



# First Sunday of Advent Faith Lutheran Church December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024

The Reverend Margaret Brack, Presiding  
Nancy Robbins, Music and Choir Director

Volunteers for the day				
<i>Greeter</i>	<i>Acolyte</i>	<i>Altar Guild</i>	<i>Assisting Minister</i>	<i>Readers</i>
<b><i>Ryan Malone</i></b>	<b><i>Jonathan Yamakawa</i></b>	<b><i>Paul Ward &amp; Cindy Mitchell</i></b>	<b><i>Karen Price</i></b>	<b><i>Edie Hooke</i></b>

**Welcome Visitors!** We are glad that you have joined us in worship today. Please sign our Guest Book in the lobby after worship if you have not already done so. If you have any questions, please contact one of our Worship Leaders. We will be happy to help.

\* Please stand as you are able

Prelude, Announcements, and Prayer Requests

**\*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*We remember God's love and forgiveness in Christ*

**\*Confession and Forgiveness**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
alive in the world,  
reviving creation,  
arriving soon.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and one another

God of mercy,

**C: we confess that we have sinned.**

**We trust earthly powers and human authority alone.**

**We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts**

P: God of might,

**C: we confess that we have sinned.**

**We have turned away from our neighbors.**

**We have trusted false promises.**

P: God in our midst,

**C: we confess that we have sinned.**

**We plead: come to us.**

**Bring your mercy to birth in us.**

P: A righteous branch springs forth: it is Christ the Lord, our Savior, in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy. By the power of the Holy Spirit, receive the grace and forgiveness of God through † Christ Jesus, whose day draws near.

**C: Amen**

## Lighting of the Advent Wreath

### First Sunday of Advent

P: Praise to you, O God, our salvation who is near. You hold us in our waiting and keep us awake to the world. You show up in our lives at unexpected times. Bless us as we light this candle to keep vigil for your arrival. We trust that even though we do not know the day or the hour, you hurry to gather all people to your peace.

C: Amen

Hymn      WOV 630      Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah      v.1

\*Gathering Hymn      LBW 25      Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers      v.1, 2, 4

\*Kyrie

*Refrain*

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, ev - 'ry day.

*Last time*

\*Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray

C: Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## First Reading

Jeremiah 33:14-18

<sup>14</sup>The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>15</sup>In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. <sup>16</sup>In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

P: Word of God, Word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 25:1-10

<sup>1</sup>To you, O Lord,

I lift up my soul.

<sup>2</sup>**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,  
nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

<sup>3</sup>Let none who look to you be put to shame;  
rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

<sup>4</sup>**Show me your ways, O Lord,  
and teach me your paths.**

<sup>5</sup>Lead me in your truth and teach me,  
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

<sup>6</sup>**Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love,  
for they are from everlasting.**

<sup>7</sup>Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;  
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your  
goodness, O Lord.

**<sup>8</sup> You are gracious and upright, O Lord;  
therefore you teach sinners in your way.**

<sup>9</sup> You lead the lowly in justice  
and teach the lowly your way.

**<sup>10</sup> All your paths, O Lord, are steadfast love and faithfulness  
to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.**

## **Second Reading**

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

<sup>9</sup> How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? <sup>10</sup> Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. <sup>11</sup> Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. <sup>12</sup> And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. <sup>13</sup> And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

P: Word of God, word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## \*Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



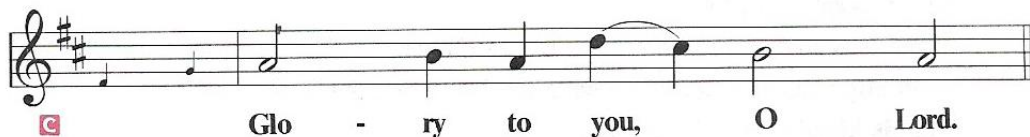
Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

\*P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 21<sup>st</sup> Chapter.

C:



\*Gospel

Luke 21:25-36

[Jesus said:] <sup>25</sup> “There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. <sup>26</sup> People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. <sup>27</sup> Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup> Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.” <sup>29</sup> Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; <sup>30</sup> as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. <sup>31</sup> So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. <sup>32</sup> Truly I tell you, this generation will not

pass away until all things have taken place. <sup>33</sup> Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. <sup>34</sup> “Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, <sup>35</sup> like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup> Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

\*P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C:



Sermon      “The Coming of Christ” *Pastor Margaret Brack*

Hymn of the Day    LBW 33      The King Shall Come      v.1, 4, 5

## **\*Nicene Creed**

P: *With the whole church, let us confess our faith:*

**C:** We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## **Prayers of Intercession**

*Response after "Lord, in your mercy"*

**C:** Receive our prayer

## **\*Sharing of the Peace**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C:** And also with you

Choir Anthem

O Savior, Rend the Heavens Wide

## **\*Offertory**





Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
 bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that  
 we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of  
 all: u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble  
 with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

**\*Offering Prayer**

P: Let us pray.

C: **Creator God,**

you made the whole world, even the farthest stars, and you draw near to feed us. We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine. Strengthen us with this food that we may live in expectation for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## ✠MEAL ✠

*When we celebrate communion we remember that Jesus died for us and we experience his love and forgiveness. As we eat the bread and wine Christ is present with us.*



### \*The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

**P:** 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,  
for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,  
the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;  
who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal  
life.


And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san-na in the high - est.

P: Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age. Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

P: O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

**C: Come, Holy Spirit.**

P: Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

**C: Come, Holy Spirit.**

P: With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### **\*The Lord's Prayer**

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us

**C: 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.**

### \*Invitation to Communion

P: God feeds us with tender mercy. Come to the table



**\*P:** For those unable to be present to receive Holy Communion, let us pray:

**C:** Although I am not present physically in the church, I pray that I may receive the **Body and Blood of Christ** spiritually and be fed in the fullness of worship. Amen.

### \*Communion Blessing

P: The body and the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

### \*Song After Communion



☩ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let ev-'ry-one who seeks the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re-calls his prom-is-es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

**\*Post Communion Prayer**

P: Let us pray,

**C: Generous God,**

we thank you for the gift of life, for the bread of salvation. We thank you for coming among us, for leading us into peace. We thank you for showering us with mercy, for sending us into the world. Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us as we feed the hungry in your name. Amen

**\*Blessing**

P: God of endings and beginnings,  
God in the darkness and the light,  
God, our hope for the journey,  
✠bless and keep you now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**\*Sending Hymn**

**LBW 28**

**Savior of the Nations, Come**

v.1, 3, 6, 7

**\*Dismissal**

P: Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel..

**C: Thanks be to God!**

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***Please keep Zack, Caitlin, Kim, and the Reed Family; Berni & Jim Greene; in prayer: PopPop Phil; Anne & Rich; Austin; Michelle; Ryan; Linda and Richard Riehl; Wendy; Bill and Connie; Edie and family, Kathy Malone; Pastor Harry and Carol Wolpert; Scott and Jaimie; Richie (Pr. Carol's Son for deployment); Brian Mitchell and Family; Richard Mitchell and Family; The Dunkleburger Family.***

***Next Week's Volunteers***

<i>Greeter</i>	<i>Acolyte</i>	<i>Altar Guild</i>	<i>Assisting Minister</i>	<i>Reader</i>
<i><b>Edie Hooke</b></i>	<i><b>Becca Yamakawa</b></i>	<i><b>Earl Ludy</b></i>	<i><b>Edie Hooke</b></i>	<i><b>Karen Price</b></i>

## Faith calendar

December 1	First Sunday of Advent
December 8 at 4pm	Vox Concordia concert in the Great Hall at Salisbury University
December 11 at 7pm	Council meeting
December 15 At 4pm	Fellowship activity with St. Alban's Parish: cookie decorating and wrapping of gifts for those we "adopt". More information to come!
December 22 at 6pm	Messiah sing along
December 24	Christmas Eve Service 4:00 pm at Faith 10:30pm at St. Albans
December 29	Lessons and Carols at 10am at St. Albans. No service at Faith.
1 <sup>st</sup> or 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the Month	We will have a regular bible study time starting at 1pm. If we don't have coffee hour after service, we will begin immediately after service. Dates scheduled for Bible studies for 2024/2025: December 1 <sup>st</sup> , January 12 <sup>th</sup> , February 9 <sup>th</sup> , March 9 <sup>th</sup> , our final bible study will be on May 11 <sup>th</sup> , 2025