



First Lutheran Church

Welcome ~ We're glad you are here!

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



Sunday, December 22 · 8:30 AM · CHRISTMAS CANTATA



Cradle and cross are inextricably connected on the fourth Sunday of Advent. Between a lovely tribute to the little town of Bethlehem and Mary's magnificent song of praise, the letter to the Hebrews reminds us in no uncertain terms that Christ's advent is for "the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all." It is the kind of tension in which the church always lives as when in holy communion—with high delight—"we proclaim the Lord's death."

PRELUDE

Alleluia Ringers

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVOCATION

GATHERING HYMN

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

ELW #257, vs 7 & 8

- O come, O King of nations, come,
O Cornerstone that binds in one:
refresh the hearts that long for you;
restore the broken, make us new. **Refrain**

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel

- O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear. **Refrain**

SPECIAL MUSIC

Christmas Bells Overture - Douglas E. Wagner

Alleluia Ringers

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.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW pg. 205

Alleluia! Lord and Savior: open now your saving word.
Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are stirred.



CHRISTMAS CANTATA

*Sing Christmas - Joel Raney & Mary McDonald
Jubilate Choir -Directed by Kathryn Larson*

I. Sing Joy!

- A. Sing Joy Overture
- B. Sing Joy Underscore
- C. Joy of Longing Hearts

II. Sing Noel!

- A. Sing Noel Introduction
- B. Sing Noel!
- C. Tell Out, My Soul

III. Sing Emmanuel!

- A. Sing Emmanuel Introduction
- B. Sing Emmanuel! Christ Is Born
- C. Emmanuel! God with Us !

IV. Sing Gloria!

- A. Sing Gloria Introduction
- B. Sing Gloria!
- C. Glory to the Newborn King

Sing Christmas (Reprise)

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 HYMN

In the Bleak Midwinter

ELW #294, vs 3

3. What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wise man I would do my part;
yet what I can I give him—give my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: 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.**

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

ELW# 288

1. Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
give ye heed to what we say:
Jesus Christ is born today;
ox and ass before him bow,
and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today!
Christ is born today!

2. Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now ye hear of endless bliss:
Jesus Christ was born for this!
He has opened heaven's door,
and we are blest forevermore.
Christ was born for this!
Christ was born for this!

3. Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now ye need not fear the grave;
Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all
to gain the everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save!
Christ was born to save!

SENDING

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

POSTLUDE



ANNOUNCEMENTS

DENISE GAARD RETIREMENT PARTY. We will celebrate Parish Nurse, Denise Gaard's retirement on TODAY during Fellowship Hour from 9:30 - 10:30 AM, in the dining room. Please come and wish Denise well and help her celebrate her retirement. Light breakfast will be provided. There will be a basket set out for cards. All are welcome to attend!

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS. *Thank you to everyone who purchased a Christmas Poinsettia! If you purchased one and would like to take it home, flowers will be on December 24 after the 7:00 pm candlelight service.*

QUILTERS. The quilters will NOT meet on December 24 and 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!

JANUARY NEWSLETTER. Because of the upcoming holidays, the deadline for submitting information to the January newsletter has been extended to 12/31.

HIGH SCHOOL HANG OUT. There will be NO Hang Out in December—have a great break, have fun hangin with your parents and see you in January!

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP ASSISTANTS: We are in need of worship assistants: communion assistants, ushers and greeters for our 3 services at FLC on Christmas Eve at 3:30pm, 5pm and 7pm. 7pm service is almost full. Please sign-up on the sign-up sheet outside the office, or by using the link Sarah Nelson sent out to those that are on our reach out lists or by emailing or calling Sarah Nelson at sarah@firstlutheranchurch.com or 218-847-5656.



**Christmas Eve
Worship Service**
Tuesday, December 24

3:30 & 5:00pm | Contemporary Service
7:00pm | Traditional Candlelight Service

8:00 PM | SERVICE BROADCAST ON
KDLN 1340 AM & 93.1 FM
ALL SERVICES WILL BE LIVESTREAMED

Christmas Break

December 25 & January 1
No Wednesday School /
Confirmation / Oasis

**December 25-27 &
January 1**
Church office closed

**December 22, 29 &
January 5**
No Sunday School



CREATION CARE NOTE

A reporter from the Washington Post reports west Texas farmers are adopting "solar grazing", using sheep to manage vegetation under solar panels, providing income amid volatile agricultural markets.

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.*

Names are kept on the prayer list for 3 weeks; please update the office if you wish to remain on the list longer.

VISITORS	GIVE ONLINE	TEXT TO GIVE
Thanks for joining us! Want to know more about FLC ?	Thank you for your support of FLC's missions & ministries.	218-228-3228 Text your donation amount to the number listed above & follow instructions that are texted to you
		

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