



HE WILL
FEED HIS
FLOCK
LIKE A
SHEPHERD.

Faith Lutheran Church

December 10th 2023

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 10th, 2023

2nd Sunday in Advent

Liturgy: Common Service

Speaker: Pastor Matthew Ude

Organist: Ann Sprengeler

Liturgy: Common Service from *Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal* © 1993 Northwestern Publishing House

PRE-SERVICE DEVOTION

Psalm 85

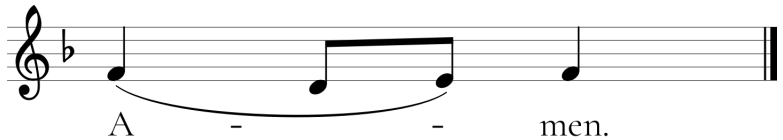
LORD, You have been favorable to Your land; You have brought back the captivity of Jacob. ² You have forgiven the iniquity of Your people; You have covered all their sin. Selah ³ You have taken away all Your wrath; You have turned from the fierceness of Your anger. ⁴ Restore us, O God of our salvation, And cause Your anger toward us to cease. ⁵ Will You be angry with us forever? Will You prolong Your anger to all generations? ⁶ Will You not revive us again, That Your people may rejoice in You? ⁷ Show us Your mercy, LORD, And grant us Your salvation. ⁸ I will hear what God the LORD will speak, For He will speak peace To His people and to His saints; But let them not turn back to folly. ⁹ Surely His salvation is near to those who fear Him, That glory may dwell in our land. ¹⁰ Mercy and truth have met together; Righteousness and peace have kissed. ¹¹ Truth shall spring out of the earth, And righteousness shall look down from heaven. ¹² Yes, the LORD will give *what is good*; And our land will yield its increase. ¹³ Righteousness will go before Him, And shall make His footsteps *our* pathway.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

#63:1-4 On Jordan's Bank the Baptist Cry

INVOCATION

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



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.



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

p God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given His only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.



A - - - men.

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



1. Joy has dawned up - on the world, prom-ised from cre-
2. Sounds of won - der fill the sky with the songs of



a-tion: God's sal - va - tion now un-furled, hope for ev-ery
an-gels, as the might - y Prince of Life shel-ters in a



na - tion. Not with fan-fares from a - bove,
sta - ble. Hands that set each star in — place.



not with scenes of glo - ry, but a hum - ble
shaped the earth in dark-ness, cling now to a



gift of love: — Je - sus, born of Ma - ry. Glo -
moth-er's breast vul-n'ra - ble and help-less.



- - ri - a in ex-cel-sis De-o;



Glo - - - ri - a

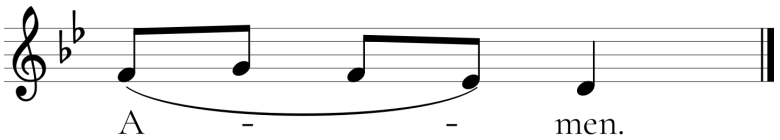


in ex - cel - sis De - o.

p The Lord be with you.



p Let us pray . . . Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



THE WORD

2 **Peter 3:8-14** ⁸ But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day *is* as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. ⁹ The Lord is not slack concerning *His* promise, as some count slackness, but is long-suffering toward us[†], not willing that any should perish

but that all should come to repentance. ¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up¹. ¹¹ Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of *persons* ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, ¹² looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat? ¹³ Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. ¹⁴ Therefore, beloved, looking forward to these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, without spot and blameless;

Mark 1:1-8 The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. ² As it is written in the Prophets: "Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, Who will prepare Your way before You²." ³ "The voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the LORD; Make His paths straight¹.'" ⁴ John came baptizing in the wilderness and preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of

sins. ⁵ Then all the land of Judea, and those from Jerusalem, went out to him and were all baptized by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins. ⁶ Now John was clothed with camel's hair and with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷ And he preached, saying, "There comes One after me who is mightier than I, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to stoop down and loose. ⁸ "I indeed baptized you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

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



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

SERMON

Isaiah 40:1-11 "Comfort, yes, comfort My people!" Says your God. ² "Speak comfort to Jerusalem, and cry out to her, That her warfare is ended, That her iniquity is pardoned; For she has received from the LORD'S hand Double for all her sins." ³ The voice of one crying in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the LORD; Make straight in the desert^t A highway for our God. ⁴ Every valley shall be exalted And every mountain and hill brought low; The crooked places shall be made straight And the rough places smooth; ⁵ The glory of the LORD shall be revealed, And all flesh shall see *it* together; For the mouth of the LORD has spoken." ⁶ The voice said, "Cry out!" And he^t said, "What shall I cry?" "All flesh is grass, And all its loveliness *is* like the flower of the field. ⁷ The grass withers, the flower fades, Because the breath of the LORD blows upon it; Surely the people *are* grass. ⁸ The grass withers, the flower fades, But the word of our God stands forever." ⁹ O Zion, You who bring good tidings, Get up into the high mountain; O Jerusalem, You who bring good tidings, Lift up your voice with strength, Lift *it* up, be not afraid;

Say to the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!" ¹⁰ Behold, the Lord GOD shall come with a strong *hand*, And His arm shall rule for Him; Behold, His reward *is* with Him, And His work before Him. ¹¹ He will feed His flock like a shepherd; He will gather the lambs with His arm, And carry *them* in His bosom, *And* gently lead those who are with young.

THE DOUBLE MERCY WHICH ENDURES

All the greatest works of men fade as nothing before the breath of the Lord. It is only when we clothe ourselves in the double mercy of God's promises that we can stand. This is the comfort that we receive and which we share. Christ has come as our true and tender shepherd. We are forever his little lambs.

(worksheet page 18)



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.

#701 Prepare the Royal Highway

Offering #441:1-2

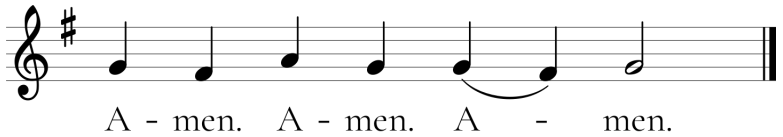
We give Thee but Thine own, Whate'er the gift may be
All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.
May we Thy bounties thus As stewards true receive
And gladly, as Thou blessest us, To Thee our first fruits give!

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.



#91:1-4 Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, December 10

9am Worship Service
10am Christmas Eve Practice
10:15am Bible Class
2 pm Christmas Caroling

Tuesday, December 12

6:30pm Elders' Meeting
7:30pm Council Meeting

Wednesday, December 13

3:45pm Confirmation Class
7pm Advent Service
7:45pm Voters' Meeting

Friday, December 15

3:30pm BB practice

Sunday, December 17

9am Worship Service
10am Christmas Eve Practice
10:15am Bible Class

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 13, 8pm Voters' Meeting
December 24, 6:30pm Christmas Eve
December 25, 10am Christmas Day
December 31, 7pm New Year's Eve

USHERS FOR DECEMBER

Benjamin Lillo, Blaine Kempenar,
Mike Dumke

COUNTERS

This Week Team # 5

Steve Meilahn, Jim Kok

Next Week Team # 6

Bill Jenkins, Adam Frederick

FRUITS OF FAITH

Sunday Service – 71
General Fund – \$3437
Missions - \$120
School – 25

CHRISTMAS CAROLING

The church is invited to join us in caroling on Sunday December 10th. We will meet in the church at 2pm. Lisa and Marion have volunteered to provide Chili after the caroling. Those who come are welcome to bring a side dish or dessert.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11
Psalm 126
1 Thess. 5:16- 24
John 1:6-8, 19- 28

CALL NEWS

Pastor Michael Wilke of Gethsemane Lutheran of Saginaw, MI, is still considering the calls from Calvary

Lutheran of Marquette, MI and St. Peter's Lutheran of Iron River, MI.

Pastor David Pfeiffer of Holy Trinity Lutheran in West Columbia, SC is still considering a call from Immanuel Lutheran in Mankato, MN.

Michaela Winters, lower grade teacher at Messiah Lutheran in Hales Corners, WI is resigning at the conclusion of the current school year to spend more time with her infant daughter.

WALK WITH THE APOSTLE PAUL

(Greece and Turkey trip)

A group trip to Greece and Turkey is planned for May 27-June 5, 2024. The trip will include visits to Athens, Corinth, Berea, Thessaloniki, Philippi, Ephesus and much more. It will include visits to the traditional sites of many of the cities and churches the Apostle Paul visited as recorded in the Book of Acts. We will be reminded of the zeal and spread of the early Christian church. A video of a similar trip can be seen here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ul-o6E47MMw>. If you would like more information about this trip, please contact Nathanael Mayhew (nnmayhew@sleepyeyelutheran.com

). Brochures with additional trip details are available upon request.

ILC CHRISTMAS CONCERT

ILC will present its Christmas Choral Service, "The King in the Cradle," on Friday, December 15, 2023 at 7:30 pm CST at Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI. The service will be live-streamed and recorded. The stream will be accessible via youtube.com/ilcvideos and ilc.edu/tv

FLOODING IN INDIA

Please keep our brothers and sisters in Southern India (BELC) in your prayers. The area is being hit by a hurricane (called a cyclone there) and flooding. This has caused damage to church roofs, members, and pastor's houses. Many have had to evacuate and stay in temporary shelters. One of the chairmen who lives near the MLBS (BELC seminary) had to evacuate his house and he and his family are staying in the BELC office.

There has also been flooding and mudslides in Tanzania.

Sermon Worksheet - Isaiah 40:1-11

Preservice

Think about those times in your life when there was/is a lot of fighting and striving with your family/friends. What methods did/are you use(ing) to try and stop it? Which if any were successful?

Sermon

How is God's word described?

How do we prepare for God?

What do we receive from God?

What happens to the greatest works of men?

What was the purpose of Israel?

How did Israel proclaim the name of God?

How did Israel fail to proclaim the name of God?

What is meant by the “strong arm of God?”

What lesson did Zachariah learn?

How does God end our striving?



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