



Faith Lutheran
December 13th 2020

WELCOME

Thank you for worshipping with us today.

Please sign the guest register in the entry
as you leave the church today.

TODAY'S SERVICE

December 13th, 2020

Liturgy: Common Service

Speaker: Pastor Matthew Ude

Organist: Ann Sprengeler

PRE-SERVICE DEVOTION

Psalm 126

When the LORD brought back the captivity
of Zion, We were like those who dream. ²
Then our mouth was filled with laughter,
And our tongue with singing. Then they said
among the nations, "The LORD has done
great things for them." ³ The LORD has
done great things for us, *And* we are glad. ⁴
Bring back our captivity, O LORD, As the
streams in the South. ⁵ Those who sow in
tears Shall reap in joy. ⁶ He who continually
goes forth weeping, Bearing seed for sowing,
Shall doubtless come again with rejoicing,
Bringing his sheaves *with him*.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

#85:1-4 "From Heaven Above to Earth I Come"

by Martin Luther, 1483-1546 (MFH pg. 44)

1. "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:

2. "To you this night is born a child

Of Mary, chosen virgin mild;

This little child, of lowly birth,

Shall be the joy of all the earth.

3. "This is the Christ, our God and Lord,

Who in all need shall aid afford;

He will Himself your Savior be

From all your sins to set you free.

4. "He will on you the gifts bestow
Prepared by God for all below,
That in His kingdom, bright and fair,
You may with us His glory share.

INVOCATION

p In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.



c A - men.

CONFESSION OF SINS

p Beloved of God: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking Him, in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to grant us forgiveness.


all Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. for this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.



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

The musical notation consists of two staves in a single system. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in a simple, rhythmic style. The lyrics are placed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The first staff ends with a double bar line. The second staff continues the melody and lyrics, also ending with a double bar line.

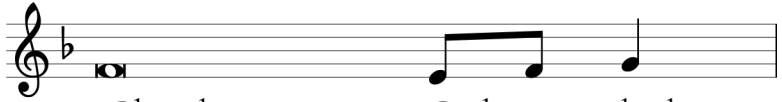
p Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



c A - - - men.

The musical notation consists of a single staff in a single system. It begins with a treble clef. The melody is written in a simple, rhythmic style. The lyrics are placed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The first staff ends with a double bar line.

p In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.



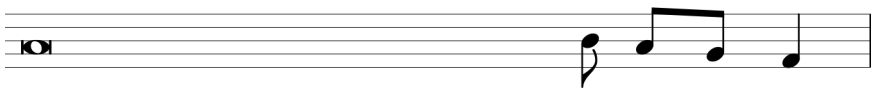
c Glory be to God on high,



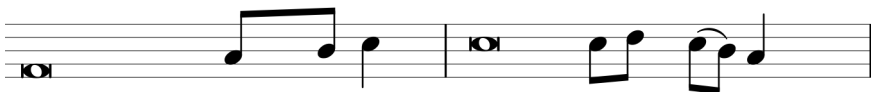
and on earth peace, good will toward men,



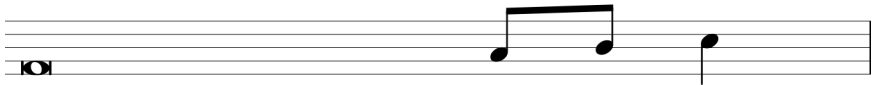
We praise you, we bless you, we wor - ship you,



we glorify you, we give thanks to you, for your great glory



O Lord God, heav'nly King God the Father al - mighty,



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



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



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



You take away the sin of the world; receive our prayer.



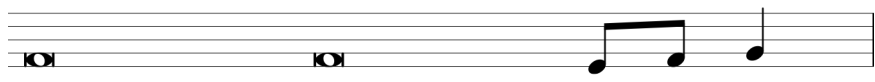
You sit at the right hand of God the Father;



have mercy on us, For you only are holy;



you only are the Lord.



You only, O Christ, with the Holy Spirit,



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

p The Lord be with you.



c

And al - so with you.

p

Let us pray . . . Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



c

A - men.

THE WORD

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 "The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon Me, Because the LORD has anointed Me To preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the broken-hearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives, And the opening of the prison to *those who are bound*; ² To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, And the day of

vengeance of our God; To comfort all who mourn, ³ To console those who mourn in Zion, To give them beauty for ashes, The oil of joy for mourning, The garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; That they may be called trees of righteousness, The planting of the LORD, that He may be glorified." ⁴ And they shall rebuild the old ruins, They shall raise up the former desolations, And they shall repair the ruined cities, The desolations of many generations . . . ⁸ "For I, the LORD, love justice; I hate robbery for burnt offering; I will direct their work in truth, And will make with them an everlasting covenant. ⁹ Their descendants shall be known among the Gentiles, And their offspring among the people. All who see them shall acknowledge them, That they *are* the posterity *whom* the LORD has blessed." ¹⁰ I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, My soul shall be joyful in my God; For He has clothed me with the garments of salvation, He has covered me with the robe of righteousness, As a bridegroom decks *himself* with ornaments, And as a bride adorns *herself* with her jewels. ¹¹ For as the earth brings forth its bud, As the garden causes the things that are sown in it to spring forth, So the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 ¹⁶ Rejoice always, ¹⁷ pray without ceasing, ¹⁸ in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ¹⁹ Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰ Do not despise prophecies. ²¹ Test all things; hold fast what is good. ²² Abstain from every form of evil. ²³ Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴ He who calls you is faithful, who also will do it.

p Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it!



c Alle - lu - ia! Alle - lu - ia! Alle - lu - ia!

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins, The resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.

#61 "Comfort, Comfort, Ye My People"

by Johann Olearius, 1635-1711

1. Comfort, comfort, ye My people,
Speak ye peace, thus saith our God;
Comfort those who sit in darkness,
Mourning 'neath their sorrows' load.
Speak ye to Jerusalem
Of the peace that waits for them;
Tell her that her sins I cover
And her warfare now is over.

2. Yea, her sins our God will pardon,
Blotting out each dark misdeed;
All that well deserved His anger
He no more will see or heed.
She hath suffered many a day,
Now her griefs have passed away;
God will change her pining sadness
Into ever-springing gladness.

3. Hark, the Herald's voice is crying
In the desert far and near,
Bidding all men to repentance
Since the Kingdom now is here.
Oh, that warning cry obey!
Now prepare for God a way;
Let the valleys rise to meet Him
And the hills bow down to greet Him.

4. Make ye straight what long was crooked,
Make the rougher places plain;
Let your hearts be true and humble,
As befits His holy reign.
For the glory of the Lord
Now o'er earth is shed abroad,
And all flesh shall see the token
That His Word is never broken.

SERMON

John 1:6-8,19-28 ⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name *was* John. ⁷ This man came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all through him might believe. ⁸ He was not that Light, but *was sent* to bear witness of that Light . . . ¹⁹ Now this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" ²⁰ He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, "I am not the Christ." ²¹ And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" And he answered, "No." ²² Then they said to him, "Who are you, that we may give an answer to those who sent us? What do you say about yourself?" ²³ He said: "I *am* the voice of one crying in the wilderness: "Make straight the way of the LORD," as the prophet Isaiah said." ²⁴ Now those who were sent were from the Pharisees. ²⁵ And they asked him, saying, "Why then do you baptize if you are not the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?" ²⁶ John answered them, saying, "I baptize with water, but there stands One among you whom you do not know. ²⁷ "It is He who, coming after me, is preferred be-

fore me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to loose." ²⁸
These things were done in Bethabara beyond the Jordan,
where John was baptizing.

CHRIST GIVES US REASON TO REJOICE

(sermon worksheet on last page of bulletin)

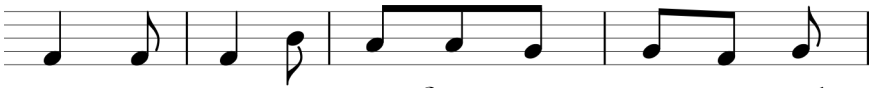
Christ is so near he stands among us.
His salvation shines in our dark hearts.
When he finds us unprepared he cleans our hearts.



Create in me a clean heart, O God,



and re - new a right spir - it with - in me.



Cast me not a - way from your pres-ence, and



take not your Ho-ly Spir-it from me. Re - store un-to



me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up-



hold me with your free Spir-it. A - men.

Prayers and The Lord's Prayer

all 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 BENEDICTION

p The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.



c A - men. A - men. A - men.

#106:1-3 "The People That in Darkness Sat"

by John Morison, 1749-1798

1. The people that in darkness sat
A glorious light have seen;
The light has shined on them who long
In shades of death have been.

2. To hail Thee, Sun of Righteousness,
The gathering nations come;
They joy as when the reapers bear
Their harvest treasures home.

3. For Thou their burden dost remove
And break the tyrant's rod
As in the day when Midian fell
Before the sword of God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, December 13

8:30 am Worship Service
9:30 am Christmas Eve Practice
9:30 am Bible Class
10:30 am Worship Service

Wednesday December 9

4:30pm Confirmation Class
7 pm Advent Service

Sunday, December 20

8:30 am Worship Service
9:30 am Christmas Eve Practice
9:30 am Bible Class
10:30 am Worship Service

USHERS FOR DECEMBER,

Sundays and Christmas Eve :

Russ Brown, Mike Dumke,
Adam Frederick, Blaine Kempenaar

Advent, Christmas Day,

New Year's Day:

Bob McElroy, Kent Quade,
Randy Strelow, Geoffrey Ward

UPCOMING

December 24-

6:30 pm Christmas Eve Program

December 24 -

8:15 pm Christmas Eve Song Service

December 25-

10 am Christmas Day Service

December 31 -

7 pm New Year's Eve Service

FRUITS OF FAITH

General \$ 5145.00

Missions \$ 190.00

Building Fund \$ 75.00

ILC Improvement Fund \$ 50.00

ATTENDANCE

Sunday Service - 78

Second Service - 15

Bible Class - 11

**There are still membership books
are on a table in the hallway. If you
have not taken one, please do.**

COUNTERS

This Week: Team # 6

Ronald Kearley, Keith Dickerson

Next Week: Team #1

Dean Bremer, Frank Quade

OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP

Church Cleaning, if you are able to help clean the church every once in a while please talk to Marsha Brown.

CHRISTMAS EVE SONG SERVICE

There is quite a lot of interest in the Christmas eve song service. If you are thinking about coming please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board so that we can have a estimate how many might be coming.

BAG FOR LYNETTE

There is a bag for Lynette Huyser on the table in the office. If anyone would like to send a Christmas gift to Lynette please put it in the bag. The bag will be there until Dec 21.

ILC CHRISTMAS CONCERT

The ILC Christmas Concert will be held Friday, December 18 at 7:00 pm. Because of the mild forecast for Friday, the concert will be held outside on the hillside next to the gym. Guests are encouraged to bring their own chairs, if they wish. Because of the considerable space we have outdoors, it will be open to the public.

CALL NEWS

Pastor Del Maas, Gift of God, Mapleton, ND and St. Paul, Ponsford, MN has returned the call extended to him by Redeemer, Bowdle and Zion, Ipswich, SD.

Sermon Worksheet—John 1:7-9,19-28

INTRODUCTION

1. What color is the advent candle for this Sunday?
2. Why is it this color?

PART 1

1. Just how close was Christ's coming in the day of John?
3. How close is Christ's coming to you?



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