



Christmas Eve Worship
3:00, 5:00 & 11:00 PM

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

Becoming fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

December 24, 2020

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

O Come All You Unfaithful

THE OPENING 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

The Word

THE CHRISTMAS STORY

Luke 2: 1-7

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

THE CHRISTMAS CAROL RESPONSE

O Little Town of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in, be bore in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
oh, come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel!

THE CHRISTMAS STORY

Luke 2: 8-14

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

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)**

THE CHRISTMAS STORY

Luke 2: 15-20

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE – 3:00 service

THE CHRISTMAS CAROL RESPONSE

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

The Wonder of Christmas | Pastor Rob Douglas

SPECIAL MUSIC

O Holy Night

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 GREETING

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always...

C: And also with you!

THE OFFERING

THE CHRISTMAS CAROL RESPONSE

Joy to the World

Joy to the world, the Lord is come
Let earth receive her King
Let every heart prepare Him room
And heaven and nature sing And heaven and nature sing
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing

PRAYER OF THANKS

A: Let us pray. Gracious God,
you came to us as one unknown,
bringing joy and salvation to the earth.
Nourish us at your banquet table,
that with all who welcome your birth
we may proclaim your peace,
revealed in Jesus Christ, our Savior. 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.
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

COMMUNION SONG

Away in a Manger

THE BLESSING OF THE LIGHT

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)

The Sending

THE CHRISTMAS BLESSING

P: Almighty God,
who sent the Holy Spirit to Mary,
proclaimed joy through the angels,
sent the shepherds with good news,
and led the magi by a star,
bless you this day † through the Word made flesh. Amen.

THE CHRISTMAS CAROL OF SENDING

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!"

THE CHRISTMAS SENDING

A: Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus.

**Poinsettias decorating the sanctuary are given by the following members
to the glory of God and in memory of their loved ones.**

In memory of Nora & Jackie Harvey from the Harvey Family
In memory of Joanne Lindsay from Heather Velazquez

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

REVOLUTION ONLINE

Resumes 1/10 | 5:00 & 6:00 PM

God is good, and He is with us in everything! We want our students to know that, trust that, and experience that every moment of their lives. Our fall groups for middle & high school students have begun. These 45 minute gatherings will allow our students to connect with each other and with God, and grow in their faith. This will be a fun, and engaging opportunity for your child to connect with others during this confusing time, where they will find encouragement, support, and growth.

KIDWERKS LIVE

Resumes 1/10 | 10:30 AM

We've changed to a new time and a new engaging format to help our kids connect with God and with each other. Every Sunday morning kids are invited to connect and grow through our Kidwerks Live 2.0. This fun, interactive, event happens at our new time at 10:30am.

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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