

Faith Lutheran Church - Worship and Communion

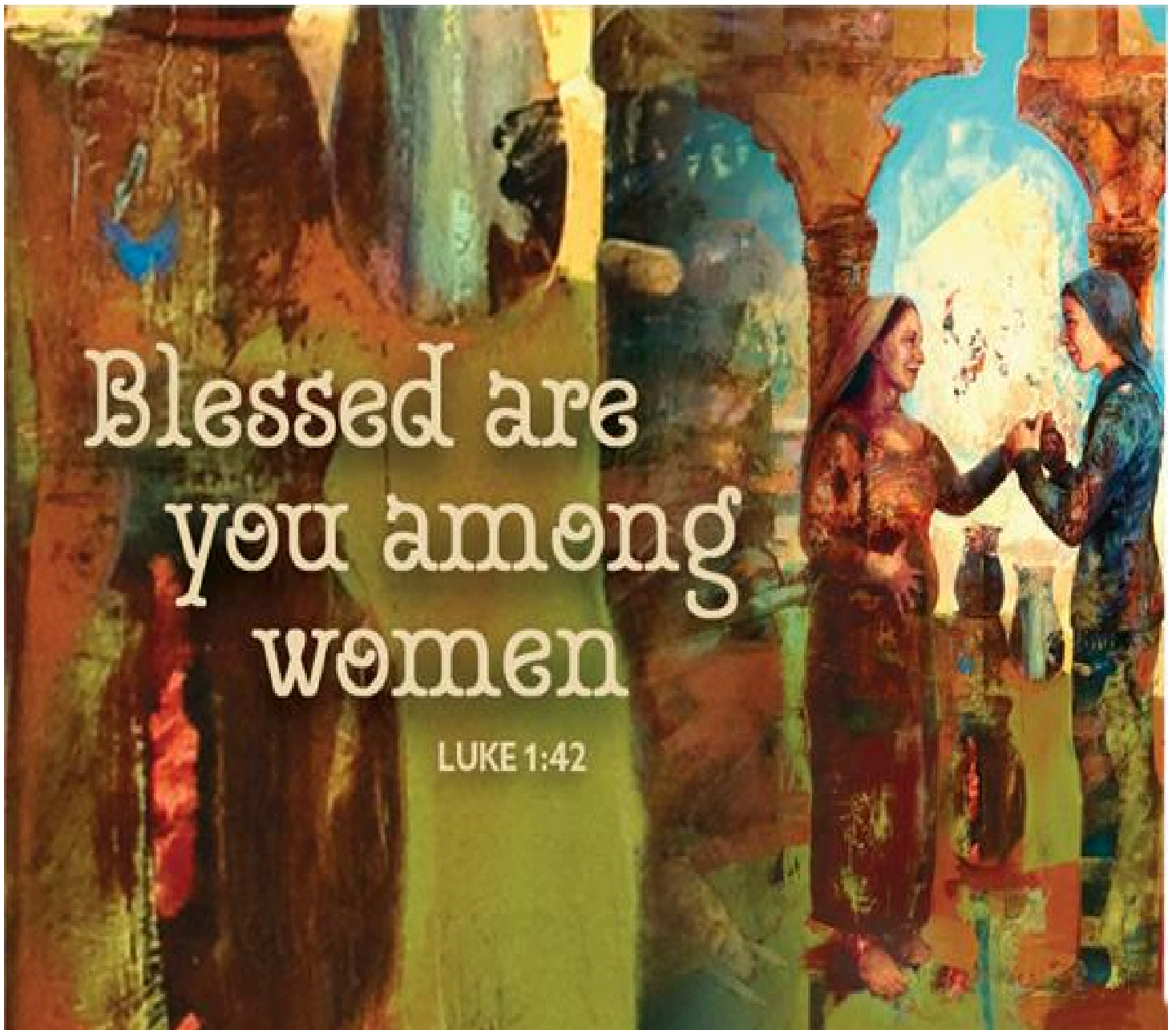
December 22, 2024 at 9:30 AM

Fourth Sunday of Advent

To join with video, go to our website and follow the video link

(www.faithlutheranreno.org) or find us on youtube:

<https://www.youtube.com/@faithlutheran-reno>



Welcome! We are a family of faith and so glad you are here! Our worship this month turns to Setting 12 in “All Creation Sings.” It is all printed here in the bulletin.

Children's Bulletins are available in the narthex (entrance area), providing activities on today's scripture readings. Please enjoy.

God is present in **Holy Communion** and welcomes all who are hungry. You are welcome to the table. Non-communing children and adults may come forward for a blessing. Let an usher know if you would like communion at your seat.

Our **Candle Lighting station** (built by Louis Ling - Thank you!) is available during worship. If you are moved to light a candle to represent your prayer for someone or something or for thanksgiving or sorrows of your own heart, you may light a candle. All are especially welcome during communion as we sing and commune and pray.

In Worship today: Cradle and cross are inextricably connected on the fourth Sunday of Advent. Between a lovely tribute to the little town of Bethlehem and Mary's magnificent song of praise, the letter to the Hebrews reminds us in no uncertain terms that Christ's advent is for “the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.” It is the kind of tension in which the church always lives as when in holy communion—with high delight—“we proclaim the Lord's death.”

Serving Today: Greeter, Linda Z / Acolyte, Pesis Family / Reader, Jean C / Asst Minister, Sharon S / Cantor, Sharon S / Ushers, Debbie H & Matthew R / Altar Guild, Trish D & Annette W / Tech Support, The FLC Tech Team / Counters, Davyann S & Linda Z

-GATHERING-

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Moment of centering

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, alive in the world, reviving creation, arriving soon. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection

God of mercy,
we confess that we have sinned.
We trust earthly powers and human authority alone.
We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.

God of might,
we confess that we have sinned.
We have turned away from our neighbors.
We have trusted false promises.

God in our midst,
we confess that we have sinned.
We plead: come to us.
Bring your mercy to birth in us.

A righteous branch springs forth: it is Christ the Lord, our Savior,
 in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy.
 By the power of the Holy Spirit, receive the grace and forgiveness of God
 through † Christ Jesus, whose day draws near. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

*Prepare the Royal Highway**

ELW #264

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
 and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

KYRIE

- 1st time through is Cantor, 2nd time through is Congregation



Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.



Chris - te e - lei - son. Christ, have mer - cy.



Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

ADVENT CANDLE-LIGHTING***Behold These New Things, verses 3&4***

*The timeless gifts of faith and call, companions and community
 evolve with time, unfold, expand, transforming opportunity.
 Behold these new things we pray to perceive,
 New ways we can serve, new gifts we receive.*

*When blessed with sight, with minds unchained, with open hands and hearts unbound
 We step with trust, with Christ we walk, new ventures in our journey found.
 Created by God, we see these new things,
 The hope that they hold, the life that they bring.*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

-WORD-**FIRST READING: Micah 5:2-5a**

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

The Annunciation**Luke 1:26–28, 30–32, 38**

Leader An angel went from God to a town called Nazareth to a woman whose name was Mary. The angel said to her, “Rejoice, O highly favored, for God is with you. You shall bear a child, and his name shall be Jesus, the Chosen One of God Most High.” And Mary said, “I am the servant of my God, I live to do your will.”

Segue immediately to The Magnificat

The Magnificat

Luke 1:46-55

All



1., 3. My soul pro-claims your great-ness, O God, and my
2. You have cast the might - y down from their thrones, and up -



spir - it re - joic - es in you. You have looked with love on your
lift - ed the hum-ble of heart. You have filled the hun - gry with



ser - vant here, and blessed me all my life through.
won - drous things, and left the wealth - y no part.



Great and might - y are you, O Ho - ly One,
Great and might - y are you, O Faith - ful One,



strong is your kind-ness ev - er - more. How you fa - vor the
strong is your jus - tice, strong your love, as you prom-ised to



weak and low-ly one, hum - bling the proud of heart!
Sar - ah and A - bra - ham, kind - ness for - ev - er - more.

SERMON*This is My Body***Rev. Shaun O'Reilly****ANTHEM, 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT***Christmas Lullaby***Sam W & Heinz D**- by Jason Robert Brown in *Songs for a New World*, 1997

I'll never have the power to control the land, or conquer half the world, or claim the sun
 I'll never be the kind who simply waves her hand,
 and has a million people do the things I wish I'd done

But in the eyes of heaven my place is assured; I carry with me heaven's grand design
 Gloria! Glory, I will sing the name of the Lord and He will make me shine

And I will be like Mother Mary with a blessing in my soul
 And I will give the world my eyes so they can see
 And I will be like Mother Mary with a blessing in my soul
 And the future of the world inside of me

And I will be like Mother Mary with the power in my veins
 To believe in all the things I've yet to be
 And I will be like Mother Mary and I'll suffer any pains
 For the future of the world, for the future of the world inside of me

APOSTLE'S CREED

**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 INTERCESSION

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

- MEAL -

OFFERING

In all things, O God, you are our way, our truth, and our life.
Reveal through us your life-giving work.

PRESENTATION HYMN

*O Come, O Come Emmanuel**

ELW #257, vs1-4 & 7

OFFERING PRAYER

GREAT THANKSGIVING, PREFACE, and SANCTUS

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy...

...and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and
 God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your
 glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the
 Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.**

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

COMMUNION AND HYMNS

AGNUS DEI

ELW pg. 154

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Soon and Very Soon**ELW #439**

1 Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King,
 Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King,
 Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King,
 Hallelujah, Hallelujah, we are goin' to see the King!

2 No more cryin' there we are goin' to see the King,
 No more cryin' there we are goin' to see the King,
 No more cryin' there we are goin' to see the King,
 Hallelujah, Hallelujah, we are goin' to see the King!

3 No more dyin' there we are goin' to see the King,
 No more dyin' there we are goin' to see the King,
 No more dyin' there we are goin' to see the King,
 Hallelujah, Hallelujah, we are goin' to see the King!

4 Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King,
 Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King,
 Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King,
 Hallelujah, Hallelujah, we're are goin' to see the King!
 Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah.

There is a Balm in Gilead**ELW #614****Refrain**

***There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole;
 there is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.***

1 Sometimes I feel discouraged and think my work's in vain,
 but then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again. **Refrain**

2 If you cannot preach like Peter, if you cannot pray like Paul,
 you can tell the love of Jesus and say, "He died for all." **Refrain**

3 Don't ever be discouraged, for Jesus is your friend;
 and if you lack for knowledge he'll ne'er refuse to lend. **Refrain**

Veni Sancte Spiritus**ELW #406**

Veni Sancte Spiritus, Veni Sancte Spiritus
 (it means Holy Spirit come to us, Holy Spirit come to us)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

-SENDING-

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN

Let Streams of Living Justice

ELW #710

DISMISSAL

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

** denotes a favorite hymn of the congregation*

- Activities at Faith -

- **Annual Congregational Meeting - Jan 26th, following worship, a potluck is planned, please see Jean Carter for more details!**
 - **Winter Newsletter is Out!** - (in your email, or in the Narthex)
 - **Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship** service is at 4pm on Tuesday, Dec 24th. Bring your friends and family to sing carols, lift up our cheer, celebrate Christ's birth and light candles in worship and praise!
 - Sign up for our awesome "Faith and Life Retreat" - **Believing the Bible** - coming to us on Saturday January 11th. This is for all interested friends, from any faith tradition! Information is in the Newsletter, in the Narthex, and registration is on our website. See Pr Shaun with any questions!
 - **Sunday Adult Forum** - No official meeting, but after worship find the latest chapter of Louis' book and write down any questions for him. We'll be back in the new year.
 - **Kids' Place** - Off through Jan 5th. Bring the kiddos back on Jan 12th!
 - **Sunday, Dec 29th** - Worship is Lessons and Carols. Friends and family are welcome to this inviting, gentle, song-filled service. Tell us your favorite carol for the hymn-sing!
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-Shared Harvest in January-

In January we need only **55 cans of Vegetables** and **5 sleeves of Saltine Crackers, 27 boxes of Cold Cereal and Shampoo** in unlimited quantities.

Thank you for your generous donations!

Come to Worship. Go to Serve. Embrace the Community.

www.faithlutheranreno.org

WORSHIP ASSISTANT SCHEDULE

	Dec 2024					
Task	1	8	15	22	C'MAS EVE 24	29
Greeter	Betty T	Richard S	Kathy W	Linda Z		Richard S
Acolyte	Pesis'	O'Reillys	Welmerinks	Pesis'	Welmerinks	O'Reillys
Reader	Pam S	Davyann S	Judi H	Jean C	Cindy T	Wes G
Asst. Minister	Judi H	Todd M	Cindy T	Sharon S	Louis L	Erica W
Cantor	Todd M	Wes G	Sam W	Sharon S	Louis L	None
Usher	Zach W & Matthew R	Lukas B & Dorothy B	Tom L & Annette W	Debbie H & Matthew R	Debbie H &	Lukas B & Zach W
Altar Guild	Trish D & Eileen W	Betty T & Annette W	Kathy W & Sharon S	Trish D & Annette W		Betty T & Annette W
Tech Support	The FLC Tech Team!					
Piano/Organ	Heinz Denoyo					
Accomp. Musician	Olivia Knock, Cellist					
Counters	Davyann S & Linda Z	Davyann S & Linda Z	Davyann S & Linda Z	Davyann S & Linda Z		Sigrun C & Theresa W
Coffee after Worship	COOKIE PALOOZA!					

Thank you for your hearts of service!