# Faith Lutheran Church in Valders

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

Second Sunday in Advent

December 5, 2021

## Gathering

**Welcome and Announcements**

P: We begin our worship in the name of God,

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Let us begin by clearing our conscience by confessing our sins. We have not loved God with our whole heart and we have not always loved our neighbors as ourselves. Let us take a moment to reflect on our need for God’s forgiveness, and on Jesus’ redeeming work that sets us free. *Silence for reflection.*

P: Most merciful God,

**C: We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not always loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

Hymn of Praise “Hark, the Herald Angels

Sing” #270

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.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

**Responsive Reading: Isaiah 9:2 – 3a, 6 – 7**

P: The people walking in darkness have seen a

great light; on those living in the land of the

shadow of death a light has dawned.

**C: You have enlarged the nation and**

**increased their joy; they rejoice before**

**you as people rejoice at the harvest.**

P: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given,

and the government will be on his shoulders.

**C: And he will be called Wonderful**

**Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting**

**Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of**

**his government and peace there will be no**

**end.**

P: Christ brings light even into a dark place. He

is the source of our hope and peace. As we

light the candle of peace, may we celebrate

with joy the salvation we have in Jesus

Christ.

**We Light the Advent Candle of Peace**

P: Let us pray.

**C: Stir up our hearts, O God, that we may receive Jesus, your Son, as our Lord. May he reign as the Prince of Peace in our hearts. And may we spread his light and love so that all may know the hope of your salvation that comes through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Advent Hymn

“Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”

(tune #631) #254

**Baptism of Ella Ann Zutz**

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,**

**creator of heaven and earth.**

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of

God?

**C: I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**C: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**The Scriptures**

**First Reading:** Malachi 3:1 – 4

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner’s fire and like fullers’ soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years. L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Second Reading:** Philippians 3:3 – 11

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by

the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God’s grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God. L: The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Song**

**“O Word of God Incarnate”** vs. 1 #509

**Gospel: Luke 3:1 – 6**

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins,

as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”

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

**Message**  **Pastor Jim Wilson**

**Hymn “On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”**

#249

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.

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

**Prayers of Intercession**

P: Lord in your mercy, **C: Hear our prayer.**

P: In to your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your bountiful mercy and love that we know we have through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen!**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Holy Communion**

P Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world you gave your one and only Son, that all who believe in him should not perish but have eternal life. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts so that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.

**C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

**Words of Institution**

**Distribution Hymns**

“Softly and Tenderly” #608

“Rock of Ages” #623

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ

strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C: Amen.**

**Post Communion Prayer**

P: God of grace and abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ and all His people. Now send us forth in the power of Your Spirit, that we may proclaim Your redeeming love to the world and continue forever, in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

**Benediction**

**Hymn “Praise God from Whom All**

**Blessings Flow”** #884

**Dismissal**

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: Mitchell Zutz

Head Usher: Glenn Otto

Ushers: Steve and Ginny Schwoerer

Acolyte: Lucas Spindler

Lector and Communion Aide: Brian Ulness

Video & Live Stream: Hunter Spindler& Carter Lenzner

Projection: Gage Spindler and Erin Lenzner

Sound Operator: Addison Spindler

Song Leader: Joan Pritzl

**Serving Us Next Week**

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

**Last Week** – Sunday: 152 Video: 65

Thanksgiving: 40

Offerings to the Lord’s work: $3,742.00

**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, Ivan 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.

**This morning, we welcome Ella Ann Zutz into God’s kingdom and our congregation through Holy Baptism.**  Ella was born November 3 to Jared Zutz and Callie Behnke and her baptismal sponsors are Crystal Behnke, Cathy Schad and Mitchell Zutz. Grandparents are Mark and Jenniffer Zutz and Marlin and Janet Behnke. We rejoice at Ella’s rebirth through water and the Word!

Poinsettia Orders will be taken December 1-12. Plants are red in color and are $10.00 a plant. Please see the table in the Gathering Space to place your order.

Season of Giving....

donate blood today!

Faith Lutheran

Monday, December 6

2:00-6:00 pm

Fellowship Hall

Visit bit.ly/faithlutherandec6 or

call 1-877-232-4376 to Save the Day!

We welcome walk-ins and honor appointments.

Please sign the thinking of you cards for our homebound members located

in the Gathering Space.

**Worship Opportunities for Christmas Services are available on the sheets in the Gathering Space. Please sign up for the areas in need. Thank you.**

**Faith’s Opportunities December 5-12**

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

**Monday** 2:00-6:00 P.M. Blood Drive

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

**Tuesday** 5:00 P.M. Board of Lay Ministry

6:00 P.M. Board of Evangelism

**Wednesday** 5:00 P.M. Board of Stewardship

6:15 P.M. Worship

7:15 P.M. Confirmation

**Thursday** 8:30 A.M. Secretary’s Meeting

6:00 P.M. Jazzercise

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

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

9:00 A.M. Worship

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

**Walk Through Bethlehem –**

**Cast Members Needed**

Be part of an amazing experience as we guide family and friends

through the streets of old Bethlehem!

Excitement is in the air - a child has been born!  Sign up to be an Innkeeper, Guide, Jewelry Seller, Basket Weaver or a variety of other people that are buzzing at the news of Jesus' birth.  Speaking and non-speaking roles are available.

  The signup sheet is located on the bulletin board next to the church office.  All ages are encouraged to participate at one or all of the dates:  December 15, 18 and 19.  Hope to see you there!

This year In as Much Sunday will be Sunday, December 12th. We are asking children, Sunday school students and confirmation students to bring in an unwrapped present for a child in need. During the service, we will have everyone bring the presents up to the altar area. We ask each student to think of something he/she would like to receive for Christmas, and then bring that item for a child in need. Board games, books, toys, and gift cards are just some ideas. Please consider participating in this annual event. All donations will be given to a local charity.