

December 19, 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 #242

Awake! Awake, and greet the new morn,
for angels herald its dawning.

Sing out your joy, for soon he is born,
behold! The Child of our longing.

Come as a baby weak and poor,
to bring all hearts together,
he opens wide the heav'nly door
and lives now inside us forever.

To us, to all in sorrow and fear,
Emmanuel comes a-singing,
his humble song is quiet and near,
yet fills the earth with its ringing;
music to heal the broken soul
and hymns of loving-kindness,
the thunder of his anthems roll
to shatter all hatred and blindness.

In darkest night his coming shall be,
when all the world is despairing,
as morning light so quiet and free,
so warm and gentle and caring.
Then shall the mute break forth in song,
the lame shall leap in wonder,
the weak be raised above the strong,
and bring us at last into glory.

Rejoice, rejoice, take heart in the night,
though dark the winter and cheerless,
the rising sun shall crown you with light,

be strong and loving and fearless.
Love be our song and love our prayer
and love our endless story;
may God fill ev'ry day we share
and bring us at last into glory.

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.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. O God of Elizabeth and Mary,

**you visited your servants with news of the world's redemption
in the coming of the Savior.**

**Make our hearts leap with joy,
and fill our mouths with songs of praise,
that we may announce glad tidings of peace,
and welcome the Christ in our midst. Amen.**

Children's Message

He Came Down ELW #253

sing as children come forward

**He came down that we may have love; (3x)
hallelujah forevermore.**

**He came down that we may have light; (3x)
hallelujah forevermore.**

**He came down that we may have peace; (3x)
hallelujah forevermore.**

**He came down that we may have joy; (3x)
hallelujah forevermore.**

The Christmas Story

Go Tell It on the Mountain ELW #290

**Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and ev'rywhere;
go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!**

**Down in a lonely manger the humble Christ was born;
and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.**

**Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and ev'rywhere;
go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!**

Lesson Micah 5:2-5a

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,
who are one of the little clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to rule in Israel,
whose origin is from of old,
from ancient days.

Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labor has brought forth;
then the rest of his kindred shall return
to the people of Israel.

And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord,
in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.
And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great
to the ends of the earth;
and he shall be the one of peace. (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 1:39-55*

The holy gospel according to Luke, the first chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Mary didn't waste a minute. She got up and traveled to a town in Judah in the hill country, straight to Zachariah's house, and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby in her womb leaped. She was filled with the Holy Spirit, and sang out exuberantly,

You're so blessed among women,
and the babe in your womb, also blessed!
And why am I so blessed that
the mother of my Lord visits me?
The moment the sound of your
greeting entered my ears,
The babe in my womb
skipped like a lamb for sheer joy.
Blessed woman, who believed what God said,
believed every word would come true!

And Mary said,

I'm bursting with God-news;
I'm dancing the song of my Savior God...
I'm the most fortunate woman on earth!
What God has done for me will never be forgotten,
the God whose very name is holy, set apart from all others.
His mercy flows in wave after wave
on those who are in awe before him.
He bared his arm and showed his strength,
scattered the bluffing braggarts.
He knocked tyrants off their high horses,
pulled victims out of the mud.
The starving poor sat down to a banquet;
the callous rich were left out in the cold.
He embraced his chosen child, Israel;
he remembered and piled on the mercies, piled them high.
It's exactly what he promised,

beginning with Abraham and right up to now. (MSG)

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Reflection Pastor Pam Stalheim Lane

Hymn of the Day *ELW #723*

My soul cries out with a joyful shout
that the God of my heart is great,
and my spirit sings of the wondrous things
that you bring to the ones who wait.
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight,
and my weakness you did not spurn,
so from east to west shall my name be blest.
Could the world be about to turn?

Refrain

**My heart shall sing of the day you bring.
Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,
and the world is about to turn.**

Though I am small, my God, my all,
you work great things in me,
and your mercy will last from the depths of the past
to the end of the age to be.
Your very name puts the proud to shame,
and to those who would for you yearn,
you will show your might, put the strong to flight,
for the world is about to turn. **Refrain**

From the halls of pow'r to the fortress tow'r,
not a stone will be left on stone.
Let the king beware for your justice tears
ev'ry tyrant from his throne.
The hungry poor shall weep no more,
for the food they can never earn;
there are tables spread, ev'ry mouth be fed,
for the world is about to turn. **Refrain**

Though the nations rage from age to age,
we remember who holds us fast;
God's mercy must deliver us
from the conqueror's crushing grasp.
This saving word that our forebears heard

is the promise which holds us bound,
till the spear and rod can be crushed by God,
who is turning the world around. **Refrain**

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Hymn of Light - photocopy

**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 Fourth Sunday of Advent

We praise you, O God, for this wheel of time,
that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent.
As we light the candles on this wreath,
open our eyes to see your presence
in the lowly ones of this earth.
Enlighten us with your grace,
that we may sing of your advent among us
in the Word made flesh.
Grant this through Christ our Lord,
whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.

Amen

Light four 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.**

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 a combination of two Aramean words, *Maran'athah*, and means, "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

We worship God by supporting our church and the mission we share.

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 Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

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

The King shall come when morning dawns
and light triumphant breaks.

When beauty gilds the eastern hills
and life to joy awakes.

The King shall come when morning dawns
and earth's dark night is past;

O haste the rising of that morn
whose day shall ever last.

The King shall come when morning dawns
and light and beauty brings.

Hail, Christ, the Lord! Your people pray:
Come, quickly, King of kings.

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! PSL updated - Kyle Please look.

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

Sunday, December 19

9:30 AM: Sunday Worship in Sanctuary and parking lot radio 104.9 FM

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

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

Tuesday, December 21

1:00 PM: Worship Taping in Sanctuary

Wednesday, December 22

3 PM: Covid-Safe Advent mid-week Worship in Sanctuary

6:30 PM: Advent mid-week Worship in Sanctuary

Thursday, December 23

1 PM: Red Cross Blood Drive

Friday, December 24

3 PM: Covid-Safe Christmas Eve Worship in Sanctuary and parking lot radio 104.9 FM

4:30 PM: Christmas Eve Worship in Sanctuary and parking lot radio 104.9 FM

10:30 PM: Christmas Eve Worship in Sanctuary

Sunday, December 26

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

10:30 AM: No Classes

Covid Guidelines for Regular Services:

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

Requirements for Covid- Safe Services:

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

Covid Guidelines:

Following Jesus' call to love and care for the neighbor, especially those who are vulnerable:

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

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