

Faith Lutheran Church - Worship and Communion
February 2, 2025 at 9:30 AM
Presentation of Our Lord



Welcome! We are a family of faith and so glad you are here!
 Congregation responses appear in bold throughout 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** is available during worship if you are moved to light as a representation of your prayer for someone or something or in the thanksgiving or sorrows of your heart. All are especially welcome during communion as we sing and commune and pray.

In Worship on the Presentation of Our Lord Sunday: This festival day is always on February 2nd, the cross-quarter day between winter solstice and spring equinox; this year it's a Sunday. Also called "Candlemas," the service includes an ancient tradition blessing the candles to be used in the coming year. We underscore Simeon's epiphanic confession that this baby Jesus was "a light for revelation to the Gentiles" and a light for glory to Israel. Let the light of every candle in church be a little epiphany of the love of God for all people in the person of God's son, Jesus, the light of the world.

Serving Today: *Greeter*, Judy C / *Acolyte*, Pesis Family / *Reader*, Pam S / *Asst Minister*, Judi H / *Cantor*, Wes G / *Ushers*, Debbie H & Lukas B / *Altar Guild*, Eileen W & Kathy W / *Tech Support*, The FLC Tech Team / *Counters*, Davyann S & Theresa W / *Coffee after Worship*, **Italia il Partito** provided today by your Fellowship Team! Plus Happy Birthday February cake!

Connections with the Liturgy

When Simeon holds the child in his arms, he is ready to face death, and he sings praise to the light of God. Since at least 1531, Lutherans have sung Simeon's song after receiving communion (Evangelical Lutheran Worship, p. 113). As we hold out our hands, we receive in them the body of Christ, our salvation and the light of the world. We hold out our hands as if our palm is like a cradle for the infant, like a throne for the king. In Night Prayer (Evangelical Lutheran Worship, p. 324) we continue the monastic medieval practice of singing this canticle at bedtime, since sleep can be likened to death.

Consider today's Psalm:

Psalm 84 inserts worshipers into the Lucan narrative, for now it is all of us who are glad to be in the temple. The psalm is filled with metaphors: God's dwelling is like the sparrow's nest, water in the desert, the heights of Zion, the king's court, the place of the light of the sun, and a shield of protection. For Christians, Christ is the temple in whom we encounter all these good things.

-GATHERING-

PRELUDE

"Now Thank We All Our God"

arr. George Lachenauer

ANNOUNCEMENTS

moment of centering

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting. **Amen.**
 Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

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

*Angels, from the Realms of Glory**

ELW #275

GREETING

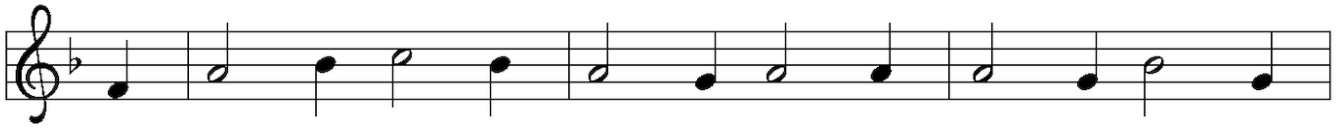
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
 and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

KYRIE

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Chris - te e - le - i - son.

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son, e - le - i - son, e - le - i - son.

GLORIA



1 All glo - ry be to God on high, and peace to earth be
 2 Lord Je - sus Christ, the on - ly Son of God, cre - a - tion's
 3 To you a - lone, O God, we cry, the Ho - ly One we



giv - en! Let an - gels sing, let all re - ply; good -
 au - thor, O Lamb of God, your death a - lone takes
 name you; for you a - lone are God most high, one



will breaks forth from heav - en! Lord God Al - might - y,
 sin a - way for - ev - er. Stretch out your arms to
 liv - ing God we claim you: we wor - ship you, Lord



heav - en's king, we wor - ship you, our thanks we sing, we
 ev - 'ry land, and, as you reign at God's right hand, re -
 Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it ev - er blest, in



praise you for your glo - ry.
 ceive our prayer; have mer - cy.
 God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. A - - - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

-WORD-**FIRST READING:** Malachi 3:1-4

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

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

PSALM 84**Refrain**

How dear to me | is your dwelling,
O | LORD of hosts!

My soul has a desire and longing for the courts | of the LORD;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the | living God.

**Even the sparrow has found a home, and the swallow
a nest where she may | lay her young,
by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts, my king | and my God.
Happy are they who dwell | in your house!
They will always be | praising you. R**

Happy are the people whose strength | is in you,
whose hearts are set on the | pilgrims' way.
Those who go through the balsam valley will find it a | place of springs,
for the early rains have covered it with | pools of water.

**They will climb from | height to height,
and the God of gods will be | seen in Zion.
LORD God of hosts, | hear my prayer;
give ear, O | God of Jacob. R**

Behold our defend- | er, O God;
and look upon the face of | your anointed.

For one day in your courts is better than a | thousand elsewhere.
 I would rather stand at the threshold of the house of my God than
 dwell in the tents | of the wicked.

**For the LORD God is both sun and shield, bestowing | grace and glory;
 no good thing will the LORD withhold from those who walk | with integrity.**

**O | LORD of hosts,
 happy are they who put their | trust in you! R**

SECOND READING: Hebrews 2:14-18

Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, [Jesus] himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

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: Luke 2:22-40

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the second chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

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 (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons." Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, "Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel." And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him.

Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner

thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.” There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

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

SERMON

Released by God!

Rev. Shaun O’Reilly

HYMN OF THE DAY

Now, Lord

ELW #201

RESPONSE OF FAITH

A: Let us confess our faith in the words of the 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.

MUSICAL OFFERING

"This Little Light of Mine"

instrumental, arr. K. Kobayashi

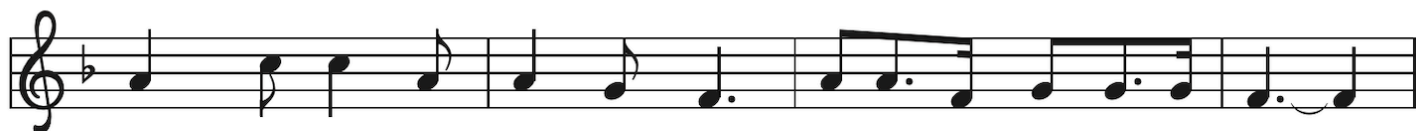
PRESENTATION HYMN

Jesus, the Light of the World

ACS #914



- | | | |
|---|---|---------------------------------|
| 1 | Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, | Je-sus, the Light of the world; |
| 2 | Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; | Je-sus, the Light of the world; |
| 3 | Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, | Je-sus, the Light of the world; |
| 4 | Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace! | Je-sus, the Light of the world; |



- | | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| "Glo - ry to the new-born king," | Je-sus, the Light of the world. |
| join the tri - umph of the skies; | Je-sus, the Light of the world. |
| Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord! | Je-sus, the Light of the world. |
| Hail the Sun of righ-teous-ness! | Je-sus, the Light of the world. |

Refrain

We'll walk in the light, beau-ti-ful light, come where the dew-drops of mer-cy are bright.



Shine all a-round us by day and by night, Je-sus, the Light of the world.

OFFERING PRAYER

GREAT THANKSGIVING, PREFACE, and SANCTUS

The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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


And also with you.

We lift them to the Lord.


It is right to give our thanks and praise.

... and join their unending hymn:


Refrain/Estrillo



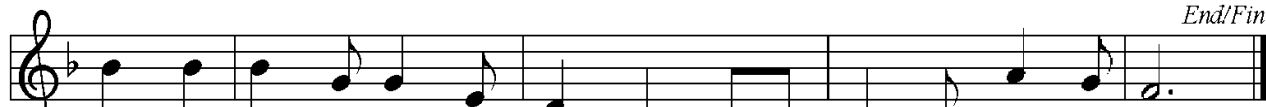
San - to, san - to, san - to, san - to, san - to, san - to, san - to, es nues - tro Dios,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is our God,



Se - ñor de to - da la tie - rra. San - to, san - to, es nues - tro Dios.
God, the Lord of earth and heav - en. Ho - ly, ho - ly is our God.



San - to, san - to, san - to, san - to, san - to, san - to, es nues - tro Dios,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is our God,



Se - ñor de to - da la his - to - ria. San - to, san - to, es nues - tro Dios.
God, the Lord of all of his - t'ry. Ho - ly, ho - ly is our God. *End/Fin*

Leader sings Verse, then ALL Repeat Refrain

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.

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

ELW #490



- 1 Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence, and with fear and trem - bling stand;
- 2 King of kings, yet born of Mar - y, as of old on earth he stood,
- 3 Rank on rank the host of heav - en spreads its van - guard on the way;
- 4 At his feet the six - winged ser - aph, cher - u - bim with sleep - less eye,



pon - der noth - ing earth - ly - mind - ed, for with bless - ing in his hand
 Lord of lords in hu - man ves - ture, in the bod - y and the blood,
 as the Light of light, de - scend - ing from the realms of end - less day,
 veil their fac - es to the pres - ence, as with cease - less voice they cry:



Christ our God to earth de - scend - ing comes full hom - age to de - mand.
 he will give to all the faith - ful his own self for heav'n - ly food.
 comes, the pow'rs of hell to van - quish, as the dark - ness clears a - way.
 "Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!"

Here Is Bread

ELW #483

- 1 Here is bread, here is wine, Christ is with us, he is with us
 Break the bread, taste the wine, Christ is with us here.

Refrain In this bread there is healing, in this cup is life forever.
 In this moment, by the Spirit, Christ is with us here

2 Here is grace, here is peace, Christ is with us, he is with us.
Know his grace, find his peace, feast on Jesus here. **Refrain**

3 Here we are, joined in one, Christ is with us, he is with us.
We'll proclaim till he comes Jesus crucified. **Refrain**

Eat this Bread

ELW #472

Eat this bread, drink this cup,
come to me and never be hungry.
Eat this bread, drink this cup,
trust in me and you will not thirst.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

-SENDING-

FEB BIRTHDAYS / CANDLEMAS PRAYER & BLESSING

SENDING HYMN

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

ELW #545

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you. **Thanks be to God.**

** denotes a favorite hymn of the congregation*



Faith Lutheran Church encourages you to "host" the flowers for the altar in memorial, celebration, honorarium, etc... of a loved one or special event. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

- Activities at Faith -

- **Annual Congregational Meeting - TODAY! Sun, Jan 26th, after worship,** followed by Potluck Luncheon.
- **Kids' Place - 10:50am**
- **Italia il Partito - Sun, Feb 2nd,** following worship. The Fellowship Team is providing a full course Italian Spaghetti Lunch. Join us!
- **Lunch Bunch - Wed, Feb 5th, Noon,** Potluck luncheon, bring a dish to share. We will be kicking off the new year with a presentation for Note-Able Music Therapy Services. We will be accepting donations for their non-profit organization.

-Shared Harvest in February-

For February we need **26 boxes cold cereal, 28 jars of peanut butter, bars of soap** in unlimited quantities. Packing will be at St Luke's, Sun, 2/23 @ 1pm.

WORSHIP ASSISTANT SCHEDULE

	Feb 2025			
Task	2	9	16	23
Greeter	Judy C	Richard S	Kathy W	Linda Z
Acolyte	Pesis'	O'Reillys	Welmerinks	Pesis'
Reader	Pam S	Dorothy B	Wes G	Jean C
Asst. Minister	Judi H	Erica W	Sharon S	Todd M
Cantor	Wes G	Matthew R	Sharon S	Todd M
Usher	Debbie H & Lukas B	Tom L & Annette W	Zach W & Matthew R	Lukas B & Dorothy B
Altar Guild	Eileen W & Kathy W	Betty T & Annette W	Sharon S & Trish D	Betty T & Annette W
Tech Support	The FLC Tech Team!			
Piano/Organ	Heinz Denoyo			
Accompanying Musician	Olivia Knock, Cellist			
Counters	Davyann S & Mary W	Linda Z & Stan P	Sigrun C & Davyann S	Sigrun C & Linda Z
Coffee after Worship	Fellowship Italian Lunch		Jim & Cindy T	Theresa W

Thank you for your hearts of service!

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