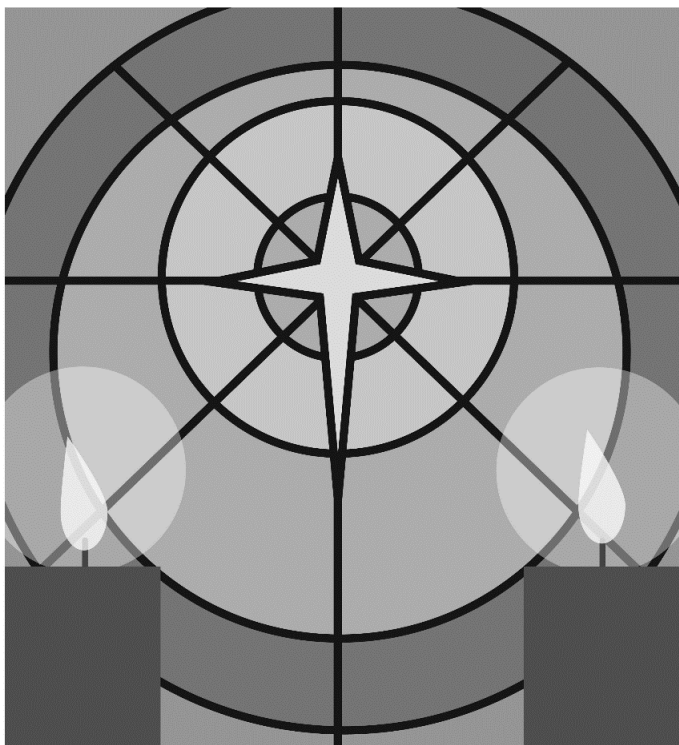




Faith Lutheran Church

2576 Browncroft Blvd. Rochester, NY 14625 | (585)381-3970 | faithpenfield.org



SECOND SUNDAY OF *Advent*

December 7, 2025 + 8:30 am

Notes To Assist Our Worship

Welcome – We are glad you chose to worship here today! We hope you discover the presence of God here and that together we can grow as friends of Christ and one another.

Standing and Sitting – If standing, sitting, and kneeling is too much for you, please remain seated (or standing at the communion rail) during those parts of the service. God is coming to you with His Gospel gifts. Our standing, sitting, and kneeling are simply our responses to God based on our health and ability.

Nursery – Faith Lutheran Church has a staffed nursery available for you to use on Sundays for children age 3 and younger. Please ask an usher if you need assistance in finding the nursery.

Hearing Impaired – Do you have a hearing impairment that makes it difficult to enjoy worship as much as you would like? Faith has a “hearing loop” for those with hearing aids with that feature. We also offer hearing impaired FM receivers for those wishing to use one. Please see one of our sound technicians for assistance.

Notes on Communion – If you need gluten-free wafers, they are located on a stand in front of the baptismal font to be picked up on your way to the communion rail. If you need a non-alcoholic option, white grape juice is in the center of the communion tray.

Our Hymnals – *LSB* refers to the *Lutheran Service Book*, which is the burgundy hard covered book in the pew rack. *WOV* refers to *With One Voice*, the smaller blue soft cover book.

Second Sunday of Advent

December 7, 2025 + 8:30am

PRELUDE *Variations on "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry"*
Michael Burkhardt

WELCOME

*GREETING ONE ANOTHER

***ENTRANCE HYMN** PREPARE THE ROYAL HIGHWAY *LSB 343*

*INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

*LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Jesus, the Prince of Peace, brings us peace.

Peace is something many people want and desire.

Peace doesn't come from the world around us, nor is it found merely in the end of war or strife.

True peace comes because the Prince of Peace enters our lives and transforms us from the inside out.

May the Prince of Peace rule in our hearts and fill us with His everlasting peace.

Come, Lord Jesus, Prince of Peace, and fill our hearts with Your peace. Amen.

*CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

As we await the coming of our Savior - our Prince of Peace, let us confess our sins and seek His peace.

Almighty God, we confess that we have not lived as Your people of peace. We have allowed fear, anger, and division to take root in our hearts. We have sought peace in the things of this world rather than trusting in Your promises. We have failed to love You and our neighbors as You have called us to do. Forgive us, Lord, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Prince of Peace. Restore us, that we may live as peacemakers, reflecting Your love and truth in this broken world.

Jesus says, "Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you" (John 14:27). Through His death and resurrection, Christ has reconciled us to God, and His peace rules in our hearts. As a called and ordained servant of the Word, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Responses Spoken

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray together.

Lord Jesus Christ, You are the righteous Branch who brings true peace to a broken world. As John the Baptist once called Your people to repentance, turn our hearts again to You, that we may live in the peace and unity Your Spirit gives; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Isaiah 11:1-10

11 There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.

²And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

³And his delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear,

⁴but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

⁵Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins.

⁶The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them.

⁷The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra,
and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den.

⁹They shall not hurt or destroy
in all my holy mountain;
for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord
as the waters cover the sea.

¹⁰In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the
peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place
shall be glorious.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE LESSON

Romans 15:8-13

⁸For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to
show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to
the patriarchs, ⁹and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for
his mercy. As it is written,

"Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles,
and sing to your name."

¹⁰And again it is said,

"Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people."

¹¹And again,

"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,
and let all the peoples extol him."

¹²And again Isaiah says,

"The root of Jesse will come,
even he who arises to rule the Gentiles;
in him will the Gentiles hope."

¹³May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,
so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

***ALLELUIA VERSE**

LSB 157

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life.
Alleluia, alleluia.**

***HOLY GOSPEL**

Matthew 3:1-12

LSB 157

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew, the third chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

3 In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, ²“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” ³For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said, “The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord;
make his paths straight.’”

⁴Now John wore a garment of camel’s hair and a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, ⁶and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁷But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. ⁹And do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father,’ for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. ¹⁰Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹“I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. ¹²His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY ON JORDAN’S BANK THE BAPTIST’S CRY

LSB 344

MESSAGE

Pastor Peter

***A CONFESSION OF FAITH - THE NICENE CREED**

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And he will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

***PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

Sick/Hospitalized:

- **Tiffany Collins**, cousins of Sylvia Pape, treatment for leukemia
- **Mike Hanley**, friend of Julia Cummings, knee replacement recovery
- **Tom Dirkx**, son-in-law of Chita McKinney, having surgery for a brain tumor on December 9th at Strong
- **Ray Hammond**, brother of Tom Hammond, in rehab recovering from hospitalization with AFib diagnosis

Thanksgiving:

- **For the 12/7/25 Baptism of Caroline Jesslyn Couture**, daughter of Nik & Veronica Couture, granddaughter of Larry & Robin Arnone

- **Jeff Roen**, cousin of Cheryl Speisman, giving thanks and praise for no recurrence of kidney cancer after removal of one kidney

Other:

- **Mary**, friend of Lisa Hutchings, grieving loss of mother during the holiday season

Called to Glory:

- **Patricia Berardi** (11/23/25), acquaintance of Jane Sandgren and friend to many in Fairport
- **James Backus** (11/24/25), unexpected loss of 14-year-old son, brother, grandson; dear friends of Jim & Janise Pilosi
- **Michael Wangemann** (11/26/25), husband of Anna-Carin, father of Lorraine, good friend of Diane VanAuken

GATHERING OF GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

MUSICAL OFFERING *Offertorio pastorale* Anonymous (1700s Italy)
(Dianne Christensen, organ)

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

God of abundance,

we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior. Amen

+SACRAMENT +

***PREFACE**

LSB 160

The Lord be with you.

And also 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 Him thanks and praise.

It is truly good...evermore praising You and saying:

***SANCTUS**

LSB 161

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

***LORD'S PRAYER**

**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.**

***WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

***SHARING OF THE PEACE**

***AGNUS DEI**

LSB 163

**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;
Have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;
Have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;
Grant us peace.**

FAITH COMMUNION STATEMENT

Holy Communion is a gift from God and an expression of our unity in the Christian faith. We invite and welcome to the Lord's Table those who joyfully affirm the following:

- + I believe that I am a sinner and I repent of my sins.
 - + I believe that in eating this bread and drinking this wine, I am receiving the Lord's true body and blood.
 - + I believe that my sins are forgiven in this sacrament and I will strive to amend my life by the power of the Holy Spirit.
 - + I have been baptized.
 - + I have been prepared for Holy Communion through instruction.
- (For those with dietary restrictions, please see "Notes" on page 1.)

***RECEPTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

DISTRIBUTION MUSIC

COMFORT, COMFORT YE MY PEOPLE
WHEN ALL THE WORLD WAS CURSED

LSB 347
LSB 346

***POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER**

***BENEDICTION**

May the God who comes to you in hope,
who surrounds you with His peace,
who fills your heart with joy,
and who loves you with an everlasting love,
bless you and keep you in the light of His salvation.
In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN** HARK! A THRILLING VOICE IS SOUNDING *LSB 345*

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace and serve the Lord with your lives.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!

Altar Guild: Holly Grub, Christie Pichan, Jane Coryea

Acolyte/Crucifer: **TBA**

Eucharist Assistants: Betty Porter, Hans Kurzik

Pews: Christie Pichan

Greeters: Bob Freitag, Jeanne Kurzik

Lay Reader: Paula Reitz

Live Stream: Russ Hignett

Sound: Bob Helm

Ushers: Fred Mason, Karen Nitschke, Geoff Kaeuper, David &
Patricia Lapresi

Volunteers for December 14

Altar Guild: Sue Hutchings, Deb Sharp

Acolyte/Crucifer: **TBA**

Greeters: Holly Grub

Lay Reader: Jeff Kurzrock

Live Stream: Jason Gerlach

Sound: Bob Helm

Ushers: Beth D'Ambrosio, TJ & Kathy McEwen, Michael Hanss,
Steve VanDerMallie

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

2576 Browncroft Blvd, Rochester NY
14625

www.faithpenfield.org

Main Office Phone: 381-3970

PASTORAL AND EDUCATION

PASTOR

Rev. Peter Johnson
flypenfield@gmail.com
Direct Line 485-0146

ext. 16

CHILDREN'S & FAMILY MINISTRIES
INTERIM SUNDAY SCHOOL DIRECTOR
Shannon Wolf
sundayschool@faithpenfield.org

INTERIM VBS DIRECTOR
Stephanie Johnson
vbs@faithpenfield.org

TEMPORARY EDUCATION ASSISTANT
Dave Young
edassistant@faithpenfield.org

NURSERY LEADER
Taylor Saunders

MUSIC

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC/ ORGANIST
Dianne Christensen
dianne@faithpenfield.org

ext. 17

DIRECTOR OF CONTEMPORARY MUSIC
Elizabeth Balentine
elizabeth@faithpenfield.org

ext. 11

TECHNOLOGY

DIRECTOR OF DIGITAL ARTS
Jason Gerlach
livestream@faithpenfield.org

ext. 13

SOUND TECH LEAD
Michael Balentine
soundtech@faithpenfield.org

FAITH CHILD CARE & NURSERY SCHOOL

2576 Browncroft Blvd, Rochester
NY 14625

www.faithpenfield.org/faith-child-care

FCCNS Office: 385-2360

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mari-Beth Schembri
381-3970 ext. 21
mbschembri@fccnschildcare.com
Direct Line 485-0151

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND OPERATIONS

Lori Connolly
381-3970 ext. 20
laconnolly@fccnschildcare.com
Direct Line 485-0150

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS MANAGER
Kurt Finkbeiner
ext. 15
building@faithpenfield.org

CHURCH OFFICE

CHURCH SECRETARY
Kris Cronk
ext. 10
secretary@faithpenfield.org

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE
Kay Gerlach
ext. 12
finance@faithpenfield.org
Direct Line 485-0142

FINANCE SUPPORT SPECIALIST
Beth Camann
supportadmin@faithpenfield.org

ext. 18