



**December 11, 2022**

## **FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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

### **Third Sunday in Advent: Christmas Pageant**

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  
Youth & Education Director .....Pam Williams  
Audio/Video Techs: .....Justin Brown & Zach Hereza  
Pastor's email:.....[prellen@faithlutheranokemos.org](mailto:prellen@faithlutheranokemos.org)  
Church email:.....[faith@faithlutheranokemos.org](mailto:faith@faithlutheranokemos.org)  
Website:.....[www.faithlutheranokemos.org](http://www.faithlutheranokemos.org)  
Facebook Page:.....[facebook.com/faithlutheranokemos](https://facebook.com/faithlutheranokemos)

### **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.

## PRELUDE

“People Look East”

arr. Dale Wood

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.

**Blessed be God’s name forever.**

**Amen.**

Beloved, now is the time to wake from sleep.

Let us confront our sins,

and confess them to the one who is merciful and just.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God of new beginnings,

**we confess that we have not welcomed your holy reign.**

**We have strayed from your paths.**

**We prepare for war instead of peace.**

**We dishonor one another and your creation.**

**Purify us with your refining fire**

**and set us again on your way of love,**

**that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance,**

**and welcome your coming among us.**

**Amen.**

People of God,

a new thing is growing in our midst,

a tender branch,

a living sign.

By water and the Spirit you are joined to this wonder.

You have put on ✝ Christ,

and your sins have been washed away.

Rejoice in the way of the Lord.

**Amen.**

# GATHERING HYMN

## People, Look East

1 Peo - ple, look east. The time is near of the crown - ing  
2 Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is  
3 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the  
4 An - gels an - nounce with shouts of mirth him who brings new

of the year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble,  
plant - ed there. Give up your strength the seed to nour - ish,  
bowl shall brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er,  
life to earth. Set ev - 'ry peak and val - ley hum - ming

trim the hearth and set the ta - ble. Peo - ple, look  
that in course the flow'r may flour - ish. Peo - ple, look  
bright as sun and moon to - geth - er. Peo - ple, look  
with the word, the Lord is com - ing. Peo - ple, look

east, and sing to - day— Love, the Guest, is on the way.  
east, and sing to - day— Love, the Rose, is on the way.  
east, and sing to - day— Love, the Star, is on the way.  
east, and sing to - day— Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881–1965

Music: BESANÇON, French carol; arr. Barry Rose, b. 1934

Text © Miss E. Farjeon Will Trust, by permission of David Higham Associates.

Arr. © 1999 Novello & Company Ltd., London, United Kingdom. All rights reserved. International copyright secured.

## 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.**

Setting by Cynthia I. Gonzales  
512-644-6475

### Kyrie Eleison

Lord Have Mercy

"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" ELW 276

The musical score is written in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music. The first staff is for the Leader, and the second is for the All. The lyrics are: Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son, Lord have mer - cy on\_\_ us, Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son, Lord have mer - cy on\_\_ us. The third staff continues the lyrics: Chri - ste e - le - i - son, Christ have mer - cy on\_\_ us, Chri\_\_ ste e - le - i - son, Christ have mer - cy on\_\_ us. The fourth staff concludes with: Ky - re - e e - le - i - son, Lord have mer - cy on\_\_ us, Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son, Lord have mer - cy on\_\_ us.

### 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.**

*(We light the first, second & third Advent candle)*

## **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.**

## **CHRISTMAS PAGEANT**

**Narrator: Cody Boyan**

### **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)***

***Chancel Choir***

*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 night;  
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

As we prepare for the fullness of Christ's presence, let us pray for a world that yearns for new hope.

*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:*

God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children. In Jesus' name we pray.

**Amen.**

## PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

## OFFERING

"Gloria in Blue"

arr. John Grier

*Please stand if you are able.*

## 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.**

## 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. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. 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:

### Holy, Holy, Holy

"In the Bleak Midwinter" ELW 294

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Holy, Holy, Holy" in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might, heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Blessed is he who comes in the name — of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est." The music is written in a simple, accessible style with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#).

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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.



## LORD'S 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

Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God, who has come to save you.

## COMMUNION

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

## COMMUNION SONG

### Agnus Dei

"'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime" ELW 284

O Lamb of God you take a - way the sin of the world.

O Lamb of God you take a - way the sin of the world.

O Lamb of God you take a - way the sin\_ of the world.

Have mer cy on us O Lord. Grant us\_ peace. Grant us\_ peace O Lord.

The image shows a musical score for the Agnus Dei. It consists of four staves of music in G minor (one flat). The lyrics are written below each staff. The first three staves are identical, and the fourth staff has a different melody and lyrics. The lyrics are: "O Lamb of God you take a - way the sin of the world." for the first three staves, and "Have mer cy on us O Lord. Grant us\_ peace. Grant us\_ peace O Lord." for the fourth staff.

## INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

“Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising”

arr. Raymond Haan

*Please stand if you are able.*

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.**

## BLESSING

God the eternal Word, who dwells with us in Jesus, and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit, ✝ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**



# SENDING

## Good Christian Friends, Rejoice



- 1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
- 2 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
- 3 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;



give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;  
now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!  
now ye need not fear the grave; Je - sus Christ was born to save!



ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.  
He has o - pened heav - en's door, and we are blest for - ev - er - more.  
Calls you one and calls you all to gain the ev - er - last - ing hall.



Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!  
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!  
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Text: Medieval Latin carol; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866  
Music: IN DULCI JUBILO, German carol, 14th cent.

PRINTED UNDER ONE LICENSE A-708005

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is near. **Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

“Joy to the World”

arr. Michael Burkhardt

From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2022 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

Altar Care: Tammy Heilman  
Lay Assistant: Rich Weingartner  
Nursery: Jennifer Coe  
Coffee Hour: Christian Ed

Reader:  
Ushers: Walter & Brenda Kopf  
Greeter: Ken & Ellen Milne  
Acolyte: Isaak Nyquist

**11/27**

Loose Cash	\$ 28.00
General Fund	\$ 8,945.00
Memorials	
Mead	\$10,180.00
Rush	205.00
Kinawa Family Donation	\$ 100.00
Poinsettias	\$ 140.00
Pantry Fund	\$ 219.00
Parish House	\$ 105.00
World Hunger	\$ 5.00
Youth	<u>\$ 300.00</u>
Subtotal	\$ 20,227.00
Vanco	
General Operating	<u>\$ 1,136.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 21,363.00</b>

**12/4**

N/A

**Year to Date**

**January 1- October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

Income	\$250,229.00
Expenses	<u>\$266,687.00</u>
Net Income (Loss)	\$(16,458.00)

## Upcoming Events:

Sunday, December 11  
Sunday, December 18  
Monday, December 19  
Saturday, December 24  
Sunday, December 25

10:00 A.M.  
7:00 P.M.  
4 P.M. & 8 P.M.

Christmas Pageant  
Stuff the Stocking Food Delivery  
Church Council Meeting  
Christmas Eve Services  
No In-Person Worship

## Recurring Events

Children's Sunday School  
Adult Sunday School  
Worship  
Noon Bible Study  
LWR ACTION and Quilters  
Confirmation Class  
Chancel Choir Rehearsal  
Bell Choir Rehearsal

Each Sunday at 9:00 A.M.  
Each Sunday at 9:00 A.M.  
Each Sunday at 10:00 A.M.  
Each Tuesday at Noon  
Each Wednesday 9:30-11:30 A.M.  
Each Wednesday at 6:00 P.M.  
Each Wednesday at 7:30 P.M.  
Each Wednesday at 6:30 P.M.

# Advent

Christmas Eve Services this year will be held at 4:00 PM and 8:00 PM. There will NOT be a late service this year. We invite you to join us to celebrate Christ's birth among us at 4:00 PM or 8:00 PM. The choir and brass quartet will participate in the 8:00 service.

The nursery will be available at the 4 P.M. Service only.



There will be NO in-person service on Christmas Day, the Sunday morning of December 25. On that day, we invite you to access the Synod's 2022 offering of Lessons & Carols. This service will be posted on our Facebook site for access that morning.