Faith Lutheran Church - Worship and Communion January 5, 2025 at 9:30 AM

Second Sunday of Christmas

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! Merry Christmas! We are a family of faith and so glad you are here!

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** 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 on the Second Sunday of Christmas: Within the gospel reading's profound words lies the simple message that God is revealed in a human person. Though we may try to understand how the Word existed with God from the beginning of time, the wonder we celebrate at Christmas is that the Word continues to dwell among us. Christ comes among us in the gathered assembly, the scriptures, the waters of new birth, and the bread and the wine. Through these ordinary gifts we receive the fullness of God's grace and truth.

<u>Serving Today:</u> Greeter, Judy C / Acolyte, Pesis Family / Reader, Pam S / Asst Minister, Judi HL / Cantor, Matthew R / Ushers, Tom L & Annette W / Altar Guild, Kathy W & Eileen W / Tech Support, The FLC Tech Team / Counters, Theresa W & Davyann S, Coffee after Worship, provided today by Jean C & Betty B, We are celebrating Jan birthdays!

-GATHERING-

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

moment of centering

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, \oplus one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting. **Amen.**

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

God-with-us,

we confess that we have turned away those seeking shelter, claiming there is no room when we have plenty. We have made power and wealth our idols, while you show us true glory: a baby in a manger. We have overlooked the shepherds, expecting good news in prettier packaging. Too often, we have valued violence instead of your peace. Turn us from our ways to your ways. Grant us the grace to begin again. Free us from all that keeps us bound, and forgive our sin, through Jesus Christ, who gives himself for us. Amen.

Hear the good news and rejoice! You are God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, + forgiven in Christ, and freed to respond in joy. Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

The First Noel

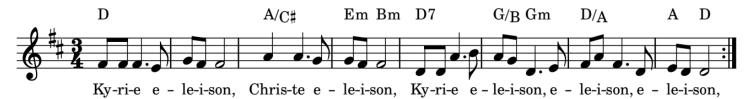
ELW #300

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



GLORIA



-WORD-

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:7-14

Thus says the LORD: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O Lord, your people, the remnant of Israel." See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn. Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock." For the Lord has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the LORD.

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

PSALM 147:12-20

Worship the LORD, | O Jerusalem; praise your | God, O Zion,

who has strengthened the bars | of your gates and has blessed your chil- | dren within you.

God has established peace | on your borders and satisfies you with the | finest wheat.

God sends out a command | to the earth, a word that runs | very swiftly.

God gives | snow like wool, scattering | frost like ashes.

God scatters | hail like bread crumbs.
Who can stand a- | gainst God's cold?

The Lord sends forth the | word and melts them; the wind blows, and the | waters flow.

God declares the | word to Jacob, statutes and judg- | ments to Israel.

The LORD has not done so to any | other nation; they do not know God's judgments. | Hallelujah!

Worship the LORD, | O Jerusalem; praise your | God, O Zion,

SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:3-14

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia! Lord to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia!

HOLY GOSPEL: John 1:1-18

The Holy Gospel according to John, the first chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did

not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you O Christ.

SERMON Full of Grace and Truth Rev. Shaun O'Reilly

HYMN OF THE DAY Hark the Herald Angels Sing ELW #270

NICENE CREED:

A. Let us confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed
We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. 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 Create in Me a Clean Heart ELW #186

OFFERING PRAYER

GREAT THANKSGIVING, PREFACE, and SANCTUS

The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.

Let us give thanks to our God.

And also with you.

We lift them to the Lord.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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

... and join their unending hymn:



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. 174

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.

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

ELW #276

- Infant holy, infant lowly, for his bed a cattle stall; oxen lowing, little knowing Christ the child is Lord of all. Swiftly winging, angels singing, bells are ringing, tidings bringing: Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!
- 2 Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of a gospel true.

 Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing, greet the morrow: Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!

What Feast of Love ELW #487

1 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!

2 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 crimson 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!

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

-SENDING-

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN

Let All Together Praise Our God

ELW #287

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. The Word of God dwells in you richly. **Thanks be to God.**

* denotes a favorite hymn of the congregation



Flowers today are given by Betty Brown in honor of her Family.

- Activities at Faith -

- <u>Join us in the new year for our "Faith and Life Retreat"</u> **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!
- Jan 12th and 19th Join the finance team after worship to look at the proposed budget for 2025 and ask any questions and get clarification.
- Kids' Place Classes resume on Jan 12th!
- 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)

-Shared Harvest in January-

In November we need only **364 cans of Vegetables**, **16 sleeves of Saltine Crackers**, **14 boxes of Cold Cereal** and **Deodorant** in unlimited quantities.

Thank you for your generous donations! Packing is <u>Sunday</u>, <u>Jan 26th</u>, 1pm @ St Luke's, Reno.

WORSHIP ASSISTANT SCHEDULE

		Jan 2025		
Task	5	12	19	26
Greeter	Judy C	Linda Z	Kathy W	Betty T
Acolyte	Pesis'	O'Reillys	Welmerinks	O'Reillys
Reader	Pam S	Erica W	Linda Z	Judi H
Asst. Minister	Judi H	Todd M	Cindy T	Louis L
Cantor	Matthew R	Todd M	Sam W	Louis L
	Tom L &	Debbie H &	Lukas B &	Matthew R &
Usher	Annette W	Matthew R	Tom L	Zack W
	Kathy W &	Betty T &	Sharon S &	Annette W &
Altar Guild	Eileen W	Annette W	Trish D	Betty T
Tech Support	The FLC Tech Team!			
Piano/Organ	Heinz Denoyo			
Accompanying				
Musician	Olivia Knock, Cellist			
	Theresa W &	Stan P &	Sigrun C &	Linda Z &
Counters	Davyann S	Linda Z	Davyann S	Mary W
Coffee after	JAN B'DAYS	Kathy W	Eileen W	Amy &
Worship	Jean C/Betty B			Linda Z

Thank you for your hearts of service!

Come to Worship. Go to Serve. Embrace the Community. www.faithlutheranreno.org