

December 12, 2021 | Sunday Bulletin

Welcome to worship!

9:30 AM worship in the Sanctuary* and parking lot by radio FM104.9

Anytime online at faithlilacway.org or using our mailed resources

** For covid safety protocols see page 6*

Holy Communion

All who believe are welcome to commune. Communion kits (chalices with grape juice and wheat wafers or bags with wine and gluten free wafers) available at the doors.

Welcome and Announcements

Gathering Song ELW #264:1, 4

Prepare the royal highway; the King of kings is near!

Let ev'ry hill and valley a level road appear!

Then greet the King of glory, foretold in sacred story:

Hosanna to the Lord, for he fulfills God's word!

His is no earthly kingdom; it comes from heav'n above.

His rule is peace and freedom and justice, truth, and love.

So let your praise be sounding for kindness so abounding:

Hosanna to the Lord, for he fulfills God's word!

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who alone does wonders, who lifts up the lowly, who fills the hungry with good things.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin, trusting in the tender mercy of our God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God for whom we wait,

in the presence of one another, we confess our sin before you. We fail in believing that your good news is for us. We falter in our call to tend your creation. We find our sense of self in material wealth. We fear those different from ourselves. We forget that we are your children and turn away from your love. Forgive us, Blessed One, and assure us again of your saving grace. Amen.

God, in Christ Jesus, has looked with favor upon you! Through the power of the Holy Spirit, + your sins are forgiven. You are children of the Most High, inheritors of the eternal promise, and recipients of divine mercy. God strengthens you anew to follow the way of peace.

Amen.

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Hymn of Light

**O Splendor of God's glory bright,
O living Spring of light from light:
come, very Sun of truth and love;
come with your radiance from above.**

Prayer for the Third Sunday of Advent

We praise you, O God...

whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.

Amen.

Light three candles.

Hymn of Light

**As dawn speeds on across the sky,
true Dawn, with haste come from on high.
O Word, through whom light came to be,
come in your pow'r and set us free.**

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. God of hope,

you call us to live into the freedom of justice, the balm of healing, and the joy of sharing. Give us faith to live joyfully, and the courage to be a neighbor to strangers, to those whom others shun, and to those whose hearts are broken. We make our prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Psalm *Isaiah 12:2-6*

Surely God is my salvation,

I will trust and shall not fear.

God the Lord is strong and mighty,

my salvation true.

Refrain

Shout aloud and sing for joy, O daughter Zion!

Great in your midst is the Lord, the Holy One! (2x)

Thus with joy you shall draw water
from salvation's wells and spring.

Sing your thanks to God Almighty
for these wondrous deeds. **Refrain**

Tell the nations of God's glory,
make this known to all the earth.
Praise the Lord, the God of Israel,
call upon God's name. **Refrain**

Epistle *Philippians 4:4-7*

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (NRSV)

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation *ELW #487:2*

What light of truth is offered here,
what covenant from heaven?
What hope of everlasting life,
what wondrous word is given?
This, this is Christ the king,
the sun come down from heaven.
Oh, see and hear and sing!
The Word of God is given.

Gospel *Luke 3:2b -18*

The holy gospel according to Luke, the third chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.
Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall be made straight,
and the rough ways made smooth;
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’”

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to

yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

And the crowds asked him, "**What then should we do?**" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "**Teacher, what should we do?**" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "**And we, what should we do?**" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people. (NRSV)
The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon Pastor Pam Stalheim Lane

Hymn of the Day ELW #257:1, 2, 6, 7

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

Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice!

Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

O come, O Wisdom from on high,
embracing all things far and nigh:
in strength and beauty come and stay;
teach us your will and guide our way. ***Refrain***

O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer;
O Sun of justice, now draw near.
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadow put to flight. ***Refrain***

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**

Apostles' Creed

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

Maranatha (1 Corinthians 16:22) is Aramean for "Our Lord comes," or "Our Lord is coming."

Prayer Refrain

**O Lord, hear our prayer, O Lord, hear our prayer.
Maranatha! Maranatha! O come, Lord Jesus, come.**

. . . Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of new life ... in the name of Jesus. **Amen.**

Repeat Prayer Refrain

Offering

Offering Prayer

Let us pray. God of our waiting and watching,
**we offer the gifts of our hearts and our lives to you. Receive our gifts and transform
our hearts and lives so that as we wait and watch, we recognize Christ in our
midst. Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving

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 our thanks and praise.

Words of Institution

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.

Sharing Communion

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Anthem Lamb of God

Communion Blessing

Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray. Most High God,

you have come among us at this table. By the Spirit's power, form us to be bearers of your word, sharing gifts of mercy and grace with all, through Christ Jesus, our host and our guest. Amen.

Sending Song ELW #266

All earth is hopeful, the Savior comes at last!

Furrows lie open for God's creative task:

this, the labor of people who struggle to see

how God's truth and justice set ev'rybody free.

People of Israel, you heard the prophet tell:

“A virgin mother will bear Emmanuel”;
she conceived him, “God with us,” our brother, whose birth
restores hope and courage to children of this earth.

Mountains and valleys will have to be prepared;
new highways opened, new protocols declared.
Almost here! God is nearing, in beauty and grace!
All clear ev’ry gateway, in haste, come out in haste!

We first saw Jesus a baby in a crib.
This same Lord Jesus today has come to live
in our world; he is present, in neighbors we see
our Jesus is with us, and ever sets us free.

Blessing

The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the
power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ Jesus for whom we wait.

Amen.

Dismissal

Go in grace, grow in faith, serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

This Week’s Schedule | All Are Welcome!

Every Sunday - Any Time - online worship available at faithlilacway.org

Sunday, Dec 12:

9:30 AM: Sunday Worship in Sanctuary and Parking Lot

10:30 AM: Adult Education class in the library and on zoom

10:30 AM: Sunday school in classroom 218 (by the chapel)

Wednesday, Dec 15

3 PM Covid-Safe Advent midweek Worship in Sanctuary

3:30 PM Confirmation in the Library

6:30 PM Advent midweek Worship in Sanctuary

Sunday, Dec 19:

9:30 AM: Sunday Worship in Sanctuary and Parking Lot

10:30 AM: Adult Education class in the library and on zoom

10:30 AM: Sunday school in classroom 218 (by the chapel)

Covid Guidelines for regular services:

- Masking is required for unvaccinated people
- Masking & physical distancing is *recommended*

Requirements for Covid- Safe Services:

- **Vaccination card or negative Covid test required**
- **Masking Required**

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