

The First Sunday after Christmas December 26, 2021



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Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

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§ A Heartfelt Welcome To Our Guests §

Welcome to Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church (FELC). We're pleased you've come to receive the blessings our Lord gives in the Divine Service. Please help us get to know you and record your attendance by signing the red record of fellowship book as it is passed down the pew and/or the guest book in the narthex. Most Sundays we host refreshments after the service. Please join us downstairs in the Parish Fellowship. This is a great way to get to know the members of the family of FELC.

Holy Communion Announcement

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at Faith in the confession and glad confidence that our Lord, as He says, gives not only bread and wine, but His very body and blood to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sin. In joyful obedience to the clear teaching of our Lord Jesus those are invited to His table who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us. They show forth His death until He comes. Because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and so are unable to receive the Sacrament are invited to meditate on God's Word in the distribution hymns and pray for the day when divisions will have ceased.

How Can We Help You? We want your visit to be a blessing to you and strive to be as user friendly as possible. Our pastor is also available for pastoral care whether you're here for a week, months, years, or permanently. Faith is a member of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

Those Serving December 26th at Faith

Organist	Mary Jones	Asst.	Dave Matthews, Jr.
		Minister	
Acolyte		Greeters	
Altar	Lee Phinney	Refreshments	T-Z
Guild			
Ushers		Sermon Title	The First Born

The order of service for today begins on page 184 of the Lutheran Service Book.

Confession and Absolution

Please rise. The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- **P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- **C** who made heaven and earth.
- **P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- **and** You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

The Congregation reflects silently on God's Word using the Ten Commandments to examine specific sins committed in thought, word, and deed.

- P O almighty God, merciful Father,
- I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.
- P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the

 Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

Service of the Word



- 5 "These are the signs that you shall mark: The swaddling clothes and manger dark. There you will find the infant laid By whom the heav'ns and earth were made."
- 6 How glad we'll be to find it so! Then with the shepherds let us go To see what God for us has done In sending us His own dear Son.
- 7 Come here, my friends, lift up your eyes,And see what in the manger lies.Who is this child, so young and fair?It is the Christ Child lying there.

Text and tune: Public domain

- **P** My eyes have seen your salvation;
- a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel. Luke 2:30, 32





Salutation and Collect of the Day



P Let us pray. O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Please be seated.

Old Testament Reading

Exodus 13:1–3a, 11–15

A The Old Testament Reading for the First Sunday after Christmas is from Exodus, chapter 13.

¹The LORD said to Moses, ²"Consecrate to me all the firstborn. Whatever is the first to open the womb among the people of Israel, both of man and of beast, is mine."

³Then Moses said to the people, "Remember this day in which you came out from Egypt, out of the house of slavery, for by a strong hand the LORD brought you out from this place. . . .

and your fathers, and shall give it to you, ¹²you shall set apart to the LORD all that first opens the womb. All the firstborn of your animals that are males shall be the LORD's. ¹³Every firstborn of a donkey you shall redeem with a lamb, or if you will not redeem it you shall break its neck. Every firstborn of man among your sons you shall redeem. ¹⁴And when in time to come your son asks you, 'What does this mean?' you shall say to him, 'By a strong hand the LORD brought us out of Egypt, from the house of slavery. ¹⁵For when Pharaoh stubbornly refused to let us go, the LORD killed all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both the firstborn of man and the firstborn of animals. Therefore I sacrifice to the LORD all the males that first open the womb, but all the firstborn of my sons I redeem.'"

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.



⁹He sent redemption to his | people; * he has commanded his covenant for- | ever.

¹Praise the LORD! I will give thanks to the LORD with my | whole heart,* in the company of the upright, in the congre- | gation.

²Great are the works | of the LORD,* studied by all who de- | light in them.

³Full of splendor and majesty | is his work,* and his righteousness endures for- | ever.

⁴He has caused his wondrous works to be re- | membered;* the LORD is gracious and | merciful.

⁵He provides food for those who | fear him;* he remembers his covenant for- | ever.

⁶He has shown his people the power | of his works,* in giving them the inheritance of the | nations.

⁷The works of his hands are faith- | ful and just;* all his precepts are | trustworthy;

8they are established forever and | ever,*

to be performed with faithfulness and up- | rightness.

⁹He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant for- | ever.* Holy and awesome | is his name!

¹⁰The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good under- | standing.* His praise endures for- | ever!

⁹He sent redemption to his | people; * he has commanded his covenant for- | ever.

Epistle Colossians 3:12–17

A The Epistle is from Colossians, chapter 3.

¹²Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, ¹³bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. ¹⁷And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Please rise.

Alleluia and Verse



Holy Gospel

Luke 2:22-40

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.



²²When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, [Mary and Joseph] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord") ²⁴and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons." ²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. ²⁶And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. ²⁷And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, ²⁸he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

³⁶And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, ³⁷and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

²⁹"Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word;

³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation

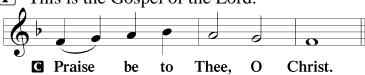
³¹that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel."

³³And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. ³⁴And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed ³⁵(and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed."

³⁹And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven

and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man;

and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered and was buried.

And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father.

And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,

whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life \pm of the world to come. Amen.

Please be seated.

389 Let All Together Praise Our God



- He is a servant, I a lord:
 How great a mystery!
 How strong the tender Christ Child's love!
 No truer friend than He,
 No truer friend than He.
- 6 He is the key and He the door
 To blessèd paradise;
 The angel bars the way no more.
 To God our praises rise,
 To God our praises rise.
- △7 Your grace in lowliness revealed,
 Lord Jesus, we adore
 And praise to God the Father yield
 And Spirit evermore;
 We praise You evermore.

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Sermon

- The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.
- C Amen.

Please rise.

Offertory Psalm 51:10–12



Please be seated

Offering

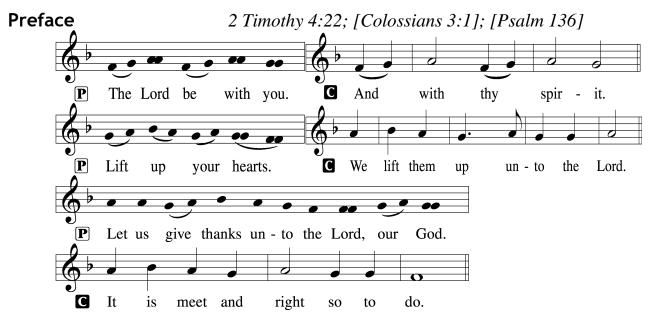
Please rise

Prayer of the Church

- **P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- A For the Church, that all who have been baptized into Christ may embrace the Christ Child by Word and faith, and so be ready to depart whenever they are called, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- A For our families, that they would be harmonious in God's love and ruled by Christ's peace; that the Word of Christ would dwell richly among us; that fathers and heads of the household would teach and admonish their families in all wisdom; and that our songs, words and deeds would be done in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ, with thanksgiving, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- A For delight in the fear of the Lord, that we may entrust ourselves only to Christ, who alone judges all matters in equity and righteousness; for princes and leaders of this world, who must judge by what they see and hear, that they would be blessed with health and wisdom; and for discernment, that we may honor them for the sake of conscience before our Lord, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.

- A For the sick and suffering, especially those who desire our prayers, that according to God's gracious will, they would be healed; and for those who mourn, that God would fill their hearts with the certain hope of the resurrection, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- A For those who commune this day, that they would see their salvation in the very body and blood of Christ given them to eat and to drink and thus, with Simeon, be prepared to depart in peace, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- A In thanksgiving for our brothers and sisters who have departed in the peace of faith; and that with them, we may behold the light of the nations and the glory of Israel in eternal life, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C Amen.

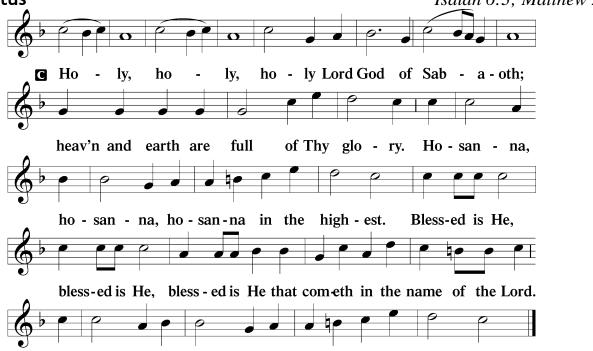
Service of the Sacrament



It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory that, seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may know and love those things which are not seen. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.

Lord's Prayer

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

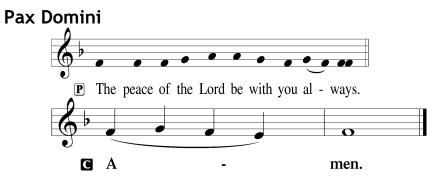
For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

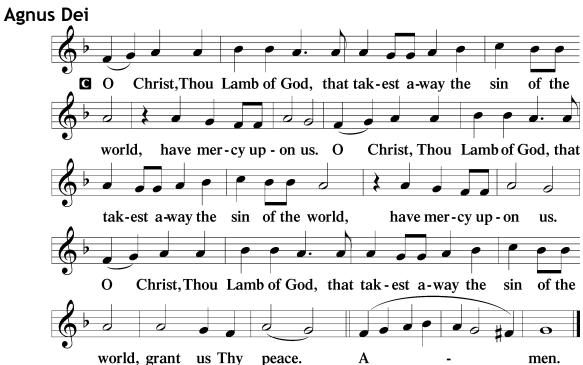
The Words of Our Lord

Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."





Please be seated.

Distribution

The pastor and those who assist him receive the body and blood of Christ first and then distribute them to those who come to receive.

Communing at Faith *Please see our Communion statement on page 2.*

519 In His Temple Now Behold Him



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367 Angels from the Realms of Glory

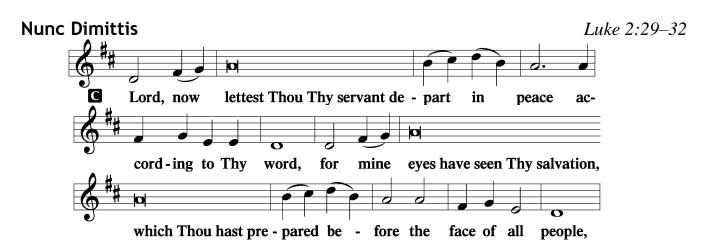


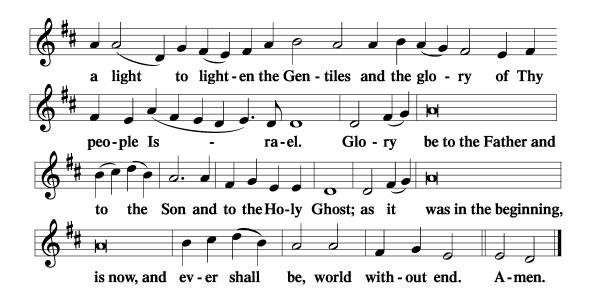
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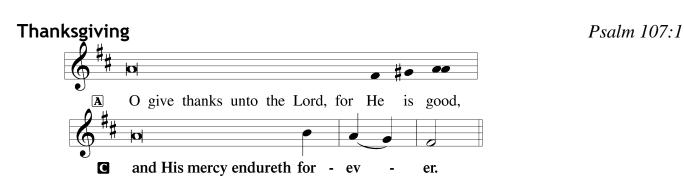
- P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart

 in peace.
- C Amen.

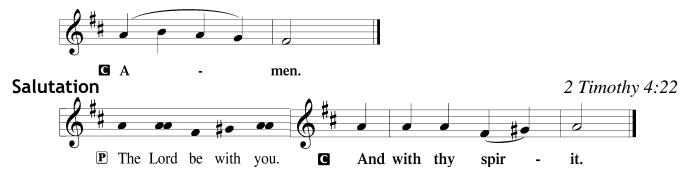
Please rise.





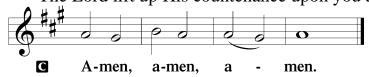


Let us pray. O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.





Benediction Numbers 6:24–26





- 12 And so it pleases You to see
 This simple truth revealed to me:
 That worldly honor, wealth, and might
 Are weak and worthless in Your sight.
- 13 Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child, Prepare a bed, soft, undefiled, A quiet chamber set apart For You to dwell within my heart.

- 14 My heart for very joy must leap; My lips no more can silence keep. I, too, must sing with joyful tongue That sweetest ancient cradlesong:
- 15 Glory to God in highest heav'n, Who unto us His Son has giv'n! While angels sing with pious mirth A glad new year to all the earth.

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