



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
INSPIRE. EQUIP. REACH.

SIGNS *of* CHRISTMAS

signs of

LOVE

in our differences

SUNDAY • DECEMBER 20 • ISAIAH 11:1-10

December 20, 2020: Fourth Sunday of Advent

Signs of Christmas: LOVE

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Message Rollie Johnson
Assisting Pastor Pastor Laurie Neill
Music Minister Michael Olson

PRELUDE:

What Child Is This – John Innes
Michael Olson, organist

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

OPENING HYMN: *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

(ELW 257)



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-joice! Re-joice!
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.

1 In the bleak mid - win - ter, frost - y wind made moan,
 2 Heav - en can - not hold him, nor . . . earth sus - tain;
 3 What . . . can I give him, poor . . . as I am?

earth stood hard as i - ron, wa - ter like a stone;
 heav'n and earth shall flee a - way when he comes to reign;
 If I were a shep - herd I would bring a lamb;

snow had fall - en, snow on snow, snow on snow,
 in the bleak mid - win - ter a sta - ble place suf - ficed
 if I were a wise . . . man I would do my part;

in the bleak mid - win - ter, long a - go.
 the Lord . . . God al - might - y, Je - sus Christ.
 yet what I can I give him— give my heart.

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.

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

SECOND READING: Isaiah 11:1-3, 6-10

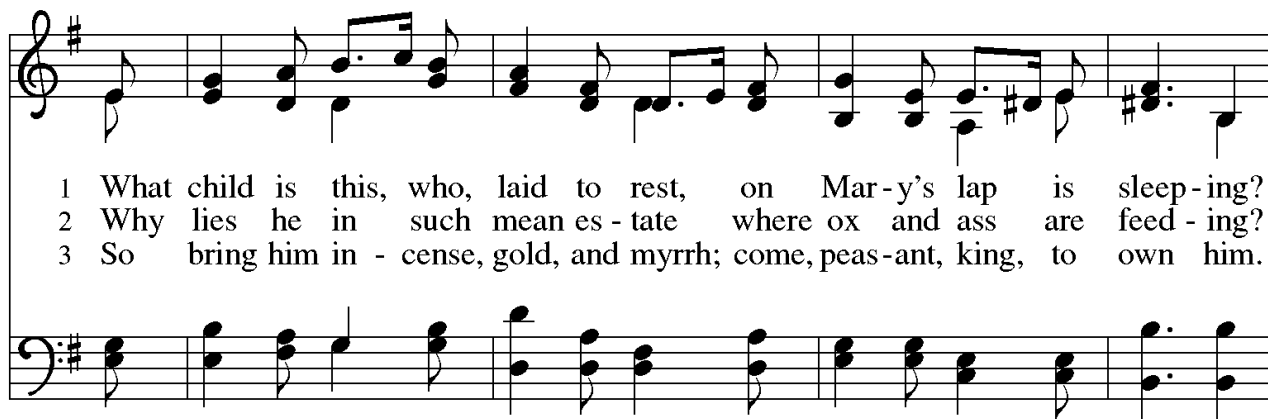
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VOCAL ENSEMBLE:

Carol of the Manger – Dale Wood
Peace, Peace – Rick and Sylvia Powell
Eleanor and Katherine Athy; Kathy and David Ferreira
Isabella and Alex Kirch; Katie, Isaiah, and Lily Damico; Erik Johnson
Michael Olson, accompanist

MESSAGE: Rollie Johnson

HYMN OF THE DAY: *What Child Is This* (ELW 296)



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?
2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?
3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas-ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep - ing?
Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.

This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an-gels sing;
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
Raise, raise the song on high, the vir-gin sings her lul-la-by;

haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar-y!
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar-y!
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar-y!

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.**

(continued on next page)

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

PRAYERS 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.**

BENEDICTION & THREEFOLD AMEN

SENDING 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.

The musical score consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment line in the bass clef. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor). The first system contains the first four lines of the hymn. The second system contains the next four lines. The third system contains the refrain. The piano accompaniment is primarily chordal, supporting the vocal melody.

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

POSTLUDE:

Angels, from the Realms of Glory – David Lasky
Michael Olson, organist

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

CHRISTMAS EVE: Thursday, December 24

ONLINE | flcfargo.org and Facebook

Traditional and Contemporary, 3 p.m. and 5 p.m.

Traditional Worship, 10:35 p.m.

TELEVISION | The CW

(Midcontinent 16 and 616; Sparklight 38 and 1038)

Traditional Worship, 12 p.m.

Contemporary Worship, 3 p.m.

TELEVISION | KVLV-11

Traditional Worship, 10:35 p.m.



CHRISTMAS DAY: Friday, December 25

ONLINE | flcfargo.org and Facebook

Traditional Worship, 9 a.m.

TELEVISION | KVLV-11

Traditional Worship, 9 a.m.

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FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
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Winter Coat Ministry

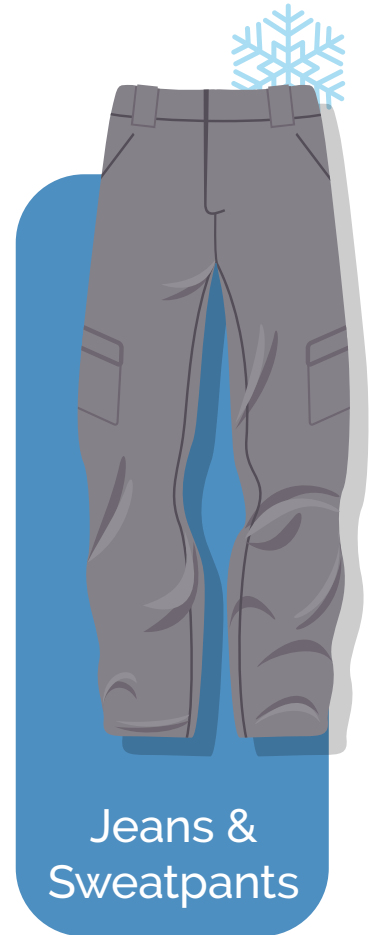
For many years, First Lutheran has partnered with local agencies supporting those in need in our community by supplying winter coats and apparel.



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:

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!



Parking Lot Christmas

Sunday, December 20, 4-5 p.m.

First Lutheran East Parking Lot - 619 Broadway

Come to the east parking lot of First Lutheran where we will join our hearts and voices together in celebration of the Christmas season. You can stay in your cars or warm up by a fire pit—keeping socially distanced of course. Come with the whole family to hear the Christmas story and sing Christmas songs. Hot cider and warm wishes available. Dress warm, mask up and respect social distancing.

We have prepared a Christmas worship bag for you to take home that contains the wine, a wafer, and a candle for each member of your family. Come for Parking Lot Christmas and pick-up your Christmas worship bag at the same time!



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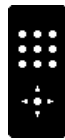
During the COVID-19/Coronavirus response, in-person worship at First Lutheran Church is suspended. However, we will broadcast worship on radio, television and online as noted below. Please join us for worship to praise Jesus and to stay connected as a faith community.



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

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, Dewey Nielsen, Clark Hoffman, Peggy Isakson, Steve Brown, George and Kaity.*

The sympathy and prayers of First Lutheran are offered to the family and friends of **Bev Odden**, mother of Broc Roberson; and **Marvin Anderson**, uncle of Danelle Kjar.

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