# Faith Lutheran Church in Valders

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

Third Sunday in Advent

December 17, 2023

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Opening Hymn “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” #257**

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.**

**Kyrie Pages 138-139**

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord. **C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. **C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray

 to the Lord. **C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord. **C: Lord,**

 **have mercy.**

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **C: Amen.**

**Prayer of the Day**

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.**

**Children’s Christmas Program** "How the Grinch Found Christ in Christmas"

**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.**

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)**

**Advent Hymn “Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah”** vs. 1-3 **#240**

**Prayers of Intercession**

P: Fill our mouths with laughter and our tongues with shouts of joy as we bear witness to the great things you

 have done. Give your church a spirit of gladness as we gather and as we are sent. Merciful God, **receive our**

 **prayer.**

P: Let the trees of the field sing your praise. Protect forests, orchards, rainforests, and all wooded areas from

 disease and deforestation. Keep us grateful for their gifts of the forest. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

P: You love justice and promise your favor to those who are oppressed, brokenhearted, and incarcerated. Grant

 wisdom and compassion to those who work for public safety and all who work within prisons, jails, and

 courts, that mercy may increase and violence wither away. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

P: Give us strength to pray for our world without ceasing and provoke us toward love and good deeds for all

 who are in need. Provide for all without adequate housing, food, employment, or access to health care.

 Empower us as helpers and advocates. Help us to be your agents in the world. 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: Randi

 Hetland, Kristy Wagner, Clarissa Ulness, Frank Griffin, Bob Wigen, Peter Reinertson, Pam Whitehouse,

 William Zutz, Susan Wenzel and Marcus Loritz. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

P: We pray for all those who are in need of healing, especially: Marge Klessig, 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.**

**Words of Institution**

**Lord’s Prayer**

**Invitation to Communion** P: Come to the table that our Lord has prepared.

**Distribution Hymns “He Came Down” vs. 1, 2, 3 #253**

 **“The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came” vs. 1, 2, 4 #265 “Love Has Come” #292**

**Prayer after Communion**

P: Generous God, in bread and cup you have revealed your glory for all people to see together. Nourished by

 this meal, send us out to proclaim your good news of liberation and release, brought to birth in Jesus Christ

 our Savior.

**C: Amen.**

**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 “Once in Royal David’s City” #269**

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: Tom Madson

Greeter: Carter Kuenstler Acolyte: Ethan Spindler

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

Sound Operator: Lucas Spindler Projection: Addison Spindler

Video/Live Stream: Liam Cline and Mike Lenzner

**Serving Us Next Week**

Organist: Sue Riesterer Head Usher: Tom Madson

Greeters: Brenda Freiberg Acolyte: Westen Schisel

Ushers: Tom and Kathy Muench Lector: Carol Ulness

Sound Operator: Loren Ulness Projection: Kolten Schisel

Video/Live Stream: Travis Schisel

**Last Week** – Sunday: 138 Wednesday: 57 Offerings to the Lord’s work: $6,460.00

**Faith’s Opportunities December 17-24**

**Sunday** 10:00 A.M. Fellowship Hour

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

**Monday** 5:00 P.M. Council meets

 5:30 P.M. Jazzercise

**Tuesday** 9:00 A.M. Senior Christians at Perkins

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

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

 6:15 P.M. Worship

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

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

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

9:00 A.M. Worship

 10:00 A.M. Fellowship Hour

 10:15 A.M. Inspiration Choir

 3:00, 5:00 and 10:00 P.M. Christmas Eve Services

Interested in purchasing a new FLC Photo Directory? The cost is $15.83 and forms can be found on the table in the Gathering Space. Place your order form and money in the envelope provided and put in the offering plate or bring to the church office.

**Kids Night Out Winter Edition**

Need a break from your children while they’re on Christmas break? We’ve got you! Drop them off at church on Wednesday, December 27th from 6-8 pm and they will enjoy holiday inspired activities such as cookie decorating, a snowman building/decorating contest or a “snowball” fight. Any children ages 4-10 are welcome. Please contact Erin Lenzner at 901-7089 to sign up.

A friendly reminder to have all of your 2023 offerings to the church office by Sunday December 31. Thank you.

A huge thank you to all who helped decorate our Sanctuary and Gathering Space for the Christmas Season. To all who participated and helped with the Walk Thru Bethlehem this past week and to our Sunday school students and staff for the wonderful Christmas program today.

Thank you to all who donated cookies and candy for our Cookie Walk last Sunday. Do to your generous monetary gifts; $662.00 will be given to our Faith on Fire youth group for upcoming activities.

Thank you to Wells for partnering with us and to all who brought in gifts on “inasmuch” Sunday. Lakeshore Foster Families and Friends and The Salvation Army were very grateful for the generous donations. They were distributed to children in need before Christmas!