



Salvation Army Angel Tree information:
Please place your angel tag on your
unwrapped toy donations in the red
barrels until Sunday, December 17th.
Thank You!
Karen Murr & Patti Dunaway

OUT TO DINNER Group will be going to **LUNCH** at The Rock, 101 Maple Ave., Beloit at 11:15 after church on Sunday, December 10th. We will have our own room with a TV so those who want to watch the Packers vs. Browns game at noon will not miss a minute! Please sign up on the board by Sunday, December 3rd.




Christmas Worship SCHEDULE

Sunday, December 17th ~ Children's Christmas Program during our 9:30am worship service

Sunday, December 24th ~ 5pm Candlelight Service for Christmas Eve; there will be NO 9:30 AM SERVICE

Sunday, December 31 ~ 9:30 am on New Year's Eve



We ask that all children be present for Children's Church so they can rehearse for the program. Thank you!

Anne Strasser & Amanda Guffey



Faith Lutheran Church

Faithfully Growing, Welcoming, and Caring through Christ
 Sunday, December 3, 2017
 First Sunday of Advent ~ 9:30 am

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who comes to wake us from sleep, who leads us into the light of grace.
- C: Amen.**
- P: Let us prepare the way of the Lord by confessing our sin against God and neighbor. (A brief silence.) God of all time,
- C: We confess that we have not prepared for your merciful reign among us. We ignore our neighbors in need and fail in the labor of justice and peace. In your mercy forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your light and to seek the things that will endure until Christ comes again in glory. Amen.**
- P: Comfort, o comfort my people, says your God. In + Jesus Christ your sins are forgiven and all things are made new. Rejoice in this good news!
- C: Amen.**



OPENING HYMN

Hark, the Glad Sound!



1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior
 2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's
 3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing
 4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of peace, your wel - come



prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -
 bond - age held. The gates of brass be -
 soul to cure, and with the trea - sures
 shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal



pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.
 fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.
 of his grace to • en - rich the hum - ble poor.
 arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

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

C: **And also with you.**

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

P; Stir up your power, and come! The psalmist's plea in Psalm 80 has become familiar to us in the Advent prayers. Isaiah wants God to rip the heavens open. Both cry out for an apparently distant, angry God to show up, to save, to restore. When we hear Jesus describing the coming of the Son of Man with stars falling from heaven, it can sound dire and horrible, not like anything we would ever hope for. But when we really look at the suffering of people God loves, we can share the hope that God would tear open the heavens and come.

C: **Amen.**



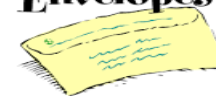
Adam, Alyssa & Jarrett, Aunt Betty, Aunt Pat,
 Barry & Shelby, Bev, Brad, Bill, Bob, Brayton,
 Brett, Brian, Bob, Boyd, Cindy, Claudine, Connie,
 Debi, Denise, Devin, Dick, Don, Donald
 Lundeberg, Florence, Gary, Gavin, Heidi, Inez,
 Irene, Jaleena, Janet, Janie, Jeff, Jen, Jessica,
 Jim, Joan, Kelli, Kenny, Krystal, Kurt, Larry,
 Linda, Lisa Wright, Marion, Mary, Maureen,
 Nikko, Rich, Roger, Sharon, Shelly, Shirley, Steve, Teresa,
 Tammy, Ted, Tina, Tim, Tom, Tracy, Viola, Vivian, Zach, Zoey,
 all service men & women, all unemployed & homeless.



Please fill out your Christmas
 Poinsettia order form and payment
 of \$12.00 each no later than
 Sunday, December 10th!

If you haven't picked up your 2018 envelopes, they're on the back table in the Fellowship Room.

Offering Envelopes



Happy Birthday To You!

DECEMBER

2 – Gail Krause, 5 – Mary Ann Mueller, 13 – Mike Murphy
 16 – Rachel Schuller, 25 – Kathy Strasser, 31 – Pat Schnurr

Today's Worship Leaders

Altar Guild - Carol & Roger Frey
Computer Technician - Mike Banker
Offering Video - Helen Meier
Counters - Roger and Carol Frey
Fellowship - Patti Dunaway
Greeters - Sue & George Brunson
Musician - Betty Comins
Reader - Ellen Olson
Ushers - Doug Congdon and Craig Miller
Pastor - Rev. Dr. Richard J. Meier

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Worship

Welcome to Faith Lutheran Church. We are happy to have you worship with us today! Please join us in our Fellowship Room for beverages, snacks and conversation after worship. **Communion** is by intinction. Come forward by rows to receive the bread with an open hand then dip it in the wine (dark) or juice (light). **WE OFFER GLUTEN-FREE BREAD AS AN OPTION FOR COMMUNION. Just indicate to Pastor when it's your turn.** If you eat the bread before dipping or drop it, please ask for another piece. You don't have to be a member of Faith or be Lutheran to take Communion. Christ is the host of the meal - ALL baptized believers are welcome.

Offering ~ As always, if you are unable to attend worship, please make sure to catch up with your **offering** the next week. Or, if you'd like, please mail it to the church office and write "offering" on the envelope and it will be included in that week's offering and seen only by the designated counters for the day. Thank you for being faithful in giving generously to God's work here at Faith Lutheran.

Financials for Sunday, November 26, 2017 - Week #48

Attendance: 87

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| Weekly Offering Actual | \$2,261.06 |
| Weekly Offering Budget | \$2,111.00 |
| 2017 YTD Actual Offering | \$99,053.09 |
| 2017 YTD Offering Needed | \$101,328.00 |
| Offerings YTD Toward Roof Loan | \$9,617.63 |



Please take your Advent devotional book (1 per family), "Glory To God" by Chad Bird, for every day. We have a special Advent calendar for the children.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe. You call all nations to walk in your light and to seek your ways of justice and peace, for the night is past, and the dawn of your coming is near. Bless us as we light the first candle of this wreath. Rouse us from sleep, that we may be ready to greet our Lord when he comes and welcome him into our hearts and homes, for he is our light and our salvation. Blessed be God forever.

C: **Amen**

ADVENT HYMN, LIGHTING OF FIRST CANDLE

1 Oh, come, oh, come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
un - til the Son of God ap - pear. *Refrain* Re - joi - ce! Re - joi - ce!
Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. *(A brief silence.)*

C: **Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**



Children's Church

FIRST READING: Isaiah 64:1-9

A reading from Isaiah, the 64th chapter.

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence - as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil - to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

R: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

A RESPONSIVE READING FROM PSALM 80

R: Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

C: In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, stir up your strength and come to help us.

R: Restore us, O God; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

C: O LORD God of hosts, how long will your anger fume when your people pray?

R: You have fed them with the bread of tears; you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

C: You have made us the derision of our neighbors, and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

R: Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

C: Let your hand be upon the one at your right hand, the one you have made so strong for yourself.

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Savior of the nations, come. Make your home here in us.
Feed us with your love, that our faith shine ever new and our lives reveal your light.

C: Amen.

DIALOGUE

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks and praise to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: God, for whom we wait, you come to us in the broken bread and the cup we share. Make us ready always to welcome Christ into our hearts, and send us forth to be your people in the world, announcing your coming among us in Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN "Choral Benediction"

P: Stir up compassion in us for all who wait for you. Be near to those whose lives are shaken, those who are experiencing loss, those who long for healing and wholeness, those who live with HIV and AIDS, and those who are in any kind of need (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: We pray for child care workers, teachers, Sunday school leaders, and all who nurture and educate children. We give you thanks for their diligence and devotion. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: From ages past, your faithfulness has never failed. Shine your face upon us and bring us into the company of all your saints. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: We raise our prayers to you, O God, in the name of the one who is, who was, and who is to come, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

SHARING PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

~ VIDEO DURING OFFERTORY ~
"Joy To The World" by David Phelps

OFFERTORY RESPONSE



1 We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be;
2 May we thy boun - ties thus as stew - ards true re - ceive,



all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.
and glad - ly, as thou bless - est us, to thee our first - fruits give.

R: And so will we never turn away from you; give us life, that we may call upon your name.

C: Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

A reading from 1st Corinthians, the 1st chapter.

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind - just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you - so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

R: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

"ALLELUIA"

GOSPEL: Mark 13:24-37

P: The holy gospel according to Mark, the 13th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said: "In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. "But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come.

It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake - for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON “Are You Awake?”

~ Hymn of the Day ~

Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn



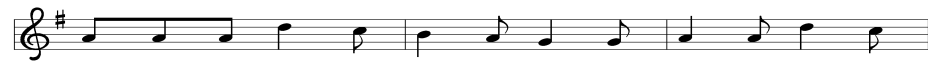
1 A - wake! A - wake, and greet the new morn, for
2 To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em -
3 In dark - est night his com - ing shall be, when
4 Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night, though



an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing. Sing out your joy, for
man - u - el comes a - sing - ing, his hum - ble song is
all the world is de - spair - ing, as morn - ing light so
dark the win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall



soon he is born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing.
qui - et and near, yet fills the earth with its ring - ing;
qui - et and free, so warm and gen - tle and car - ing.
crown you with light, be strong and lov - ing and fear - less.



Come as a ba - by weak and poor, to bring all hearts to -
mu - sic to heal the bro - ken soul and hymns of lov - ing -
Then shall the mute break forth in song, the lame shall leap in -
Love be our song and love our prayer and love our end - less



geth - er, he o - pens wide the heav'n - ly door and
kind - ness, the thun - der of his an - thems roll and
won - der, the weak be raised a - bove the strong, and
sto - ry; may God fill ev - 'ry day we share and



lives now in - side us for - ev - er.
shat - ter all ha - tred and blind - ness.
weap - ons be bro - ken a - sun - der.
bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.

Prayers of Intercession

P: Guided by the light of Christ, let us pray for the coming dawn of joy, healing, and comfort for all God's people. *(A brief silence.)* Give light to your people, Lord. As the darkness grows and we await the return of daylight, give new life to your church. Shape our communities to be faithful vessels of the gospel for the sake of the world. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Restore your creation, Lord. You give the earth opportunities for both sleep and awakening. Thank you for the gift of restful seasons so new life may grow according to your appointed time. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Bring peace to the nations, Lord. Keep us alert to injustice and oppression, give us courage to cry out for what is right, and guide world leaders toward fairness and peace for all. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.