



First Lutheran Church



Lead Pastor: Joe Skogmo | Associate Pastor: Matthew Engum | Music Director: Karen Bimberg

December 24 · 3:30 & 5:00 pm · THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD



In winter's deepest night, we welcome the light of the Christ child. Isaiah declares that the light of the long-promised king will illumine the world and bring endless peace and justice. Paul reminds us that the grace of God through Jesus Christ brings salvation to all people. The angels declare that Jesus' birth is good and joyful news for everyone, including lowly shepherds. Filled with the light that shines in our lives, we go forth to share the light of Christ with the whole world.

GATHERING MUSIC

INVOCATION

OPENING SONG

O Come, All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant.
O come, ye, O come, ye to Bethlehem.
Come and behold Him, born the King of angels

**Chorus: O come let us adore Him. O come let us adore Him.
O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.**

Sing choirs of angels, sing in exultation.
Sing all ye citizens of heav'n above.
Glory to God. All glory in the highest. **Chorus**

Come and behold Him, born the King of angels. **Chorus**

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

P: Merciful God, **C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love; in your great compassion blot out our offenses. Release us from the guilt and shame we carry, and renew a right spirit within us. Teach us your ways, and uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P/C: Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence. In your Holy Name we pray. Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE

Angels We Have Heard on High

Gloooria. Oh.

Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o'er the plains.
And the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains.

Shepherds why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heavenly song?

Gloooria, in excelsis deo! Gloooria, in excelsis deo!

See Him in a manger laid, whom the choirs of angels praise.
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid while our hearts in love, we raise.

Gloooria, in excelsis deo! Gloooria, in excelsis deo!

GOSPEL*Luke 2:1-14*P: The Holy Gospel According to Luke, the 2nd chapter. **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no place in the guest room.

Now in that same region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.

This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

P: The Gospel of Our Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.****SERMON**

Pr. Joe Skogmo

SONG OF THE DAY*Midnight Clear*

It came upon a midnight clear, that glorious song of old.
From angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold.
"Peace on the earth, goodwill to men, from heaven's all gracious King."
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come with peaceful wings unfurled.
And still their heavenly music floats through all the weary world.
And man at war with man hears not, the love song which they bring.
O hush the noise and cease the strife and hear the angels sing.

Glory to God in the highest, glory to God evermore.
Good news, great joy for all.
Melody breaks through the silence, Christ the Savior is born.
Jesus, the love song of God.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLEP: Lord in your mercy, **C: Hear our prayer.****SHARING OF PEACE**P: The peace of the Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.****NOISY OFFERING***December: FLC Agape Fund***OFFERING****OFFERTORY SONG***What Child is This**vs. 3 ELW 296*

3. So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, peasant, king, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby;
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!

OFFERTORY PRAYERP: Loving God, **C: receive this offering for the building up of your kingdom: the proclamation of your word and the loving of our neighbor. Amen.**

COMMUNION

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

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.

Distribution

Post Communion Blessing

Post Communion Prayer

C: Gracious God, at this table you have nourished our body and soul with food and drink. As you have been food and drink for us, transform us to be food and drink for one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

BENEDICTION

SENDING SONG

Joy to the World

Joy to the world, the Lord is come. Let earth receive her King.
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and heav'n, and nature sing.

Joy to the world, the Savior reigns. Let men their songs employ.
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the nations prove.
The glories of His righteousness, and wonders of His love,
and wonders of His love, and wonders, wonders of His love.

Joy to the world, let earth receive her King.

SENDING

P: Light shines in the darkness. Go in Christmas peace and serve the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE





ANNOUNCEMENTS

QUILTERS. The quilters will NOT meet on December 31.

MIDDLE SCHOOL RETREAT . Youth in grades 6-8 are invited to attend the Winter Youth Retreat at Luther Crest on February 7-9. Watch for more information in January!

FARGO FORCE GAME. Join us on January 17 @ 7pm for some frozen family fun at the Fargo Force game! Ticket are \$12 per person, pay on the FLC webpage or in the office. This is an all ages event— all are welcome!

HIGH SCHOOL HANG OUT. There will be NO Hang Out in December.

FLC OFFICE CLOSED. The church office will be closed on December 25-27 and January 1. Happy Holidays!

Christmas Break

Wednesday/ December 25 – January 1
NO OASIS MEAL / WORSHIP SERVICE/
WEDNESDAY SCHOOL & CONFIRMATION

Sunday / December 22 – January 5
NO SUNDAY SCHOOL



<p style="text-align: center;">VISITORS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Thanks for joining us! Want to know more about FLC ?</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>	<p style="text-align: center;">GIVE ONLINE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Thank you for your support of FLC's missions & ministries.</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>	<p style="text-align: center;">TEXT TO GIVE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">218-228-3228</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Text your donation amount to the number listed above & follow instructions that are texted to you</p>
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Prayers for God's People

*Brent Blake, Bill Wegschied,
Cole Woltjer, Joyce Gilbertson,
Jake Netland, Ryder Schmidt,
Doreen Tollefson*

*Prayers of comfort for the families
of Lorraine Tyberg,
Pat Bollig, Dory Pearson, and
LeAnn Hanson.*