# Faith Lutheran Church in Valders

Sunday 9:00 a.m. Worship – December 29, 2019

First Sunday of Christmas

On the first Sunday of Christmas we find the boy Samuel and the boy Jesus, both in the temple, both growing in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and humankind. We too have returned to the house of God “to sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God,” who has gifted us with a savior. As the festival continues, “let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.” It is Christmas, still.

## Gathering

Prelude, Bells, Welcome and Announcements

L: Let us confess our sins before our God who has said, “Let light shine out of darkness” and who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

**C: Lord God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. We are a people who have walked in darkness, but in Jesus we have seen your life and light. Lord, let that light shine upon us, and forgive us for Jesus sake.**

L: For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have everlasting life. In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God forgives you all your sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ he gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

L: Let us lift up our hearts in praise of God’s love for us in Jesus Christ.

**C: We lift them up to the Lord.**

**Opening Carol** “Angels from the Realms of Glory”

 #275

L: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

L: Let us pray.

**C: Lord God, as we remember your great love for us that you demonstrated by coming in the person of your Son, Jesus, may we be filled with hope, peace, and joy, and may your truth and love be in our hearts this Christmas season, and always, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

 **Lessons and Carols**

**God’s Plan from the Beginning:**  John 1:1-5; 14-18

**Carol** “Of the Father’s Love Begotten” vs. 1–3 #295

**The Curse of Sin:** Genesis 3:1-19

**Carol** “Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus” (Tune #631)

 #254

**God’s Promise to David:** 2 Samuel 7:8-9, 12-16;

 Isaiah 11:1-6

**Carol** “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” vs.1, 4, 5 #257

**God Speaks Through the Prophets:** Isaiah 7:13-14;

 9:2-6; Micah 5:2

**Carol** “O Little Town of Bethlehem” #279

**God Keeps His Promise:** Luke 1:26-38

**Carol** “What Child Is This?” #296

**The Messiah Is Born:** Luke 2:1 – 20

**Carol** “It Came Upon a Midnight Clear” vs. 1, 2, 4 #282

**The Magi come to Bethlehem:** Matthew 2:1 – 12

**Carol “**We Three Kings”

1. We three kings of orient are,

 Bearing gifts we traverse afar,

 Field and fountain, moor and mountain,

 Following yonder star.

**Chorus:** Oh, star of wonder, star of night, Star with

 royal beauty bright. Westward leading, still

 proceeding, Guide with thy perfect light.

2. Born a King on Bethlehem's plain,

 Gold I bring to crown him again,

 King forever, ceasing never,

 Over us all to reign. **Chorus**

3. Frankincense to offer have I,

 incense owns a Deity nigh,

 Prayer and praising, all men raising,
 Worship him, God most high. **Chorus**

**Second Article of the Apostle’s Creed**

L: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**C: I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord.**

 **He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit**

 **and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under**

**Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day He rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

L: What does this mean? (Luther’s Small Catechism)

**C: I believe that Jesus Christ – true God, Son of the**

 **Father from eternity, and true man, born of the**

 **virgin Mary – is my Lord. At great cost He has saved and redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, He has freed me from sin, death, and the power of the devil – not with silver or gold, but with His holy and precious blood and His innocent suffering and death. All this He has done that I may be His own, live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead and lives and rules eternally. This is most certainly true.**

**Offering**

**Offertory** “The First Noel” Vs. 1 #300

L: Let us pray.

**C: Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness shown to us and to your whole creation. We praise you for all the blessings of life, but above all, for your immeasurable love for the world that we have in Jesus Christ our Lord. Give us such an awareness of your love that with truly thankful hearts we may give of ourselves sacrificially to your service, and walk in your ways all of our days. And now receive these gifts, dedicated to your mission and ministry. Amen.**

**Prayers of the People**

L: Rejoicing in the good news of Christ's birth and living in hope, let us lift up prayers to God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Lord Jesus, you raise up leaders throughout the church to proclaim your word of hope. Unite the church through the good news of your love so that all put their trust in you and know and experience your joy, peace and love in their hearts. Lord, in your mercy…**Hear our prayer.**

\*\*Loving Heavenly Father, you made the mountains and hills, the seas and rivers, and all creation. Help us, and all humanity, to be good stewards of all you created and put under our care. Lord, in your mercy… **Hear our prayer.**

\*\*Lord Jesus, you desire that all people live in peace. Guide all in positions of authority to lead with compassion and justice, and give courage and strength to those who are peace keepers in this world. Lord, in your mercy… **Hear our prayer.**

\*\*Heavenly Father, you sent your Son to be the physician of the soul, and the remedy for sin. May you also help those in the medical professions and counselors who care for the sick and troubled. Give them the wisdom and strength they need. Lord, in your mercy… **Hear our prayer.**

And now we take a moment of silence, to lift up the names of those for whom we carry concern, silently in our hearts. (Silence during which we ask for healing for others or ourselves.) Lord, in your mercy… **Hear our prayer.**

Most Loving God, we ask you to hear the prayers of your people, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

L. Let us pray together our Lord’s Prayer.

L: Now may the God of peace himself give you peace at

 all times and in every way. The grace of our Lord

 Jesus Christ be with you.

**C: Amen.**

**Closing Carol** “Joy to the World” #267

L: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**C: Sharing God’s Word, Showing God’s Love,**

 **Serving God’s World.**

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**Serving Us Today**

Greeters: Jan Mulhaney and Ellen Polifka

Head Usher: Tom Madson

Ushers: Larry Naidl and Bob Wigen

Acolyte: Tristan Teuke

Readers: Kaye jandrey, Carol Ulness, Joyce Sorenson

Sound Operator: Jackie Shimek

Video Operator: Eric Thomsen

Projection: Don Domrath and Dean Behnke

Communion:

**Serving Us Next Week**

Greeters: Emily Schwoerer and Bob Argall

Head Usher: Matt Krogh

Ushers: Gary and Linda Heeler, Lori Propson

Acolyte: DJ Schisel

Lector: Hannah Evenson

Sound Operator: Loren Ulness

Video Operator: Jason Robley

Projection: Luke Evenson

Communion: Earl Griffin and Brian Ulness

**Last Week** - Sunday: 110 Christmas: 558

Offerings to the Lord’s work: $5,793.50

**Known to have been hospitalized or in need of prayer:** Steve Ahrens,Ginger Linsmeier,Bob Klessig,Betty Pritzl (friend of Joyce Sorenson), Paul Haupt (brother of David and Joan),Merle “Butch” Graf, (son in-law of Don and Delores Johnson), Sue Bellin (sister of Steve, Jeff and Jim Ahrens), Wayne Allen Huske (son of Wayne and Terry Huske).

**Please keep in your thoughts and prayers the following who are serving in the military:** Darcie Bauknecht, Daniel Brandl, Corey Evenson, Mitchell Hazelwood, Carter Hildebrandt, Gary Hildebrandt, Jeff Konz, Justin Mertzig, Chad Pohl, Steven Schmude, and Andy Schnell. If there are others we should be remembering, please inform the church office.