



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
INSPIRE. EQUIP. REACH.

SIGNS *of* CHRISTMAS

signs of

PEACE

in our struggles

SUNDAY • DECEMBER 6 • ISAIAH 2:1-5

December 6, 2020: Second Sunday of Advent
Signs of Christmas: PEACE

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Message **Pastor Stephanie Tollefson**
Assisting Pastor **Pastor Laurie Neill**
Music Minister **Michael Olson**

PRELUDE:

Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying – J.S. Bach
Michael Olson, organist

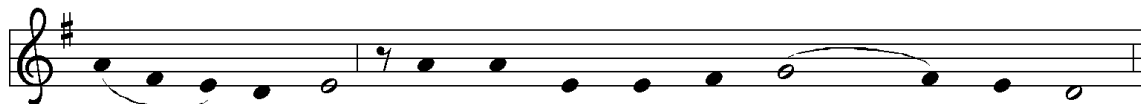
WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

OPENING HYMN: *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* (ELW 257)
(stanzas 1-4)



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things
3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on
4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;
Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law
tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!
in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.
and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

HYMN: *Prepare the Royal Highway*

(ELW 264)

1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!
 2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: your own e - ter - nal king!
 3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised king!
 4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a - bove.

Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!
 Palm branch - es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!
 Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its trib - ute too may bring.
 His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love.

Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
 God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
 All lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing:
 So let your praise be sound - ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:

Refrain

Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
 Music: BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN, Swedish folk tune, 17th cent.
 Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS:

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God,
Love from the beginning.
Word made flesh.
Breath of heaven.

C: Amen.

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sinfulness before God and one another, trusting in God's endless mercy and love.

Silence is kept for reflection

P: Merciful God,

**C: We confess that we are not perfect.
We have said and done things we regret.
We have tried to earn your redeeming grace,
while denying it to others.
We have resisted your call
to be your voice in the world.
Forgive us, loving God.
Give us your righteousness,
the strength to put aside our failures,
and the courage to try again.
Amen.**

P: Dear people of God, hear the good news:
Christ the Savior is born!
You are loved and forgiven
In the name of Jesus, who has come among us.
You are freed from proving that you deserve to be loved.
Because God's love is given to you
as the most precious gift of all.
Rejoice in this love and share it with the world.

C: Amen.

VOCAL ENSEMBLE:

Lift Thine Eyes – Felix Mendelssohn
Marla Fogderud, Naomi Wawers, Andrea Fogderud
Michael Olson, accompanist

MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT: *Stewardship Giving*, Matt Frisk

OFFERING:

OFFERING OPTIONS

Thank you for your new or continued generosity towards God's mission at First Lutheran Church. While we worship online, our stewardship continues. Offerings can be mailed to the church office and we also encourage you to use our online giving and texting options.

Online Giving is an easy and convenient way to "set it and forget it."



ONLINE GIVING: www.flcfargo.org (from the Quick Links banner select "Donate Now")



TEXT TO GIVE: Text 701.354.1495 with the dollar amount you would like to give



MAIL A CHECK: 619 Broadway, Fargo, ND 58102

POEM: *Wage Peace* by Judyth Hill

FIRST READING: Isaiah 9:2a, 6; 11:6b

SECOND READING: Isaiah 2:1-5

MESSAGE: Pastor Stephanie Tollefson

SPECIAL MUSIC:

Let There Be Peace On Earth -- arr. Keith Christopher
Marla Fogderud, Naomi Wawers, Andrea Fogderud, vocalists
Michael Olson, accompanist

(continued on next page)

APOSTLES' CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

**On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

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

PRAVERS FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

LORD'S PRAYER *(spoken by the congregation)*

**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**

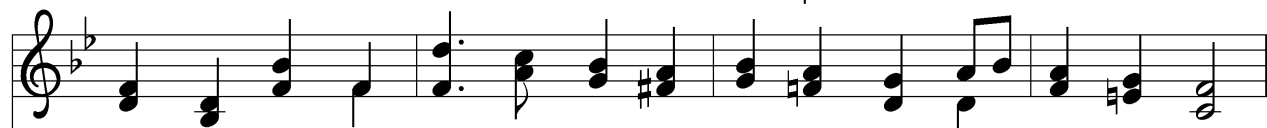
**who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

HYMN: *Angels, from the Realms of Glory* (ELW 275)



1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
2 Shep - herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your flocks by night,
3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, bright - er vi - sions beam a - far;
4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son,



once you sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
God with us is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant light.
seek the great de - sire of na - tions, you have seen his na - tal star.
ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing to the e - ter - nal Three in One.



Refrain



Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born king.



Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt., sts. 1–3; *Salisbury Hymn Book*, 1857, st. 4
Music: REGENT SQUARE, Henry T. Smart, 1813–1879

BENEDICTION & THREEFOLD AMEN

SENDING HYMN:

It Came upon the Midnight Clear (ELW 282)

1 It came up - on the mid - night clear, that glo - rious song of old,
 2 Still through the clo - ven skies they come with peace - ful wings un - furled,
 3 And you, be - neath life's crush - ing load, whose forms are bend - ing low,
 4 For lo! The days are has - t'ning on, by proph - ets seen of old,

from an - gels bend - ing near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
 and still their heav'n - ly mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world.
 who toil a - long the climb - ing way with pain - ful steps and slow:
 when with the ev - er - cir - cling years shall come the time fore - told,

"Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav'n's all - gra - cious king."
 A - bove its sad and low - ly plains they bend on hov - 'ring wing,
 look now, for glad and gold - en hours come swift - ly on the wing;
 when peace shall o - ver all the earth its an - cient splen - dors fling,

The world in sol - emn still - ness lay to hear the an - gels sing.
 and ev - er o'er its ba - bel sounds the bless - ed an - gels sing.
 oh, rest be - side the wea - ry road and hear the an - gels sing!
 and all the world give back the song which now the an - gels sing.

Text: Edmund H. Sears, 1810-1876
 Music: CAROL, Richard S. Willis, 1819-1900

POSTLUDE

Of the Father's Love Begotten -- Austin Lovelace
 Michael Olson, organist

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ORDER.

order some take & bake
Rhombus Guys through FLC

pizzas: t-rex, rockefeller, deluxe, margherita

THANK.

thank your friendly FLC
high schooler for the delivery

SUPPORT.

and **support** our neighbor
The Salvation Army this year!
all proceeds support The Salvation Army

The past 13 weeks, our high schoolers followed the *Live, Love, and Lead like Jesus* sermon series, and decided to create a downtown ministry partnership to benefit a downtown neighbor. Their idea? Sell and deliver Rhombus Guys pizzas for a service project and donate the proceeds to The Salvation Army, to support their community work.

Visit flcfargo.org for details.

Order by December 10 to have your pizza(s)
delivered on Sunday, December 13!





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Winter Coat Ministry

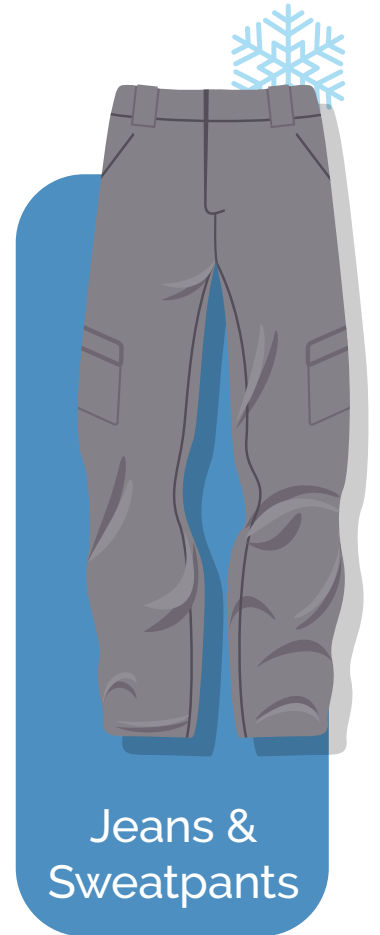
For many years, First Lutheran has partnered with local agencies supporting those in need in our community by supplying winter coats and apparel.



Men & Women's
Winter Coats

Greatest need: L, XL, XXL

KEY PARTNERS



Jeans &
Sweatpants

Donations can be
dropped off at
the church.

Please call the church
701.235.7389 or email
info@flcfargo.org to
arrange a convenient
drop off time.



Men's & Women's
Shoes &
Boots



ski type
Gloves



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ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Zoom Online Book Study: *Hidden Christmas*

Tuesdays, December 8 and 15, 1:30 p.m., or Thursdays, December 10 and 17, 7 p.m.

During this season of Advent, would you like to dig deeper to learn more about the nativity story? Polly Kloster is facilitating group discussion on Timothy Keller's book, *Hidden Christmas: The Surprising Truth Behind the Birth of Christ*.

Every Christmas displays of Baby Jesus resting in a manger decorate lawns and churchyards, and songs about shepherds and angels fill the air. Yet how many of us have examined the hard edges of this biblical story? In *Hidden Christmas*, Timothy Keller takes readers on an illuminating journey into the surprising background of the nativity. By understanding the message of hope and salvation within the Bible's account of Jesus's birth, readers will experience the redeeming power of God's grace in a deeper and more meaningful way.

To participate in this Zoom book discussion, please register at flcfargo.org and select "Registration" from the QUICK LINKS bar. Space is limited to 8 people in each group to allow for active engagement by all group members. Participants are responsible for obtaining the book in preparation for the sessions.

Community Outreach Volunteers Needed

The homeless shelter community is seeking individuals who would be willing to connect with COVID-19 positive homeless residents *via telephone* on a daily basis through their quarantine period. These residents have been housed in isolation and have minimal if any contact with others.

Please contact Polly Kloster, RN, Faith Community Nurse at FLC, pkloster@flcfargo.org, or 701.235.7389, if you are interested in reaching out through this ministry.

Care Bag Outreach Ministry Opportunity

The FLC Health Ministry Committee has assembled Care Bags to be distributed to parishioners in need. Each bag is filled with a variety of items to provide spiritual support and encouragement. This is especially important during our pandemic break from in-person worship and ministry.

If you know someone who could use extra encouragement and support at this time, contact Polly Kloster, RN, Faith Community Nurse at FLC, pkloster@flcfargo.org, or 701.235.7389, to pick up a bag for delivery or to request a delivery. We would love to extend this support to as many people as possible through this outreach ministry!



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During the COVID-19/Coronavirus response, in-person worship at First Lutheran Church is suspended. However, we will broadcast worship on radio, television and online as noted below. Please join us for worship to praise Jesus and to stay connected as a faith community.



ONLINE STREAMING

(flcfargo.org & Facebook):

- Traditional Worship, Sundays, 9 a.m.
- Contemporary Worship, Sundays, 10:30 a.m.
- Face-to-Face Worship, Wednesdays, 6 p.m.



TELEVISION:

- Fargo channels, Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m.; and Sundays 1:30 p.m. (Midco 68, Sparklight 1068)
- Moorhead channels, Tuesdays, 7 p.m.; and Sundays 5 p.m. (Midco 99, Sparklight 69)



RADIO:

- Sundays, 9 a.m., WDAY 970 AM and 93.1 FM

SUPPORT FIRST LUTHERAN MINISTRIES:



ONLINE GIVING: www.flcfargo.org (click "Donate Now" in the quick links)



TEXT TO GIVE: Text 701.354.1495 with the dollar amount you would like to give



MAIL A CHECK: 619 Broadway, Fargo, ND 58102

FLOWERS & RADIO BROADCAST:

The altar flowers and radio broadcast today are given in loving memory of **Fred Drenkow**, from Joanne and family. The organ flowers are given in honor of **Bonnie Olson**, from her grandchildren.

PRAYERS FOR GOD'S PEOPLE:

We as God's people believe in the power of prayer. Please pray for the following who have asked to be prayed for publicly: *Fran Nelson, Jordan Nettum, Mark Nettum, Michelle Reitan, Brenda Cummins, Amy Carey, Kathy Otheim, Jim Frisk, Gail Zimprich, Steve Brown, George and Kaity.*

The sympathy and prayers of First Lutheran are offered to the family and friends of **Lois Rieniets**, mother of Sharon Hegle and John Rieniets.

CONTACT US:

phone: 701.235.7389 (8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 8 a.m.-noon Friday)

email: info@flcfargo.org | Facebook: First Lutheran Church - Fargo, ND