# Faith Lutheran Church in Valders

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

Christmas Eve – The Birth of Our Lord Jesus

December 24, 2022

## Gathering

###### **Welcome and Announcements**

**Confession and Forgiveness**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, the Word made flesh, our life and our salvation.

**C: Amen.**

P: Trusting the goodness and lovingkindness of God our Savior, let us confess our sin.

 *Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: God of life,

**C: you promise good news of great joy for all people,** **and call us to be messengers of your peace.** **We**

 **confess that too often we hoard our joy,** **our resources, and our security.** **We nurture conflict and build**

 **barriers.** **We neglect the needs of our neighbors** **and ignore the groaning of creation.** **Have mercy on us.**

 **Where we are self-centered, open our hearts.** **Where we are reluctant, give us courage. Where we are**

 **cynical, restore our trust.** **Keep us in communion with the promised child in the manger, the Christ on**

 **the cross, and the Risen Christ at the empty tomb. Amen.**

P: Hear the good news: We are children of God and heirs of God’s promises through the outpouring of the Holy

 Spirit. In ☩ Jesus we are forgiven and redeemed. Sing with joy, for all the ends of the earth shall know the

 salvation of God.

**C: Amen.**

**Opening Hymn** **“O Come, All Ye Faithful”**  #283

**3:00 Special Music** **“Christmas Joy”** Bell Choir

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship 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.**

 **We Light the Christ Candle**

P: Let us pray.

**C: 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 Scriptures**

**First Lesson:** Isaiah 9:2b-7 2The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. 3You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. 4For 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. 5For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. 6For 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. 7His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this. L:  The word of the Lord. **C:  Thanks be to God.**

**Second Lesson:** Titus 2:11-14

11The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, 12training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, 13while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. 14He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds. L:  The word of the Lord. **C:  Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel:** Luke 2:1-20

1In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. 2This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. 3All went to their own towns to be registered. 4Joseph 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. 5He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. 6While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. 7And 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. 8In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 10But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: 11to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. 12This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” 13And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, 14“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!” 15When 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.” 16So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. 17When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; 18and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. 19But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. 20The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them. P: The Gospel of our Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Message** Pastor Dan Lyman

**Hymn of Response “Angels We Have Heard on High”** #289

**Prayers of Intercession**

P: Your infinite love is born to us this night. With choirs of angels the church proclaims the good news. Send us

 out as messengers of the hope that has come to all people. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

P: You are pleased to dwell with your creatures and the whole earth sings for joy. Renew the splendor of creation

 from the smallest cell to the widest galaxies. Guide us to be wise stewards of your gifts for the sake of

 generations to come. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

P: Your authority is over the nations. Break the rod of oppression in every land and free all people from fear.

 Bring peace where there is war, compassion where there is suffering, and healing where there is disease. God

 of grace, **hear our prayer.**

P: You cherish those who are most vulnerable. Protect infants and children, and bless those who care for them.

 Watch over women giving birth, attend the dying, and relieve any who are in pain. Shelter refugee families

 and those who have no home. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

P: Your lovingkindness embraces everyone in need. Help any for whom this season is lonely or joyless. Comfort

 those among us, or known to us, who are experiencing distress of body or mind, missing loved ones, or

 grieving. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

P: We pray for those who are celebrating their birthday this week: Daryl Gilbertson, Don Johnson, Holley Jeske,

 Colton Wenzel, Seth Madson, Warren Wenzel, Lana Nelson, Parker Ulness, Melissa Boll and Gage Spindler.

 God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

P: We pray for those who are in need of healing: the family of Margaret Evenson who passed away Wednesday,

 Judy Jorgenson, Marlene Thomsen, Jim and Jan Reinertson,Harry Kwasny, Donald Tienor, Don and Delores

 Johnson, Ginger Linsmeier, Bob Klessig, Eliza Dekker, Ilan Walny, Matt Kerkhoff, Tom Titzkowski, Henry

 Holzer, Jim Loritz, Merle “Butch” Graf, Wayne Allen Huske. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

P:Confident that you not only hear our prayers, but listen to them, you not only listen, but care. You not only

 care, but act with Almighty Love. Confident in your Almighty Love, we name now before you those in need

 of your presence and care \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Help them to know that our prayers are with them and you are

 with them. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

**Offering**

**5:00 Special Music “O Holy Night”** Mixed Choir

**Lord’s Prayer**

### **Invitation to Communion** P:Glory to God in the highest! Come to the table of peace.

**Distribution Hymns**  #275 #277 #279

### **Prayer after Communion**

P: God our redeemer, you have fed us at this table with gifts of grace, truth, and life. As you have gathered us in

 joy, send us forth as messengers of your peace. Make us shine with the good news of your glory, born to us in

 Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

**Candle Lighting:** Please, dip the ***unlit*** candle to your neighbor’s lit candle. The organist will play through Silent Night once or twice while the congregation lights their candles. Please wait to sing along when everyone’s candles are lit.

**Carol** **“Silent Night”** #281

P: Let us pray.

**C: Almighty God, You made this holy night to shine with the brightness of the one true light. Help us here on earth to walk in the light of Jesus your Son, and on the last day, awaken to the brightness of His glory; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.** (Extinguish your candles)

**Benediction**

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.**

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

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!**

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**Serving Us Christmas Eve @ 3:00 pm**

Organist: Sue Riesterer Head Usher: Matt Krogh Greeters: Ralph Christianson

Acolyte: Audrey Sorenson Ushers: Earl and Barb Griffin Lector: Tiffany Jandrey

Live Stream and Video: Bill Riesterer Communion Aides: Chloe and Phoebe Cigler, Joyce Sorenson

**Serving Us Christmas Eve @ 5:00 pm**

Organist: Peggy Madson Head Usher: Delton Duchow Greeters: Michelle and Logan Bratt

Acolyte: Landen Pinkerton Ushers: Al Gilberston, Delton and Cheryl Duchow

Sound Operator: Erin Lenzner Lector: Cheryl Duchow Projection: Carter Lenzner

Communion Aides: Cheryl Domrath

**Serving Us Christmas Eve @ 10:00 pm**

Organist: Sue Riesterer Head Usher: Scott Reinerston Greeter: Jill Backus

Usher: Loren and Carol Ulness Sound Operator: Loren Ulness

Lector: Larry Burzynski Projection: Judy Harris

**Last Week** – Sunday: 217 Wednesday: 28 Offerings to the Lord’s work: $9,276.00

**Faith’s Opportunities December 25-January 1**

**Sunday** 9:00 A.M. Christmas Day Service

**Monday** Office Closed

 5:30 P.M. Jazzercise

**Tuesday** 6:30 P.M. Lions Club in Community Room

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

 NO Worship or Confirmation

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

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

 9:00 A.M. Worship

 10:00 A.M. Fellowship Hour and Sunday School

*THANK YOU to the following for the poinsettias which make our sanctuary so festive this holiday season:*

In memory of Roland Tonnell and Paul Schnell by John and Kerry Schnell

In memory of Ted, Betty and Bruce Jeske by the Jeske Family

In memory of great grandma’s by Lenka Hougen

In memory of our deceased loved ones by Don and Cheryl Domrath

In memory of Gilman, Grace and Elaine Peterson by Carolyn, Geneva and Jerry Peterson

In memory of loved ones by Frank and Bev Griffin

In memory of Clarence and Annabelle Ott and Herman Halverson by John and Ellen Polifka

In memory of Dennis Evenson by Debbie, Gail and families

In memory of Mike and Ludene McCulley by the Mark and Gail McCulley Family

In loving memory of Glenn and Tom Torrison, Orin and Clara Torrison, Victor and Regina Bronk,

Norman Bronk and Marvin Bronk by Ruth Torrison and family

In memory of Larry, Kari, Bentley and Dawn by Joy Madson

In memory of all departed loved ones by Dave and Terry Haupt

In memory of Dennis Evenson by Marlene Evenson

In memory of Bethany Sorenson by Joyce Sorenson and family

In memory of Orin and Sylvia Gilbertson by Alan Gilbertson

In memory of family members in heaven by Joan Pritzl

In memory of Linda by Mr. and Mrs. Ron Zutz

In memory of Ralph and Melissa Evenson and Jay Stiefvater by Steve and Ginny Schwoerer

In special thanksgiving to God by Jim and Gladys Hansen

In special thanksgiving to God by Bob and Julie Wigen

In memory of Grandma Dorothy Ulness by Jake and Stef Kaderabek Family

In memory of Larry Backus by Jill Backus

In memory of Edward Streckert by Janice Streckert and family

In memory of Paul Johnson by Keith and Brenda Johnson

In special thanksgiving to God by Kathy and Bob Mattern

In memory of Grandpa Roland Tonnell and Nana Judy Tonnell by Susan Christel

In memory of Robert Burzynski and Marian Broich by Lynn and Larry Burzynski

*Donations to World Hunger have been given:*

In memory of Donald and Ilene Pederson, Brandon Schroeder and Peter Robley by The Pederson Family

In memory of Marvin and Mabel Petersen, Raymond Rusch and Jay Hetland by Romelle Rusch

In special thanksgiving for our family and friends by Richard and Linda Menza