



Christmas Eve
SERVICE

Christmas Eve Worship
3:00 & 5:00 PM

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH | Inviting, Growing, Serving...

Becoming fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

December 24, 2023

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Faith is a growing faith community in the Aurora area. We're people just like you, who are hungry to know God better. We're looking for the answers to life's tough questions. We're struggling to be better parents, spouses, friends, and neighbors. We don't have all the answers but we're growing as we go.

Faith is a great place to find healing for broken hearts and broken lives. In every Sunday message you'll learn new skills and attitudes to help you live life with the kind of joy that God intends for us. You'll also meet people who are also growing in their journey through the joys and challenges of life. You'll find lots of "walking partners" for your journey here. There are no closed doors at Faith, just lots of opportunities to grow in Christ, friendship, and love.

Faith is a church with a great vision; however, accomplishing a great vision requires the participation of many great people like you. There's a place in our vision for you to use your unique gifts and talents.

The Gathering

CHRISTMAS CALL TO WORSHIP (Please Stand)

P: Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people...

**C: In the city of David, Bethlehem, a Savior has been born.
He is Christ, the Lord!**

P: And this shall be a sign to you...

**C: You will find a babe, wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in
a manger.**

P: Glory to God in the highest and peace to God's people on earth!

C: O come, let us worship the newborn King!

THE PROCESSIONAL CAROL

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Oh come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant
Oh Come ye, Oh come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him, Born the King of angels:

**Chorus: Oh come, let us adore Him, Oh come, let us adore Him
Oh come let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord**

Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation,
Oh Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above
Glory to God, in the highest: **(Chorus)**

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, Born this happy morning;
Jesus, to Thee be all Glory given
Word of the Father, Now in flesh appearing: **(Chorus)**

THE CHRISTMAS GREETING & WELCOME

The Word

THE CHRISTMAS STORY

Luke 2: 1-7

THE CHRISTMAS CAROL RESPONSE

What Child Is This

What child is this, who, laid to rest,
on Mary's lap is sleeping?
whom angels greet with anthems sweet
while shepherds watch are keeping?

This, this is Christ the King,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud,
the babe, the son of Mary!

Why lies He in such mean estate
where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here
the silent Word is pleading.

Nails, spear shall pierce him through,
the cross be borne for me, for you;
hail, hail the Word made flesh,
the babe, the son of Mary!

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;
come, peasant, king, to own Him.
The King of Kings salvation brings;
let loving hearts enthrone him.

Raise, raise the song on high,
the virgin sings her lullaby;
joy, joy, for Christ is born,
the babe, the son of Mary!

THE CHRISTMAS STORY

Luke 2: 8-14

THE CHRISTMAS CAROL RESPONSE

Angels We Have Heard on High

Angels we have heard on high,
sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply,
echoing their joyous strains.

**Chorus: Gloria in excelsis Deo;
Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
which inspire your heav'nly song? **(Chorus)**

Come to Bethlehem and see
Christ whose birth the angels sing
Come adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord the newborn King **(Chorus)**

THE CHRISTMAS STORY

Luke 2: 15-20

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE – 3:00 service

THE CHRISTMAS CAROL RESPONSE- 5:00 service

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear/ The First Noel

It came upon the midnight clear
That glorious song of old
From angels bending near the earth
To touch their harps of gold
Peace on the earth good will to all
From heaven's all gracious King
The world in solemn stillness lay
To hear the angels sing

For lo the days are hastening on
By prophets seen of old
When with the ever-circling years
Shall come the time foretold
When peace shall over all the earth
Its ancient splendors fling
And all the world give back the song
Which now the angels sing

The first Noel the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep
On a cold winter's night that was so deep

**Chorus: Noel Noel Noel Noel
Born is the King of Israel**

They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the east beyond them far
And to the earth it gave great light
And so it continued both day and night **(Chorus)**

THE CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

When Love Came Down | Pastor Rob Douglas

CHRISTMAS CAROL

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful, all you nations rise; join the triumph of the skies;
With angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold him come, offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the God-head see! Hail, incarnate deity!
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel!
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
Born to raise each child of earth, born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

OFFERING

The Meal

THE CHRISTMAS PRAYER (Please Stand)

P: Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

THE CHRISTMAS COMMUNION

P: On this silent night, God is with you.

C: God is also with you.

P: On this holy night, God's Grace comes to us.

**C: Our hearts rejoice in His becoming one of us,
that we might become one with God.**

P: On this Night of nights, the shadows of the world
melt away before God's Light.

**C: We join the choirs of angels in singing to the universe
the good news of the birth of Jesus.**

P: This is the night your heart bursts open with Joy,
this is the evening Grace pours out of heaven,
this is the moment when you come
to make all things new,
ever-creating God.

You shaped light out of the shadows of chaos,
and molded your children from the earth,
looking in the mirror as you formed us,
breathing your Spirit into our empty lungs.

Your love for us was so passionate,
that you sent your only Son
to become one of us
that we might be one with you again.

So on this night when heaven reaches down
to caress creation with healing,
we join the angel choirs who sang your glory,
and with your people in every time and place,
caroling the good news which is ours:

**C: Gloria! Gloria! In excelsis deo!
Hosanna in the highest!**

**Blessed is the One born this night for us.
Hosanna in the highest!**

P: Pour out your Spirit upon us,
Wonderful Counselor,
and on the gifts you have given us.
We lift the broken bread,
praying we would be made whole,
at peace with one another,
and reconciled to you.
As we drink from the vineyard of grace,
we believe that our salvation has come,
and we are one with Christ,
our flesh filled with his spirit of sacrifice,
our spirits refreshed by his compassionate heart.
As your joy flows into us,
may we become a river
carrying your justice to the poor;
as your hope sings in our hearts,
may we carry your righteousness to all who suffer.
And as we taste the promise
of the feast you prepare for us in your kingdom,
may we live for you and serve your children,
as we have been served by the Child of Christmas,
Jesus Christ, our blessed Savior. Amen.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

AN INVITATION

We invite you to share in Holy Communion, regardless of your church background or lack thereof. We believe that God is present in the bread and wine as it becomes the body and blood of Jesus Christ and that this presence is a gift of grace in the lives of those who receive it. All are welcomed to the table enjoy this gift of God's love and grace. Grape juice is in the center of the tray. Gluten free wafers available at the usher stand.

COMMUNION SONG

Do You Hear What I Hear

Said the night wind to the little lamb,
Do you see what I see? (Do you see what I see?)
Way up in the sky, little lamb
Do you see what I see? (Do you see what I see?)
A star, a star, dancing in the night
With a tail as big as a kite
With a tail as big as a kite

Said the little lamb to the shepherd boy
Do you hear what I hear? (Do you hear what I hear?)
Ringing through the sky, shepherd boy
Do you hear what I hear? (Do you hear what I hear?)
A song, a song high above the trees
With a voice as big as the sea
With a voice as big as the sea

Said the shepherd boy to the mighty king
Do you know what I know? (Do you know what I know?)
In your palace warm, mighty king
Do you know what I know? (Do you know what I know?)
A Child, a Child shivers in the cold
Let us bring him silver and gold
Let us bring him silver and gold

Said the king to the people everywhere
Listen to what I say! (Listen to what I say!)
Pray for peace, people, everywhere
Listen to what I say! (Listen to what I say!)
The Child, the Child sleeping in the night
He will bring us goodness and light
He will bring us goodness and light

THE BLESSING OF THE LIGHT (Please Stand)

A: The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.
For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.
For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.
For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

THE CHRISTMAS CANDLELIGHT CAROL

Silent Night, Holy Night

Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin, mother and child. Holy infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace...

Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight;
Glories stream from heaven afar, Heav'nly hosts... sing, Alleluia!
Christ the savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!

Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord at thy birth, Jesus, Lord at thy birth.

CHRISTMAS PRAYER (Please extinguish your candle)

P: May the Lord God, who has called you out of darkness to be servants of light, grant you the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, and the peace of the Christ Child. In the name of Almighty God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Sending

THE CHRISTMAS BLESSING

P: God bless you and keep you,
† Jesus grant you grace and truth,
and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts,
now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE CHRISTMAS CAROL OF SENDING

Joy To The World

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing, And heav'n and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sin and sorrow grow Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make his blessings flow Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found, Far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness And wonders of his love,
And wonders of his love, And wonders, and wonders, of his love.

THE CHRISTMAS SENDING

A: Christ the Savior is born!
Go in peace. Proclaim this good news.

C: Thanks be to God.

Giving at Faith! As Easy as Click & Give



As followers of Jesus Christ, we embrace irrational generosity. We know it changes lives—ours and the people we’re reaching. At Faith, taking action on your generosity is simple. Just scan the QR code with your camera and give. Simple, safe, and secure.



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