



Faith Lutheran Church

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



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 21, 2025 + 10:45 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.

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 21, 2025 + 10:45 am

WORSHIP MUSIC

GOOD, GOOD FATHER

Barrett, Brown

**Oh, I've heard a thousand stories of what they
think You're like,
But I've heard the tender whisper of love in the dead of night,
And You tell me that You're pleased and that I'm never alone.**

Refrain

**You're a good, good Father. It's who You are.
It's who you are. It's who you are, and I'm loved by You.
It's who I am. It's who I am. It's who I am.**

**I've seen many searching for answers far and wide,
But I know we're all searching for answers only You provide,
because You know just what we need before we say a word.**

Refrain twice

**You are perfect in all of Your ways.
You are perfect in all of Your ways.
You are perfect in all of Your ways to us.**

Repeat Stanza

**Love so undeniable I can hardly speak.
Peace so unexplainable I can hardly think.
As You call me deeper still, as You call me deeper still,
As You call me deeper still into love, love, love. *Refrain twice***

GOOD, GOOD FATHER © 2014 Capitol CMG Paragon (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) Common Hymnal Publishing (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) Housefires Sounds (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) sixsteps Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) Tony Brown Publishing Designee (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) Vamos Publishing (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) worshiptogether.com songs (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) All Rights Reserved. Used by Permission. CCLI License # 1723768

WELCOME

GREETING ONE ANOTHER

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here,
until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, Thou Branch of Jesse's tree,
Free them from Satan's tyranny
That trust Thy mighty pow'r to save,
And give them vict'ry o'er the grave.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, Thou Key of David, come,
And open wide our heav'nly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, Desire of nations, bind
In one the hearts of all mankind;
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,
And be Thyself our King of Peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel!

***INVOCATION**

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

***LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

P: Jesus, the Son of God and Son of Man, brings us love.

**C: Love is something we desire, but can seldom seem to find.
Christ, fully divine and fully human, reveals God's love to us.**

P: Love is something rarely understood or experienced. Yet
Jesus, the Son of God and Son of Man, shares His perfect love
with us.

**C: Love is something freely given by a God who is love,
shown to us through Jesus, who came to dwell among us.**

P: Jesus, Son of God and Son of Man, loved us enough to become one of us, bringing heaven's love to earth.

C: Come, Lord Jesus, Son of God and Son of Man, fill our hearts with Your love. Amen.

***A TIME OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Let us confess our sins to God our Heavenly Father,
Most merciful God,

We confess that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed. We have trusted our own understanding instead of Your Word. We have assumed we knew what You needed and have tried to shape You into our plans. We have forgotten the ways You have provided for us and walked with us. For the sake of Your Son, forgive us, renew us, and build us into Your people once again.

Hear the good news of this Advent promise: "The Lord Himself will establish a house for you." And He has through Jesus Christ, whom the Father has sent to be the Savior of the world. Because of His cross and resurrection, your sins are forgiven. Christ has come near, dwells with you, loves you, and He reigns over you and all things in His everlasting Kingdom. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, 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.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

Bodie Austin Lazzaro

Pastor: I now ask Bodie's family, sponsors, and congregation: do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth?

Congregation: Yes, I believe.

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and sits at the right

hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He will come to judge the living and the dead?

C: Yes, I believe.

P: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting?

C: Yes, I believe.

P: Bodie Austin Lazzaro, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Through Baptism, God has added Bodie to His own people, to declare the wonderful deeds of our Savior, who has called us out darkness into His marvelous light!

C: Amen. We welcome you in the name of the Lord.

***BAPTISM SONG** HERE IN THE WATER Bartels, Lamb, Lange

This is the beginning of a life made new.

This is where forever begins with You.

I remember the day when You gave me Your name,

This is the beginning of a life made new.

This is the beginning of a life made new.

This is where forever begins with You.

You put the old in the grave with the sin and the shame.

This is the beginning of a life made new.

Chorus

**The Jordan Song goes on and on,
My morning dawns here in the water.**

**Evil depart from my new heart.
New mercies start here in the water.**

This is the beginning of a life made new.

This is where forever begins with You.

Baptized into death, I share Your breath.

This is the beginning of a life made new. Chorus

**I have received, I still believe
Your word to me here in the water.
Delivered me, and set me free
Your word to me here in the water. *Chorus***

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OLD TESTAMENT LESSON 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

7 Now when the king lived in his house and the Lord had given him rest from all his surrounding enemies, ² the king said to Nathan the prophet, "See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a tent." ³ And Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that is in your heart, for the Lord is with you."

⁴ But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan, ⁵ "Go and tell my servant David, 'Thus says the Lord: Would you build me a house to dwell in?' ⁶ I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent for my dwelling. ⁷ In all places where I have moved with all the people of Israel, did I speak a word with any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, 'Why have you not built me a house of cedar?'" ⁸ Now, therefore, thus you shall say to my servant David, 'Thus says the Lord of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel. ⁹ And I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you. And I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. ¹⁰ And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more. And violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly, ¹¹ from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel. And I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house.

¹⁶ And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE LESSON

1 John 4:13-16

¹³ By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴ And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. ¹⁵ Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. ¹⁶ So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

***ALLELUIA**

Sinclair

***HOLY GOSPEL**

Luke 1:26-38

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, the first chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁶ In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" ²⁹ But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰ And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹ And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. ³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, ³³ and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

³⁴ And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

³⁵ And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. ³⁶ And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. ³⁷ For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸ And

Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

MESSAGE

Pastor Peter

GATHERING OF GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

MUSICAL OFFERING *O Joyful Children* Holdridge, Huckaby
(Lois Ronnenberg, soloist)

O joyful children, bring white winter roses
with bright burning candles to welcome the Lord.

O joyful children, bring rings of white berries
And white winter roses and green holly boughs.

Our hearts were sleeping. The cold winter storm is gone.
The night is done. The World is dressed in silver light.
Candles are burning, bracelets of fire in the snow,
The world aglow, warming the circles of flowers and leaves.
Morning has come.

O joyful children, bring white winter roses
With bright burning candles to welcome the Lord.
O joyful children, bring flowers around Him.
The spring is a-coming, the sun is arising,
The earth is a-singing. It's Christmas morn.
Christ is born.

***PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

Sick/Hospitalized:

- **Jim Soanes**, brother of Sandie Freitag, hospitalized after a fall and head injury
- **Barb Riethmeier**, hospitalized at Highland with foot infection
- **Tony Verdino**, father-in-law of the son of Ed & Marcia Freeman, diagnosed with cancer
- **Maryann Maschoff**, health challenges

- **New Born Grandson of Joseph Siracuse**, friend of Carrie Resch, who is battling leukemia at Golisano
- **Steve Gallaher**, friend of Carrie Resch, who suffered a stroke the day after Thanksgiving and is hospitalized at Strong
- **David Clark**, cousin of Jolynn Keller, recovering from multiple bypass surgery

Thanksgiving:

- **For the 12/21/25 Baptism of Bodie Austin Lazzaro**, son of Austin & Rebecca (Wood) Lazzaro, grandson of Mark & Liz Wood

Other:

- **Linda**, dear friend of Sandra Banning, facing challenges

Called to Glory:

- **Patricia Luf** (12/8/25), aunt of Russ Hignett
- **Duane Schepler** (12/9/25), cousin of Amanda Gerlach, following a brief illness
- **Kathy Mauldin** (12/15/25), neighbor of Bruce & Rhea Oaks

***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.**

+HOLY COMMUNION+

***WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

***SHARING OF THE 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

JESUS MESSIAH

Tomlin, Carson, Cash, Reeves

**He became sin, who knew no sin;
That we might become His righteousness;
He humbled Himself, and carried the cross.
Love so amazing. Love so amazing.**

Chorus

**Jesus, Messiah; Name above all names;
Blessed Redeemer; Emmanuel.
The Rescue for sinners.
The Ransom from heaven.
Jesus Messiah Lord of all.**

**His body the bread, His blood the wine
Broken and poured out all for love.
The whole earth trembled and the veil was torn.
Love so amazing. Love so amazing. *Chorus***

**All our hope is in You, all our hope is in You;
All the glory to You, God, the light of the world. *Chorus***

**Hungry, I come to You, for I know You satisfy.
I am empty, but I know Your love does not run dry.
So I wait for You. So I wait for You.
I'm falling on my knees, Offering all of me.
Jesus, You're all this heart is living for.**

**Broken, I run to You, for Your arms are open wide;
I am weary, but I know Your touch restores my life.
So I wait for You. So I wait for You.
I'm falling on my knees, Offering all of me.
Jesus, You're all this heart is living for.**

**I'm falling on my knees, offering all of me.
Jesus, You're all this heart is living for.
I'm falling on my knees, offering all of me.
Jesus, You're all this heart is living for.**

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***WE ARE SENT WITH GOD'S BLESSING**

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.

***SENDING SONG**

SOON AND VERY SOON

WOV 744

Verse 1

**Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King!
Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King!
Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! We're going to see the King!**

Verse 2

**No more crying there, we are going to see the King!
No more crying there, we are going to see the King!
No more crying there, we are going to see the King!**

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! We're going to see the King!

Verse 3

**No more dying there, we are going to see the King!
No more dying there, we are going to see the King!
No more dying there, we are going to see the King!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! We're going to see the King!**

(Repeat Verse 1)

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***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTSERVICE MUSIC *All Good Gifts*

THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!

Altar Guild: Robin Wagstrom-Arnore, Nancy Alvut, Betty Porter

Acolyte/Crucifer: Abby Wood, Skylar Jones

Lay Reader: Charlene Fernaays

Eucharist Assistants: Mari-Beth Schembri, Liz Wood

Pews: John Gerlach

Live Stream: McKayla Nolan

Sound: Michael Balentine

Ushers: Al & Noreen Crouse, Scott Cronk, Skylar Jones, Braedan
DuBois, Bill & Sara Love

Christmas Eve 3pm

Altar Guild: Nancy Alvut, Betty Porter, Holly Grub, Robin
Wagstrom-Arnone, Laurie Ebbecke, Sue Hutchings
Acolyte/Crucifer: Abby Wood, Skylar Jones
Greeters: Angela Sanzotta & Nora Frank
Lay Reader: Jeff Kurzrock
Live Stream: Jason Gerlach
Sound: Michael Balentine, Mark Wood
Ushers: Bill & Marguerite McKee, Mari-Beth Schembri, Amanda
Ebbecke, Bill & Sara Love

Christmas Eve 5:30pm

Altar Guild: Nancy Alvut, Betty Porter, Holly Grub, Robin
Wagstrom-Arnone, Laurie Ebbecke, Sue Hutchings
Acolyte/Crucifer: **TBA**
Greeter: **TBA**
Bell Choir Director: Paul VanHorn
Instrumentalists: Piano: Terry Allen, Saxophone: Paul VanHorn
Lay Reader: Emory Ford
Live Stream: McKayla Nolan
Sound: Michael Balentine
Ushers: Karen Nitschke, David & Patricia Lapresi, Mark Saresky,
Kristine Parmele

Christmas Eve 7:30pm

Altar Guild: Nancy Alvut, Betty Porter, Holly Grub, Robin
Wagstrom-Arnone, Laurie Ebbecke, Sue Hutchings
Acolyte/Crucifer: **TBA**
Eucharist Assistants: Betty Porter, **TBA**
Pews: Bob Freitag
Greeters: **TBA**
Instrumentalists: Piano: Terry Allen, Saxophone: Paul VanHorn
Lay Reader: Fred Mason
Sound: Michael Balentine
Ushers: Geoff Kaeuper, Steve VanDerMallie, David Pape, Fred
Mason, Margo Natemeier

Christmas Day 10am

Altar Guild: Nancy Alvut

Acolyte/Crucifer: Declan Burke

Eucharist Assistants: Betty Porter, Sharon Finkbeiner

Pews: Bill McKee

Lay Reader: Karen Nitschke

Live Stream: McKayla Nolan

Sound: Bob Helm

Ushers: Geoff Kaeuper, Beth D'Ambrosio, Karen Nitschke, Kathy
McCarthy, Steve VanDerMallie

Volunteers for 12/28 – Combined Worship @ 9:30am

Altar Guild: Barbara Baisch, Charlene Fernaays

Acolyte/Crucifer: **TBA**

Greeters: **TBA**

Lay Reader: Fred Mason

Live Stream: Jason Gerlach

Sound: Bob Helm

Ushers: Fred Mason, Pat & David Lapresi, Karen Nitschke

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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