

December 11, 2022

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

Third Sunday in Advent: Christmas Pageant

To make disciple	s 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	
Church email:	<u>faith@faithlutheranokemos.org</u>	
Website:	<u>www.faithlutheranokemos.org</u>	
Facebook Page:	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.

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 I Christ, and your sins have been washed away. Rejoice in the way of the Lord. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

People, Look East



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.**



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.

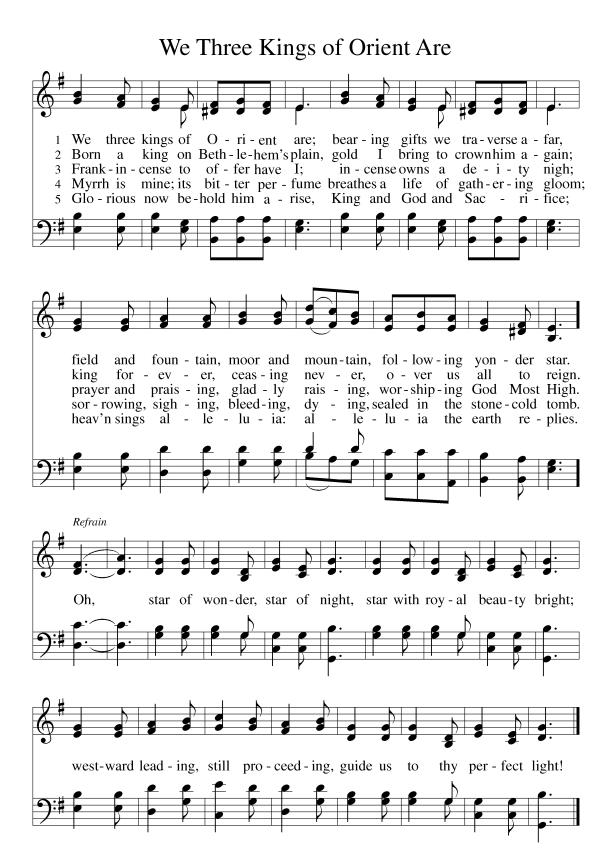
Part III: Angels Congregational Hymn - Hark! The Herald Angels Sing - # 270 During the singing of the hymn, the angels come forward.

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.



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

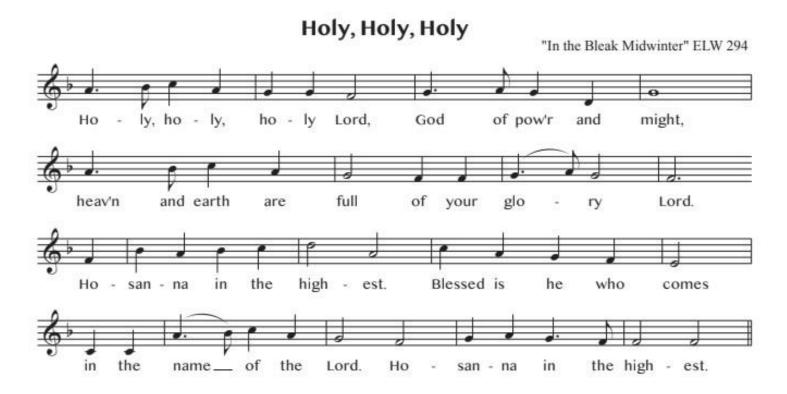
Let us pray. God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

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:



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



INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

"Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising"

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.**

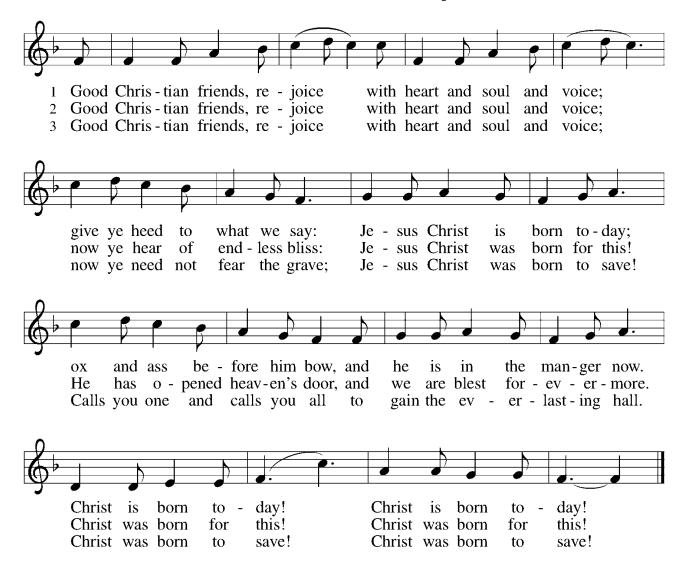
BLESSING

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



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

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

POSTLUDE "Joy to the World"

arr. Michael Burkhardt

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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	\$2	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>\$</u>	300.00
Subtotal	\$	20,227.00
Vanco		
General Operating <u>\$ 1,136.00</u>		
Total	\$	21,363.00

12/4
N/A

 Year to Date
 January 1- October 30th, 2022

 Income
 \$250,229.00

 Expenses
 \$266,687.00

 Net Income (Loss)
 \$(16,458.00)

Upcoming Events:

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

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 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

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.

1100

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.