# Faith Lutheran Church in Valders

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

Fourth Sunday in Advent

December 19, 2021

## Gathering

**Welcome and Announcements**

P: We begin our worship in the name of the

 Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

**Opening Hymn**

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

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.**

**The Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

P: The Advent wreath started in Germany as a Lutheran family tradition. Advent wreaths were originally used in the home as a preparation for Christmas, a way for parents to share about the meaning of the Christmas season. They didn’t become popular in churches until the middle of the twentieth century. Today is the fourth Sunday in Advent and we light the candle of Love.

 As Christians we believe Jesus is Emmanuel, God with us. As John wrote in the first chapter of his Gospel, “The Word became flesh and lived among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son who came from the Father full of grace and truth.” May this proclamation of God’s love for the world bring hope, peace and joy to our hearts.

**Responsive Reading:** 1 John 4:7 – 12, 19

P: Dear friends, let us love one another, for

 love comes from God.

**C: Everyone who loves has been born of**

 **God and knows God.**

P: Whoever does not love does not know

 God, because God is love.

**C: This is how God showed his love**

 **among us: He sent his one and only**

 **Son into the world that we might live**

 **through him.**

P: This is love: not that we loved God, but

 that he loved us and sent his Son as an

 atoning sacrifice for our sins.

**C: Since God so loved us, we also ought to**

 **love one another.**

P: No one has ever seen God; but if we love

 one another, God lives in us and his love

 is made complete in us.

**C: We love because God first loved us.**

**We light the Candle of Love**

P: Let us pray.

**C: Lord God, as we remember the 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. May your truth and love be in**

 **our hearts during this Christmas**

 **season, and always, through Jesus**

 **Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**Hymn of Praise “Joyful, Joyful”** #836

**The Scriptures**

**Gospel Reading:** John 1:1 – 5, 14, 17; 3:16, 17

 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

 The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth… For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

P: The Gospel of our Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

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

 **Children’s Christmas Program**

 **“A Charlie Brown Christmas”**

**Message Pastor Jim Wilson**

**Carol “Hark the Herald Angels Sing”**#270

**Prayers of Intercession**

P: Lord in your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

**Lord’s Prayer**

**Holy Communion**

P: Let us prepare our hearts for Holy

 Communion, reflecting on our need for

 Christ’s atoning sacrifice on the cross.

 None of us are perfect. We all fall short

 and put our faith in the amazing grace of

 God.

**C: Heavenly Father, forgive us our sins**

 **for Jesus sake and help us to put our**

 **trust in you. Amen.**

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus

 Christ was given to die for you, and for

 his sake God truly forgives you all your

 sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ

 he gives the power to become children of

 God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

**The Words of Institution**

**Carols for Distribution**

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

 **“The First Noel”** #300

**Post Communion Prayer**

P: Gracious Heavenly Father, you sent your

 Son Jesus into the world to be the light

 and life of all humanity. May we go out

 with joy in our hearts and share the

 message of your love.

**C: Amen.**

**Benediction**

**Carol**  **“Go Tell It on the Mountain”** #290

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**

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: 94 Video: 70

Wednesday: 31

Offerings to the Lord’s work: $6,417.00

**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, The Andrew Madson Family, 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.

The Christmas treat bags that the children will be receiving after worship this morning are in memory of Joyce Huske Salmon, Gary Huske, Barbara Huske Olson and Janice Huske, all grandchildren of the late Walter and Myrtle Christianson.

**There will be no worship Sunday, December 26 and Wednesday, December 29.**

**Faith’s Opportunities December 19-26**

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

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

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

 6:30 P.M. Council meets

**Wednesday** 6:15 P.M. Worship

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

**Friday** 1:00, 3:00 & 5:00 P.M. Worship

**Saturday** 9:00 A.M. Worship

**Sunday NO Worship**

We would like to thank Kelly Meyer for helping with all the music, Bill Riesterer for making some of the props and Stacy Schwoerer for making the Snoopy house for our Christmas Program.

**Worship with us**

**Christmas Eve Worship**

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

**with Holy Communion**

**Christmas Day Worship**

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

**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.

 The Board of Evangelism is experimenting with having a congregational member available at the Welcome Desk for 15-20 minutes prior to Sunday service. The duties included with this ministry opportunity would be to be on “high alert” for visitors and potential new members. There is a direct correspondence to a potential return to a church based on how welcoming and helpful the congregation was during an initial visit.

 Additionally this person would be equipped with the knowledge to answer basic questions from visitors and congregation members or to be able to direct questions to the most helpful staff member/individual.

 The Board of Evangelism will be actively recruiting people for this important ministry. Please prayerfully consider your involvement and contact Christine in the church office if you would like to be of part of this.

 NEW BABY CARE KITS FOR 2022 We are going to try something new. All kits will stay locally to help families here at home.

¤ Onezies or Cotton T-shirts, Size

 Newborn -2t

¤ Sleepers (With Feet), Size Newborn –

 2t

¤ Receiving Blankets

¤ Disposable Diapers, Size Newborn –

 2/3

¤ Sweatshirt or Sweater

¤ Socks, Size Newborn – 2t

¤ Bath Soap – Liquid or Bar (4-5 Oz)

Donated items should be new. Clearly mark Baby Care and place inside the Stewardship Cabinet at the top of the stairs near the church office.