in God's name is coming  |
| In countless ways recite!    | To set His people free!      |
| Hosanna! Come and save us,   | He comes to bring salvation  |
| Lord God of hosts on high,   | And with His blood outpoured |
| And in Your grace and mercy  | Deliver us from bondage,     |
| Receive our fervent cry!     | Hosanna, mighty Lord!        |

## THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION



- Ⓟ Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night He was betrayed, took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke it, gave it to His disciples and said, "Take and eat; this is My body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me."
- Ⓟ In the same way after supper, He took the cup, gave thanks, gave it to them and said, "Drink from it all of you; this cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of all your sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## THE DISTRIBUTION



*We invite the confirmed members of Faith Lutheran Church to the Lord's Supper. If you are not a member, we ask that you would speak with the Pastor before receiving communion. He would like to explain what the Bible teaches concerning the Sacrament of Holy Communion. During the distribution, we will sing one or more hymns as announced by the Pastor.*

## THE SONG OF SIMEON



O Lord, now let Your servant  
Depart in peace, assured:  
For I have seen Your promised  
Incarnate, saving Word—  
A Light that will enlighten  
All gloom where Gentiles dwell;  
The brilliant, crowning glory  
Of those in Israel!

All glory to the Father,  
All glory to the Son,  
All glory to the Spirit,  
Forever three in one;  
For as in the beginning,  
Is now, shall ever be,  
God's Triune Name resounding  
Through all eternity!

## THE CLOSING PRAYER



Ⓟ Dearest Lord Jesus, we thank and praise You for coming to us in Your Word today. We pray that You would fill us with hope and peace and joy and love and prepare us for Your second coming when You bring us to live with You forever, for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever!

Ⓢ Amen!

## THE BLESSING



Ⓟ The LORD bless and keep you!

Ⓢ Amen!

Ⓟ The LORD'S face ever shine upon you!

Ⓢ Amen!

Ⓟ The LORD grant you (†) peace for all your days!

Ⓢ Amen!

## THE CLOSING HYMN



*Please see the screen for the words of the Closing Hymn. The hymns used in worship are also found in Christian Worship, the red hymnal in our pews, or printed on an insert.*



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Below are the historic Prayers for the Day for each Sunday in Advent. These ancient, beautiful prayers were said by many of the faithful even during the week when children would take turns reciting them as they lit the candle(s) on the Advent Wreath. May they be a blessing in your Advent worship of Jesus.

### THE FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come. Protect us by Your strength and save us from the threatening dangers of our sins; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen!

### THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, and come. Give us strength in our conflicts and shed light on our path through the darkness of this world; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen!

### THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, and come with the good news of Your mighty deliverance. Drive the darkness from our hearts and fill us with Your light; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen!

### THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come. Take away the burden of our sins and make us ready for the celebration of Your birth, that we may receive You in joy and serve You always; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen!