# Faith Lutheran Church in Valders

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

Third Sunday of Advent

December 12, 2021

## Gathering

**Welcome and Announcements**

P: We begin our worship in the name of the

 Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: Most gracious God, as we gather in your

 presence we pray,

**C: That out of your glorious riches you will strengthen us through the power of your Holy Spirit in our inner being, so that Christ may dwell in our hearts through faith. And may we, being rooted and grounded in love, be able to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge – that we may be filled with all the fullness of God.** *(Ephesians 3:16-19)*

P: May you be strong in the grace that is in

 Christ Jesus. *(2 Timothy 2:1)*

**Opening Hymn**

 **“Angels from the Realms of Glory”** #275

P: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the

 love of God, and the communion of the

 Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

**The Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

**Responsive Reading:** Isaiah 12:1 – 6

P: I will praise you, LORD. Although you were angry with me, your anger has turned away and you have comforted me.

**C: Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid. The LORD, the LORD himself, is my strength and my defense; he has become my salvation.**

P: With joy you will draw water from the

 wells of salvation.

**C: In that day you will say: “Give praise to the LORD, proclaim his name; make known to the nations what he has done, and proclaim that his name is exalted.**

P: Sing to the LORD, for he has done glorious things; let this be known to all the world.

**C: Shout aloud and sing for joy, people of Zion, for great is the Holy One of Israel among you.”**

**We Light the Advent Candle of Joy.**

P: Let us pray.

**C: Stir up our hearts, O Lord, that we may receive Jesus, your Son, with joy. May he reign as the Prince of Peace in our hearts. And may we spread his light and love so that all may know this hope, peace and joy that are found in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**Advent Hymn**

 **“Joy to the World”** vs. 1, 2, 4 #267

**The Scriptures**

**First Reading:** Isaiah 7:10 – 14

 *Ahaz is the king of Judah, the southern kingdom of Israel. It’s capital was Jerusalem. The northern kingdom of Israel was plotting with other neighboring enemies of Judah to conquer Judah and divide up it up among them. But God sends Isaiah to tell Ahaz not to be afraid of them. God will defeat their enemies and will give a sign to Ahaz that this will happen.*

 Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, “Ask the LORD your God for a sign, whether in the deepest depths or in the highest heights. ”

 But Ahaz said, “I will not ask; I will not put the LORD to the test. ”

 Then Isaiah said, “Hear now, you house of David! Is it not enough to try the patience of humans? Will you try the patience of my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.”

L: The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

**Second Reading:** Galatians 4:1 – 7

 *Paul explains that God’s people lived under God’s Law as a guardian just as children live under their parent’s authority and are expected to be obedient until they come of age to live on their own. Yet, even as children we are considered heirs to our parents worldly possessions.*

 What I am saying is that as long as an heir is underage, he is no different from a slave, although he owns the whole estate. The heir is subject to guardians and trustees until the time set by his father. So also, when we were underage, we were in slavery under the elemental spiritual forces of the world. But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship. Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, “Abba, Father.” So you are no longer a slave, but God’s child; and since you are his child, God has made you also an heir.

L: The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Song “O Come, O Come,**

 **Emmanuel”** vs. 1 #257

**Gospel Reading:** Luke 1:26 – 38

 In the sixth month of Elizabeth’s pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, “Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you.”

 Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob’s descendants forever; his kingdom will never end.”

 “How will this be,” Mary asked the angel, “since I am a virgin?”

 The angel answered, “The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. For no word from God will ever fail.”

 “I am the Lord’s servant,” Mary answered. “May your word to me be fulfilled.” Then the angel left her.

P: The Gospel of our Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Message “Servant of the Lord”**

**Hymn “The Spirit Sends Us Forth to**

 **Serve”** #551 (tune #271)

P: Let us affirm our faith together, in the God that calls us through his Son, Jesus Christ, and enlightens our minds, empowers us for ministry, and keeps us in true faith, through his Holy Spirit.

**Nicene Creed**

**C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

 **We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through Him all things were made. For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered death and was buried. On the third day He rose again in accordance with the scriptures; He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and His kingdom will have no end.**

 **We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**Prayers of Intercession**

P: Lord in your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

P: We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting your promise to hear us; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

**Lord’s Prayer (Sung)**

P: Let us sing our Lord’s Prayer together.

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**BENEDICTION**

**Closing Hymn “Angels We Have Heard**

 **on High”** #289

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 Today**

Greeter: Addison Spindler

Head Usher: Glenn Otto

Ushers: Brian and Tammy Brill

Acolyte: Lucas Spindler

Lector: Ava Ulness

Sound Operator: Makenna Kaderabek

Projection: Stefanie Kaderabek & Gage Spindler

Video/Live Stream: Hunter Spindler

Song Leader: Julie Hartman

**Serving Us Next Week**

Greeter: Carter Valleskey

Head Usher: Tom Madson

Ushers: Al Gilbertson and Steve Ahrens

Acolyte: DJ Schisel

Lector and Communion Aide: Chloe Cigler

Video & Live Stream: Travis Schisel

Projection: Lyle Roehrig and Greg Evenson

Sound Operator: Lyle Roehrig

Song Leader: Don Domrath

**Last Week** – Sunday: 102 Video: 65

Wednesday: 47

Offerings to the Lord’s work: $6,855.00

Flowers are placed in the altar area in memory of Glenn Thomsen who passed away 6 years ago by his loving family.

**Known to have been hospitalized or in need of prayer:**  Marlene Thomsen, Lynn Burzynski, Ray Rusch, Harry Kwasny, Connie Schisel, Donald Tienor, Lorraine Reindl, Delores Johnson, Ginger Linsmeier, Bob Klessig, Doug Wilson, Andrew Madson, Jim Loritz, Ronald Christianson, Elling Jones (brother of Ron Jones), Merle “Butch” Graf, Wayne Allen Huske.

**Please keep in your thoughts and prayers the following who are serving in the military:** Daniel Brandl, Matthew Brill, Kyle and Dylan Conrad, Corey Evenson, Carter Hildebrandt, Jeff Konz and Andy Schnell. If there are others we should be remembering, please inform the church office.

**Faith’s Opportunities December 12-19**

**Sunday** 10:00 A.M. Sunday School &

 Fellowship Hour

 10:15 A.M. 9th grade Confirmation

**Monday** 6:00 P.M. Tel. Worship/Jazzercise

**Wednesday** Newsletter info due

 6:15 P.M. Worship

 6:00-8:00 P.M. Walk Through Bethlehem

**Thursday** 6:00 P.M. Jazzercise

**Saturday** 9:00-10:00 A.M. Open Pantry

 5:00-8:00 P.M. Walk Through Bethlehem

**Sunday** 8:50 A.M. Carol sing a-long

 9:00 A.M. Worship

 10:00 A.M. Fellowship Hour

 10 A.M.-12 P.M. Walk Through Bethlehem

Please sign the thinking of you cards for our homebound members located in the Gathering Space.

Join us Sunday, December 19 at 9:00 a.m. for the Sunday school Christmas Program.

Are you interested in singing Christmas Eve at the 3:00 pm service? If so, we will practice at 2:00 p.m. Christmas Eve in the balcony. We will be singing “O Holy Night”. Join us!

**Worship with us**

**Christmas Eve Worship**

**is at 1:00, 3:00 and 5:00 pm**

**with Holy Communion**

**Christmas Day Worship**

**is at 9:00 am. with Holy Communion**

**Walk Through Bethlehem**

**This event is open Wednesday, December 15 from 6:00-8:00 pm, Saturday, December 18 from 5:00-8:00 pm and Sunday, December 19 from 10:00 am to 12:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall.**

**Join us for a guided tour through the streets of ancient Bethlehem at the time of Jesus’ birth. You will enter Bethlehem during the time of Ceasar Augustus’s census.  Visit the busy marketplace and see fine textiles, jewelry makers, and net repairs. Hear the excitement around the young couple ready to have a baby. Walk through the fields and see the animals on your way to the stable where you will be greeted with the joyous reason for the season. The journey will then continue to reflect upon scenes of Jesus’s life.**

 Please park in the lower parking lot.

**National Youth Gathering**

**July 24th -28th 2022 Minneapolis MN**

**Open to students in Grades 8th-12th**

Registration due January 1st with $150 deposit (deposit covered by the Board of Youth and Family). Contact April Meyer for more details 920-860-3154.

**What is NYG**

Every three years, 30,000 high school youth and their adult leaders from across the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America gather for a week of faith formation known as the “Gathering”. Through the days the youth and leaders are engaged in experiences of interactive learning, worship, Bible study, service and fellowship. Youth grow in faith and are challenged and inspire to live their faith in their daily lives. More Information and Registration forms are available in the Gathering Space.