

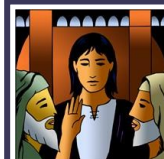


First Lutheran Church

Welcome ~ We're glad you are here!

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

Sunday, December 29 · 10:45 AM · First Sunday of Christmas



On the first Sunday of Christmas we find the boy Samuel and the boy Jesus, both in the temple, both growing in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and humankind. We too have returned to the house of God "to sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God," who has gifted us with a savior. As the festival continues, "let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts." It is Christmas, still.

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVOCATION

GATHERING 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: Let us Pray. **C:** Shine into our hearts the light of your wisdom, O God, and open our minds to the knowledge of your word, that in all things we may think and act according to your good will and may live continually in the light of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE

Light of the World (Sing Hallelujah)

Light of the world, treasure of heaven, brilliant like the stars, in the wintery sky.
Joy of the Father, reach through the darkness, shine across the earth, send the shadows to flight.

Light of the world, from the beginning. The tragedies of time were no match for Your love.
From great heights of glory, You saw my story. God, You entered in and became one of us.

**Chorus: Sing hallelujah! Sing hallelujah! Sing Hallelujah for the things He has done!
Come and adore Him, bow down before Him. Sing hallelujah to the Light of the world.**

Light of the world, crown in a manger. Born for the cross, to suffer, to save.
High King of heaven, death is the poorer. We are the richer by the price that He paid. **Chorus**

Light of the world, soon will be coming. With fire in His eyes, He will ransom His own.
Through clouds He will lead us, straight into glory. And there He shall reign, forevermore. **Chorus**

FIRST LESSON*1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26*

Samuel was ministering before the LORD, a boy wearing a linen ephod. 19 His mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year, when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. 20 Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say, "May the LORD repay you with children by this woman for the gift that she made to the LORD"; and then they would return to their home. 26 Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favor with the LORD and with the people.

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalm 148

R: Hallelujah! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise God in the heights.

C: **Praise the LORD, all you angels; sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.**

R: Praise the LORD, sun and moon; sing praise, all you shining stars.

C: **Praise the LORD, heaven of heavens, and you waters above the heavens.**

R: Let them praise the name of the LORD, who commanded, and they were created,

C: **who made them stand fast forever and ever, giving them a law that shall not pass away.**

R: Praise the LORD from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps;

C: **fire and hail, snow and fog, tempestuous wind, doing God's will;**

R: mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars;

C: **wild beasts and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds;**

R: sovereigns of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the world;

C: **young men and maidens, old and young together.**

R: Let them praise the name of the LORD, whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over earth and heaven.

C: **The LORD has raised up strength for the people and praise for all faithful servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near the LORD. Hallelujah!**

SECOND READING:*Colossians 3:12-17*

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. 13 Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. 14 Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. 15 And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. 16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. 17 And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

R: The word of the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL*Luke 2:41-52*

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 2nd chapter. C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Now every year [Jesus'] parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. 42 And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. 43 When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. 44 Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. 45 When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. 46 After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. 47 And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. 48 When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." 49 He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" 50 But they did not understand what he said to them. 51 Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. 52 And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord. C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Deacon Yvonne Steindal

SONG OF THE DAY*Angels We Have Heard on High*

Glooooooria. 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?

Glooooooria, in excelsis deo! Glooooooria, 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.

Glooooooria, in excelsis deo! Glooooooria, in excelsis deo!

STATEMENT OF FAITH*Apostle's Creed*

C: 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 THE PEOPLE**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.

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

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!

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

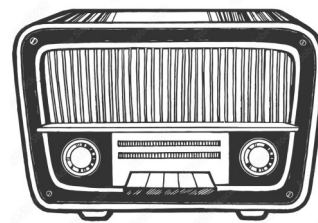
HIGH SCHOOL HANG OUT. There will be NO Hang Out in December—have a great break, have fun hangin with your parents and see you in January!

ANNUAL GENEROSITY STATEMENTS will be processed the week of January 20. A paper version will be sent to all donors in 2024. If you have not received your statement by January 31, please contact Paul in the church office.

CHRISTMAS DECORATION TAKEDOWN! January 9 th at 1:00 we are looking for volunteers to help take down the Christmas decorations. We appreciate your help!

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Today's **radio broadcast** is given honor of Jerry & Dolly Cleveland's 68th wedding anniversary given by their children.



Prayers for God's People

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

ayers 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.

CREATION CARE NOTE

According to Euronews, a new "motionless" wind energy system, quieter and safer for birds, has been installed on the roof of BMW's MINI plant in Oxford, England, offering a scalable, renewable energy solution.

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



VISITORS

Thanks for joining us!
Want to know more about FLC ?



GIVE ONLINE

Thank you for your support of FLC's missions & ministries



TEXT TO GIVE

218-228-3228

Text your donation amount to the number listed above & follow instructions that are texted to you.

The **altar flowers** are given by Karen & Cliff Bimberg, in memory and honor of December anniversaries.

