Worship Service ~ December 14, 2025 9:00 Third Sunday in Advent

VISION: Be the body of Christ: welcoming all, inspired by God, and sent out to live our Faith. MISSION: Led by the Spirit to share God's grace.

Today's Worship Broadcast is sponsored by Nancy Jagiela in memory of loved ones.

PRELUDE African Noel arr. Aden Lewis; Faith Choir w/ FAME, Alan Ball, piano; Glen Terry, percussion; Linda Burk, director

The song "African Noel" is based on the Liberian folk song *Banuwa* which translates to "Don't cry, little girl, don't cry".

New lyrics were added to the melody for this Christmas carol version: "Sing Noel, Sing Noel, Sing We all Noel".

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHARING OF THE PEACE

L: The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

OPENING SONG

ADVENT CANDLELIGHTING ELW #715 CHRIST BE OUR
LIGHT stz 1.4

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

HOLY BAPTISMS OF SAMUEL HANNINEN, OLIVER HOLSTAD AND
BENSON HAMMONS

R: A reading from Isaiah.

Isaiah 35:10

¹⁰ And the ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ELW #289 ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD
ON HIGH refrain

 $R{:}\ A\ Gospel\ reading\ from\ the\ 1^{s\tau}\ chapter\ of\ Matthew.$

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

Matthew 1:18-25

¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be pregnant from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to divorce her quietly. ²⁰ But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²² All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

²³ "Look, the virgin shall become pregnant and give birth to a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,"

which means, "God is with us." ²⁴ When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife ²⁵ but had no marital relations with her until she had given birth to a son, and he named him Jesus.

R: The Gospel of the Lord. C: Praise to You, O Christ.

MESSAGE Pastor John Klawiter



MUSICAL OFFERING

"Bring a Torch Jennette Isabella" arr. Howard Helvey; Faith Choir; Alan Ball and Jolene Sunsten, piano; Linda Burk, director

You can give online by scanning the QR code. Cash/Checks can be put in the secure offering boxes by the exits or placed in the offering plate. Thank you for giving to Faith!

Bring a torch, Jeanette, Isabella. Bring a torch to the cradle, run! It is Jesus, good folk of the village; Christ is born and Mary's calling; Ah, ah! Beautiful is the mother; Ah, ah! Beautiful is her son!

It is wrong when the Child is sleeping, it is wrong to talk so loud; Silence, all, as you gather around. Lest your noise should waken Jesus. Hush, hush! See how fast he sleeps! Hush, hush! See how fast he sleeps!

Bring a torch, Jeanette, Isabella. Bring a torch to the cradle, run! It is Jesus, good folk of the village; Christ is born and Mary's calling; Ah, ah! Beautiful is the mother; Ah, ah! Beautiful is her son!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

L: God of love, bring peace to our families, community, and world. Christ be our light

C: Shine in our hearts, shine through the darkness.

L: God of waiting, help us prepare for each day in your kingdom. Watch over those who are hungry, unsheltered, or fear for their security. Christ be our light

C: Shine in our hearts, shine through the darkness.

L: God of healing, mend the hearts of broken relationships, provide healing to all who suffer in body, mind, and soul. Christ be our light

C: Shine in our hearts, shine through the darkness.

L: God of hope, thank you for the message shared by our children of Faith. Help us deliver the good news to our neighbors. Christ be our light

C: Shine in our hearts, shine through the darkness.

L: Immanuel, God with us, we pray.

C: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BLESSING

The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD's face shine upon you and be gracious unto you, The LORD look upon you with favor, + and give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG ELW #267 JOY TO THE WORLD

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Sunday School Children in Christmas Skit:

Mary - Violet Waldoch
Joseph - Harper Curtis
Super Woman - Kinley Mahlen
Spiderman - Edison Klawiter
Wonder Woman - Maggie Wiklund
Cat Woman - Kourtney Condon
She Hulk - Bailey Sterling
Bat Woman - Delilah Busch
Shepherd - Bella Sterling
Shepherd - Jaylynn Ball
Angel's Voice - Grace Wiklund
Camel - James Schrandt
Cow - Sydney Mahlen
Donkey - Emmy Busch

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Faith Lutheran Church, ELCA, Forest Lake, MN

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