# Faith Lutheran Church in Valders

# *Sharing God’s Word; Showing God’s Love; Serving God’s World.*

Second Sunday in Advent

December 10, 2023

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Call to Worship “Christmas Sanctus”**

**Confession and Forgiveness**

P: Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.

**C: Blessed be God’s name forever.** **Amen.**

P: Beloved, now is the time to wake from sleep. Let us confront our sins, and confess them to the one who is

 merciful and just. *Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: God of new beginnings,

**C: we confess that we have not welcomed your holy reign.** **We have strayed from your paths.** **We prepare**

 **for war instead of peace.** **We dishonor one another and your creation.** **Purify us with your refining fire**

 **and set us again on your way of love,** **that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance,** **and welcome your**

 **coming among us.** **Amen.**

P: People of God, a new thing is growing in our midst, a tender branch, a living sign. By water and the Spirit you

 are joined to this wonder. You have put on ☩ Christ, and your sins have been washed away. Rejoice in the

 way of the Lord.

**C: Amen.**

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

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us pray.

**C: Almighty God, you sent your Son Jesus to reconcile the world to yourself. By his coming you give us the hope of eternal life. Shed Christ’s light into our hearts so that we may grow in faith, hope, and love; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**(Candle is Lit)**

**Special Music “Advent Promise”**

**Prayer of the Day**

P: Let us pray.

**C: Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming strengthen us to**

 **serve you with purified lives; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you**

 **and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**Walk Thru Bethlehem Story**

**“Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel” vs. 1 #257**

**“Of the Father’s Love Begotten” vs. 3 #295**

**“Of the Father’s Love Begotten” vs. 1 #295**

**“Of the Father’s Love Begotten” vs. 2 #295**

**“O Little Town of Bethlehem” vs. 1 #279**

**“Mary Did You Know”**

 **“Angels We Have Heard on High” vs. 1-2 #289**

**“Away in a Manger” vs. 1-3 #277**

**Passing of the Peace** *(We are conscious of the returning flu season. You may shake hands, but feel free to offer*

 *your elbow for social distancing. There is sanitizer available in each pew. )*

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

**Prayers of Intercession**

P: Send forth your faithful people with words of promise and forgiveness. Teach your church to be bold in

 revealing your good news in word and in deed. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

P: Reveal your majesty in mountain peaks, flowing rivers, and blossoming wilderness roads. Heal the earth

 where it longs for renewal. Bring wholeness to the earth and all its creatures. Merciful God, **receive our**

 **prayer.**

P: Turn the hearts of the nations toward righteousness and peace. Increase cooperation for justice between

 countries, commonwealths, political parties, and diplomatic leaders. In times of prosperity, direct leaders to be

 generous for the sake of all. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

P: Comfort your people with tender words of love and healing. Surround all who are grieving, all who know

 depression or anxiety, or all who feel lonely or forgotten. Be a steadfast presence when all else feels uncertain.

 Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

P: Grant holy patience to all who are waiting this season. Give hope to those seeking employment. Bring

 reassurance to people awaiting new diagnoses or treatments. Protect expectant parents. Watch with those who

 keep bedside vigil. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

P: We pray for our Bishop Anne Edison-Albright, our presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, our pastor, and for all

 the leaders of Faith Lutheran Church. We pray for this community of believers, inspire us with your Holy

 Spirit and lead us in your pathways. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

P: Every year is a year with you Lord. We pray for those who are celebrating their birthday this week: Marlene

 Evenson, Bonnie Gordon, Ava Wenzel, Steve Ahrens, Robert Pautz, Jerry Hoefner, Ethan Ulness, Veryl Hein

 and Terry Stenzel. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

P: We pray for all those who are in need of healing, especially: Bev Hildebrandt, Larry and Sharon Naidl, Judy

 Jorgenson, Marlene Thomsen, Jim and Jan Reinertson,Harry Kwasny, Ginger Linsmeier, Neil Meissner, Jim

 Loritz, Merle “Butch” Graf and Wayne Allen Huske. Lord you are the Great Physician. Merciful God, **receive**

 **our prayer.**

P: We remember all those who are currently serving in the military, especially:Daniel Brandl, Matthew Brill,

 Dylan Conrad, Carter Hildebrandt and Andy Schnell. Be their constant companion and bring them safely

 home to us. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

P:We name now before you, Lord, those in need of your presence and care \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Help us to show

 and help them to know that you are with them. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

P: Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our heart, trusting in your

 compassion made known through Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

**Offering**

**Offertory Prayer**

P: God of all goodness, generations have turned to you, gathered around your table, and shared your abundant

 blessings. Number us among them that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance, and give thanks for your

 rich blessings, we may feast upon your very self and care for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ, our

 Sovereign and Servant.

**C: Amen.**

**Lord’s Prayer**

**Benediction**

P: The God of peace bless you, the love of Christ sustain you, and the anointing of the Spirit ☩ remain upon you

 now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**Closing Hymn “Hark the Glad Sound!” #239**

P: Go in the Spirit of Christ to love and serve the Lord!

**C: Sharing God’s Word, Showing God’s Love, and Serving God’s World!**

**Serving Us Today**

Organist: Sue Riesterer Head Usher: Glenn Otto

Greeters: Allison Goehring and Cambria Behnke Acolyte: Liam Cline

Ushers: Dean Behnke Lector: none needed

Sound Operator: Bill Riesterer Projection: Gage Spindler

Video/Live Stream: Mikaela Spindler & Bill Riesterer

**Serving Us Next Week**

Organist: Sue Riesterer Head Usher: Tom Madson

Greeter: Carter Kuenstler Acolyte: Ethan Spindler

Ushers: Dennis and Bonnie Gordon, Joan Pritzl Lector & Communion: Stefanie Kaderabek

Sound Operator: Lucas Spindler Projection: Addison Spindler

Video/Live Stream: Liam Cline and Mike Lenzner

**Last Week** – Sunday: 138 Wednesday: 34 Offerings to the Lord’s work: $6,460.00

*Flowers are placed in the altar area in honor of Marlene Evenson’s 80th birthday by her family.*

Congratulations to Abbey and Dan Beckman on the birth of their daughter, Harley Rose on December 7.

She joins big sister Hadley at home. Grandparents are Brian and Tammy Brill and John and Lora Murphy. Great-grandparents are Dick and Linda Menza.

**Faith’s Opportunities December 10-17**

**Sunday** 10:00 A.M. Fellowship Hour, Sunday school, Cookie Walk

 10:15 A.M. Inspiration Choir, 9th grade confirmation

**Monday** 5:30 P.M. Jazzercise

**Tuesday** 3:00 & 6:00 P.M. Bible Study

**Wednesday** 9:00 A.M. Jazzercise

 5:00 P.M. Board of Stewardship

6:15 P.M. Worship

 7:15 Confirmation and Faith on Fire

**Thursday** 8:30 A.M. Secretary’s Meeting

 5:30 P.M. Jazzercise

**Saturday** 9:00 A.M. Open Pantry

**Sunday** 8:00 A.M. Bell Choir

 8:50 A.M. Sing-a-long

9:00 A.M. Worship with Sunday school Christmas Program

 10:00 A.M. Fellowship Hour, Sunday school

 10:15 A.M. Inspiration Choir, Board of Youth and Family

Please sign the cards for our military members and Gladys Hansen who is our oldest member of Faith in the Gathering Space. Send them your well wishes this holiday season.

Thank you for your generosity and support of the Sharing Tree project this year.  Seven large bags of gifts were delivered to the Salvation Army.  Your donations will make Christmas brighter for three families.  God Bless!

The Faithful Quilters wish to thank all those who participated in our quilt silent auction.  We raised $760. We hope you had fun with the bidding. The quilters appreciate your effort and generosity so we can further our cause of supplying warm quilts for those in need.  Thank You.

Poinsettia orders will be taken through December 13. The color is red and they are $10.00 a plant. Please see the table in the Gathering Space to place your order.

Please join us at Manitowoc Health Care Center on Friday, December 15th at 6:00 pm as we Christmas carol for the residents. We will plan to meet at MHCC and after we have spread some Christmas cheer, will return back to church for pizza and hot chocolate. All ages are welcome! The more the merrier!

Pantry items needed before December 16

Tinfoil, kitchen garage bags, baggies, any cleaning supplies, laundry and dish soap, shampoo, shave cream/razors for men and women, body wash, facial tissue, toilet paper, paper towel, canned meals, beef stew, soups, brown beans, green beans, corn, peas, stewed tomatoes (no diced or sauce) Rotel, peaches, pears, applesauce, fruit/Jell-o/pudding cups, cakes/brownie mixes, sugar, powdered sugar, brown sugar (dark and light), pie fillings, flour, cookie mixes, boxed desserts, salt, pepper, vanilla, spices, vegetable oil, mayo/salad dressing, pancake mixes, syrup, bagged noodles, spaghetti, Velveeta cheese blocks, regular size boxes of cereal, instant flavored oatmeal, Hamburger Helper, Ramen noodles, pickles/olives, Bisquick, Mac n cheese, Maruchan instant lunch varieties, Knorr pasta/rice sides, taco kits, assorted crackers, granola bars (variety), snacks, sweet treats, microwave popcorn, nuts, regular instant coffee, hot cocoa mixes, cookies, Hostess food items. No diapers at this time!

"How the Grinch Found Christ in Christmas"

Our Children's Christmas Program will take place on Sunday December 17th during the 9am service.  All children should meet in the Fellowship Hall at 8:30am dressed as Who's from Whoville ready to perform our version of the Grinch.  We encourage all attending to also wear fun Christmas sweaters/ shirts!

Join us Sunday, December 24 for service at 9:00 a.m. Our Christmas Eve services are at 3:00, 5:00 and 10:00 p.m. with Holy Communion.