



December 15, 2019

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

4515 Dobie Road
Okemos, MI 48864
517-349-0620

3rd Sunday in Advent

To make disciples for Jesus Christ. . .

- . . .we **Gather** in faith for worship, prayer, study and fellowship
- . . .we **Equip** the people of God with a faith that works in real life
- . . .we **Serve** the world in the name of Jesus Christ

Pastor:..... Ellen Schoepf
Music Director:.....Debra Borton-McDonough
Organist/Pianist:.....Bruce Williams
Church Secretary:..... Katie Love
High School Leaders:Kim O'Brien, Ryan & Addie Thompson
Pastor's email:.....prellen@faithlutheranokemos.org
Church email:.....faith@faithlutheranokemos.org
Website:.....www.faithlutheranokemos.org
Facebook Page:.....facebook.com/faithlutheranokemos

Aids for hearing, children's activity bulletins, and large print bulletins are available from the ushers.



There is a nursery available during the worship service for those who wish to use it. It is located at the end of the hall beyond the coat racks.

If it will be difficult for you to stand along with the congregation during any part of the worship service, please feel free to remain seated.

Faith Lutheran live streams it's services. No names of participants are broadcast.

Ushers: Jim & Peggy Crum

Greeter: Marla Holle

Altar Care: Karen Whitmyer, Heidi Bowers & Brielle Bowers

Acolyte: Isaac Webb

Reader: Gus Lusia

Lay Assistant: Mike Eschelbach

Nursery: Marquardt Family

Coffee Hour Hosts: Gordon & Judy Tuthill

We cordially greet all who have come to worship today.

Please register your attendance and join us in fellowship after the service.

Bi-Weekly Announcement packets are available in the Narthex.
Prayer requests and praises are listed in the announcement packets.

Introduction to the day

A note of joyful expectation marks today's worship. Isaiah announces that the desert shall rejoice and blossom, and Jesus points to the unexpected and transforming signs of God's reign. We wait with patience for the coming of the Lord, even as we rejoice at his presence among us this day: in word and holy supper, in church and in our homes, in silent reflection and in works of justice and love. We pray that God would open our eyes and ears to the wonders of Christ's advent among us.

Welcome and Announcements

Prayer Requests

Prelude

“He Is Born”

arr. Dobrinski

Faith Bells

GATHERING

The Assembly Stands

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
the parent who rouses us from slumber,
the shepherd who gathers us on the holy mountain,
the deliverer who sets us free.

Amen.

Let us come before the living God in confession.

As we wait and watch for the promised day of salvation,
we open our hearts to you, O God.

Search us and know us.

Reveal all that we keep inside.

**To you, O God, we confess our sins,
known and unknown.**

**Forgive us, renew us,
and lead us in your ways of justice and peace.**

**Make us reflections of the radiant love
of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Beloved children of the Most High,
you are gathered before the righteous judge
who has mercy on all.

Splash exuberantly in the waters of baptism,
where sin is washed away in the river of life.
Dwell peacefully in the loving arms
of the one who nurtures all creation.
Go forth boldly in the assurance that your sins are forgiven
in the name of the one who is coming and is already here,
✝ Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.

GATHERING SONG

O Come, All Ye Faithful

ELW #283

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion
of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.



Third Sunday of Advent

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe.
Your prophets spoke of a day when the desert would blossom
And waters would break forth in the wilderness.
Bless us as we light the candles on this wreath.

Strengthen our hearts

As we prepare for the coming of the Lord.

May he give water to all who thirst,

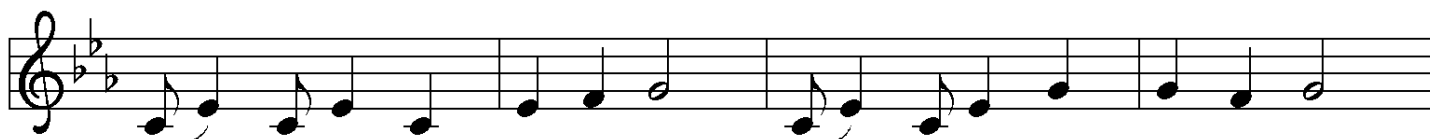
For he is our light and our salvation.

Blessed be God forever.

Amen.

KYRIE

Kyrie



1, 3	Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.	Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.
2	Chris - te e - le - i - son.	Chris - te e - le - i - son.
1, 3	Lord, have mer - cy.	Lord, have mer - cy.
2	Christ, have mer - cy.	Christ, have mer - cy.



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.	Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.
Chris - te e - le - i - son.	Chris - te e - le - i - son.
Lord, have mer - cy.	Lord, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy.	Christ, have mer - cy.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Stir up the wills of all who look to you, Lord God, and strengthen our faith in your coming, that, transformed by grace, we may walk in your way; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Cast

Ciara Cooper, Hadley Edberg, Quinn Edberg, Austin Jones, Calvin Kadrofske, Sami Magyar, Jaelyn Marquardt, Makayla Marquardt, Isaak Nyquist, Abigail Steinke, Kaden Steinke, Oliver Thompson, Owen Thompson & Jasper Wawrzynski. Narrators: Zach Hereza & Maude Lewis.

Welcome

Narrator welcomes all.

Part I: Mary and Joseph

Solo - Mary Had A Baby (arr. Boytim)

Soloist - Tammy Heilman

As solo is sung, Mary and Joseph come forward.

Part II: The Animals

Choir anthem - The Friendly Beasts (traditional)

Soloists; Ryan Thompson, Diane Hill, Bob Nelson, Emily Brown

As anthem is sung, animals come forward.

Part III: Angels

Congregational Hymn - Hark! The Herald Angels Sing - # 270

During the singing of the hymn, the angels come forward.

Part IV: Shepherds

Congregational Hymn - Go Tell It on the Mountain - # 290

During the singing of the hymn, shepherds come forward.

Part V: Wise Persons and Star

Congregational Hymn - We Three Kings

During the singing of the hymn, Wise Men process in.

We Three Kings of Orient Are

1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing gifts we tra - verse a - far,
 2 Born a king on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I bring to crown him a - gain;
 3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; in - cense owns a de - i - ty nigh;
 4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a life of gath - er - ing gloom;
 5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and God and Sac - ri - fice;

field and foun - tain, moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.
 king for - ev - er, ceas - ing nev - er, o - ver us all to reign.
 prayer and prais - ing, glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship - ing God Most High.
 sor - rowing, sigh - ing, bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.
 heav'n sings al - le - lu - ia: al - le - lu - ia the earth re - plies.

Refrain

Oh, star of won - der, star of night, star with roy - al beau - ty bright;

west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!

Text: John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1820–1891, alt.
 Music: THREE KINGS OF ORIENT, John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1820–1891

Part VI: Conclusion

Closing words.

Congregational Hymn - Joy to the World - # 267

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Keeping awake as we watch for Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

Prayers of intercession are prayed.

To each petition, the assembly responds:

Lord in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

The presiding minister concludes the prayers, and the assembly responds:

You hear the cries of our hearts, O Lord. Fill us with hopeful expectation, that in each day and hour we may love and serve our neighbors, in Jesus' name.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

The assembly is seated.

MEAL

OFFERING

"Will We Know Him?"

(Besig)

Chancel Choir
Gwynne Kadrofske, flute

OFFERING RESPONSE

Give Thanks



Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, give thanks to the Ho - ly One,



give thanks be - cause he's giv - en Je - sus Christ, his Son.



Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, give thanks to the Ho - ly One,



give thanks be - cause he's giv - en Je - sus Christ, his Son.



And now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am



rich," be - cause of what the Lord has done for us. And



now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am



rich," be - cause of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks!

Text: Henry Smith

Music: GIVE THANKS, Henry Smith

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OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
 san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
 est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, the Beginning and the End, our Salvation and our Hope, we praise you for creating a world of order and beauty. When we brought on chaos, cruelty and despair, you sent the prophets to proclaim your justice and mercy. At this end of the ages your Son Jesus came to bring us your love and to heal all the suffering world.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his life, death, and resurrection, we await his coming again in righteousness and peace. Send your Spirit on us and on this bread and wine we share: strengthen our faith, increase our hope, and bring to birth the justice and joy of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

Amen

THE LORDS PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.

Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

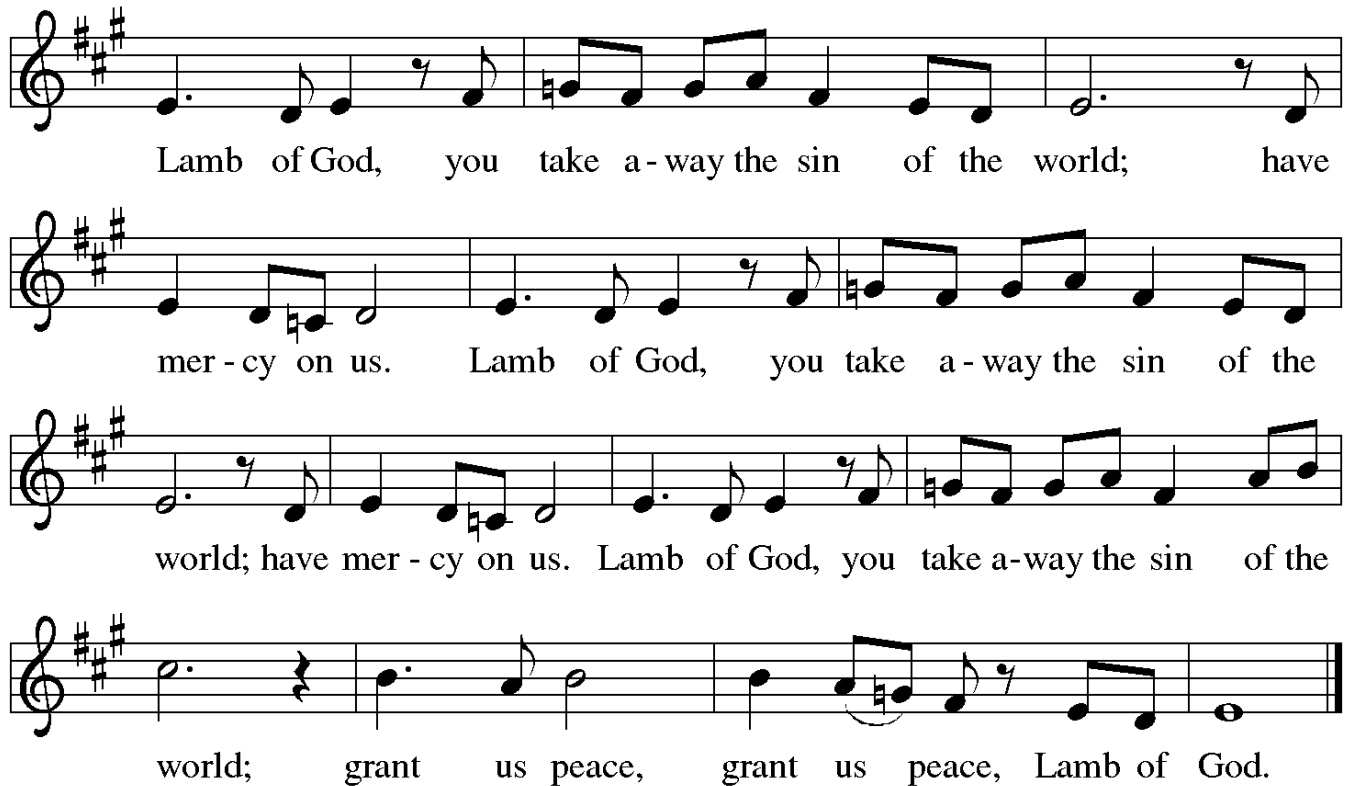
Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Amen.

COMMUNION SONG



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

Christmas Melody

Flutes of Faith

CONGREGATIONAL SONG

People, Look East

ELW #248

The assembly stands.

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

God for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

May God, who gathers us in love,
lead you in pathways of righteousness and justice.
May God, who knows us more deeply than we know ourselves,
lead you in pathways of forgiveness and freedom.
May God, who fills us with good things,
lead you in pathways of equity and abundance.
The blessing of the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
be upon you and remain with you forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

ELW #288

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“Good Christian Friends Rejoice”

arr. Dale Wood



December 8, 2019 Attendance: 97

Serving Faith December 22

Ushers: Jon & Elaine Harrison

Greeters: Doug & Linda Hirt

Altar Care: Karen Whitmyer, Heidi Bowers & Brielle Bowers

Acolyte: Sami Ransom

Reader: Atu Ngasala

Lay Assistant: Doug Hirt

Nursery: Williams Family

Coffee Hour Hosts: Lee & Linda Gerard

Altar Flower Dedications

Sunday, December 15th

Altar flowers are given to the glory of God by the Steinke/Ballegeer family in memory of Beth's sister, Christine Ballegeer Boeger, who passed away on 12/11/12.



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**
God's work. Our hands.



Faith Lutheran Church's Welcoming Statement:

We, at Faith Lutheran Church, welcome you as a child of God. As Paul said in his letter to the Galatians, “for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith.” (Galatians 3:26) We strive to be a place where everyone is welcomed and affirmed.

No matter your age, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, marital status, faith background, political leanings, or mental or physical ability - you are welcome as you are. As children of God, we are all one in Christ Jesus and rely on the unconditional nature of God’s love and grace to be our help and guide.

Email address

faith@faithlutheranokemos.org

Websites

Faith Lutheran Church ≈ www.faithlutheranokemos.org
North/West Lower Michigan Synod ≈ www.mittensynod.org
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America ≈ www.elca.org

Facebook

facebook.com/faithlutheranokemos

You also can find the audio available on Faith’s website under worship
Sermons