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REPENT!

And the crowds
asked him,
“What then should we do?”



LUKE 3:10, NRSV

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA

309 Fourth Street Northeast
Valley City, North Dakota

Interim Pastor: Jamie Desai

Ministers in Daily Life: People of God at Faith

Third Sunday of Advent

December 15, 2024

9:30am worship service

WELCOME IN JESUS' NAME!

It is good to encounter Christ together. At Faith Lutheran we rise up to:

Worship Christ, Welcome All, and Serve Others because of Jesus.

A special welcome to visitors and guests! May God bless our time together as we celebrate Christ's presence in the bread and wine, the Word of God, and the community we share. Please fill out a welcome card if you have changes: address, phone number, prayer request. Break off the bottom half to place in the offering plate; keep the top as a bookmark and a reminder of worship times.

*Indicates those who are able, please stand. (ELW - Evangelical Lutheran Hymnal)

Prelude

Welcome and announcements

*CALL TO WORSHIP

We have come to celebrate Advent with Jesus.

I have come to join Jesus for Advent.

Let us begin preparing for the coming of the Christ child.

I will prepare for the coming of the Christ child.

Prepare for the coming of Emmanuel, God with us.

Come, O come Emmanuel.

*ADVENT SONG “**Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah**” vs 1-3 ELW 240
(*Lighting of the Advent Candle*)

*ADVENT LITANY

The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

Three candles shine as God's promise draws near, beckoning us to be good news in body and spirit.

Justice awakens in us, a spark to brighten the way.

Radiant flash and feeble flame break through; a long time coming yet unexpected. Watching and waiting, we prepare him room,

Christ is coming to make all things new, and we are opening to the Light.

*ADVENT SONG “**Prepare the Royal Highway**” vs 1,4 ELW 264

*CONFESSION OF SIN O God, as we approach the end of the year, life seems so dreary and we feel so weary. We see the reality of the world: hunger, poverty, loneliness, disease, emptiness and despair. But despite our best efforts, nothing seems to change. And we're ready to give up. Forgive us.

In this time of Advent, we pray that you would enable us to watch for signs of where you are trying to break through the tinsel and glitter we use to mask our pain. Help us to face reality with patience and hope instead of becoming indifferent to the world's evil. Empower us to prepare for Christ's coming by cleaning up the clutter of our lives and creating a welcoming space for your presence in our lives.

SONG OF MERCY

“Come Now, O Prince of Peace”

ELW 247

*WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

The Christ child has looked with favor upon you and through the power of the Holy Spirit, you are a reborn child of God. Therefore, I declare to you: You are an accepted, forgiven and loved child of God!

I am an accepted, forgiven and loved child of God!

SONG OF PRAISE

“Joy to the World” vs 1,4

ELW 267

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, **and open our ears to the preaching of John, that rejoicing in your salvation, we may bring forth the fruits of repentance; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READINGS (PB- Pew Bible)

Zephaniah 3:14-20 (PB pg. 981 - Old Testament)

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Isaiah 12:2-6 (please read responsively)

Philippians 4:4-7 (PB pg. 212 - New Testament)

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHILDREN CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

“CAMPFIRE TALES”

*PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE—Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

ELW pg. 127

OFFERING

*OFFERTORY

“What Can I Give Him”

see screen

*BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*SENDING SONG

“Go Tell It on the Mountain”

ELW 290

*DISMISSAL Go in peace and serve the Lord. **Okay we will!**

Serving Today

Youth Worship Leaders: *Lauren May, Grady Samuelson, Kylie Van Bruggen*
Greeters: *Scott & Amy Tichy*
Ushers: *Scott & Amy Tichy, Aaliyah Torbenson*
Acolyte: *Grady Samuelson*
Kitchen: *Leighton & Dianne Smith, Mark & Sandy Brandvold, Matt Brandvold, John & Tonya Samuelson, Tyler & Angela Van Bruggen*
Keyboard & Vocals: *Cyndi Hill*
Vocals: *Julie May*

Attendance & Offering

Attendance: 12/8 124 61+ online

Offering: 12/1 \$4,795.00
12/8 \$5,920.00

Mission Plan monthly
\$22,752.25

The Week Ahead: December 16-22, 2024

Monday, December 16

Pastor's Sabbath

Tuesday, December 17

10:30am - Women's Bible Study

1:30pm - Text Study

6:30pm - Valley Troubadours

at SMP-Heath St. Raphael's

Wednesday, December 18

No Kids Club or Confirmation

12:10pm - Sounds of Season

at Our Savior's

1:00pm - Quilters

1:30pm - FLC Staff Meeting

Thursday, December 19

1:00pm - Sheyenne Valley

Memory Café

Saturday, December 21

2:00pm - Windy Rohwedder

Celebration of Life

Sunday, December 22

No Sunday School

Noisy offering -

9:30am - Worship Service

10:30am - Coffee Fellowship

10:30am - January Service & Care

Meeting

Announcements

Our sympathies to Lila Rohwedder & family and friends of **W.E. (Windy) Rohwedder**. Windy died on Thursday, November 28. His Celebration of Life will be here at Faith on Saturday, December 21 at 2pm. This would have been his 100th birthday.

Noisy Offering—We will be collecting the noisy offering Next Sunday, December 22nd for the Mission Christmas Fund.

Your loose change and dollars bills make a difference!



We would like to have about 15 poinsettias to adorn our altar on Christmas Eve. If you would like to purchase a plant for suggested amount of \$25 (price of poinsettias has increased) or bring a poinsettia in honor or in memory of a loved one there is a sign up sheet on the table in the gathering area.

There will be no Sunday School December 22 or December 29. Sunday School will resume on January 5, 2025.

No Confirmation or Kids Club December 18 or December 25 or January 1, 2025. Sunday School will resume January 5, 2025. Confirmation and Kids Club will resume on January 8, 2025.

The 2025 Daily Texts Devotional Books have arrived! The cost of each book is \$12.50. The books are on the table under the mirror in the gathering area.

Christmas Gathering at SMP-Health St. Raphael's on Friday, December 20 in the Coffee Shop at 1:30pm. Trinity, Our Savior's & Faith Lutheran church WELCA ladies invite you to gather at The Coffee Shop to enjoy coffee and treats with the St. Raphael residents from our churches to share the Christmas Spirit.

Community Closet will be open Monday, December 16, 5-7pm in the basement of Our Savior's Lutheran Church. The Community Closet is open to all and provides free clothing. Volunteers for set up are needed on Sunday, December 15, 6-8pm and also from 7-8pm on Monday, December 16.

18th Annual "Sounds of the Season" Brown Bagger Series—Wednesday, December 18, 12:10-12:50pm at Our Savior's Lutheran Church Sanctuary. **Beth Quick-Berge** will be the featured performer. Bring your lunch or just come to listen to the music of the holiday season and enjoy provided refreshments. This year they will be livestreaming the performance on their Facebook page: Our Savior's Lutheran Church Valley City, ND.

The Valley Troubadours Annual Christmas Concert! You have several opportunities to enjoy their Christmas Concert! Monday, December 16—Barnes County Courthouse, 7pm
—Valley Voices will also be performing
Tuesday, December 17—SMP - St Raphael, 6:30pm
Free Admission—Freewill offering taken. Facilities are handicapped accessible.



Salvation Army Bell Ringing continues through Tuesday, December 24, 10am-6pm.

The kettles will be set up at Leever's Food and Petro Serve USA (top of the hill on 8th Ave SW). The bell ringing is in 1 hour shifts. If you are

interested in ringing the bells please call Naomi at 701-541-1418 or Lenora at 840-1357.



Open Door Center presents—**Merry & Bright Stars & Bells Christmas Concert, Monday, December 23 at 1pm at Faith.** Everyone will enjoy this concert that is free to the public.



LET US REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS:

SMP Health - St. Raphael:—Clara Bredeson; Marlys Freadhoff; Mark Hill; Diane Kohn; Paula Krall; Laurette Zachrison.

General Prayer List:—Warren Ventsch; Brian Ventsch (Warren & Brenda's son); Marsha Sayler; Nancy Knutson; Corey Green (Karen Ntischke's grandson); Jesse Archambeau (Karen Ntischke's nephew); Sophia Halsa (Cheryl Foell's granddaughter); Sandi Pollock; Kay Stanford; Linda Moser; Mary Buringrud (Nikki Moen's mother); Marlys Kunze; Bea Faust; Verna Anderson; Samuel Hill (Cyndi & Mark Hill's grandson); Sue Olson; Rick Anderson (Bud & Verna Anderson's son); Curt Tufty (Sue Olson's brother-in-law); Sandy Mulvaney; Doug Altringer; Mary Schram (Becky Kratz' mother); Family of Lloyd Vogel.

Contact Info

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Facebook Page: Faith Lutheran Church Valley City

YouTube Channel: [vfaithlutheran](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvfaithlutheran)

The 2025 offering envelopes will be available to be picked up by December 24th. If you would prefer not to have envelopes you can let the office know. Your contributions are recorded whether you use an envelope, give by checks or give online. We thank you for your continued financial support!



Join Us for our Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Service at 4:00pm. The service will include Holy Communion, Christmas Hymns, and Special Music

THANK YOU:

to all our teachers Brenda Rohde, Ashley Horner, Jessica Johnson, Amanda Pilgrim, Abby Wilmes, Alyssa Wilmes, Angela Van Bruggen for helping with the program.

Also, thank you to Maya Van Bruggen for helping with the preschoolers.

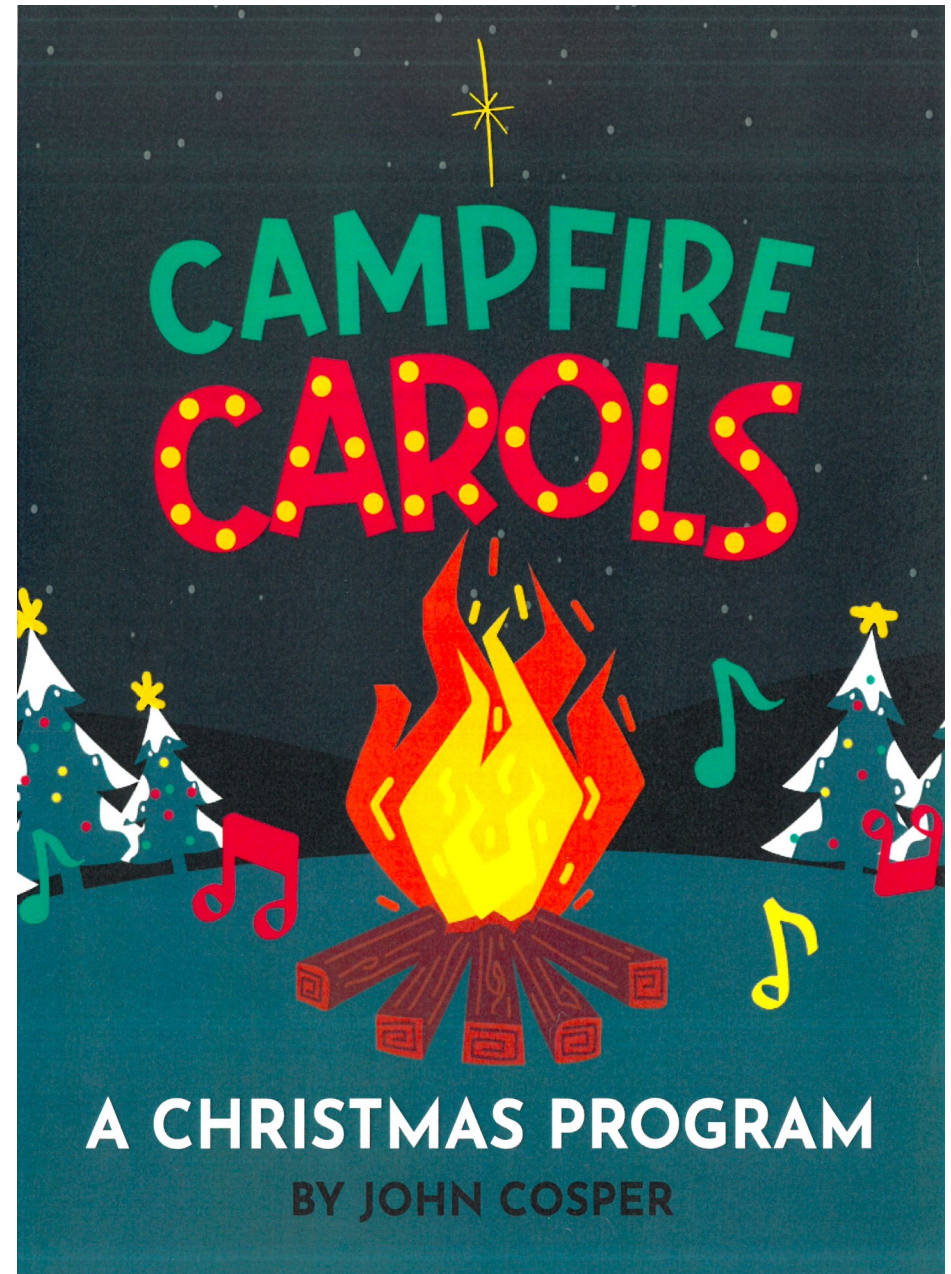
Thank you to Cyndi Hill for playing the piano for us.

Thank you to Kenzington Pilgrim for a beautiful piano solo.

Thank you to Tyler Van Bruggen for getting all the sound and microphones ready for us as well.

THANK YOU:

to the Men's Group for providing the goody bags and ornaments the kids are receiving.



Welcome

Christian Pilgrim

Scene One:

Song ***“Away in a Manger”***

Nativity Cast

Scene Two:

Song ***“Hark the Herald Angels Sing”***

Angel Cast

Scene Three:

Song ***“We Three Kings”***

Children w/Congregation

Scene Four:

Song ***“The 12 Days of Christmas”***

Campers

Scene Five:

Song ***“Have a Holly Jolly Christmas”***

*Piano Solo
by Kenzington Pilgrim*

Scene Six:

Song ***“We Wish You a Merry Christmas”***

Program Cast

Closing:

Christian Pilgrim



Cast

Mary - Riley Smith

Joseph - Jack Rohde

Shepherds - Rhett Holm, Michael Jacobson

Wise Men - Jayce Auka, Carter McKay, Zach Wilmes

Sheep - Joanna Anderson, Ashton Auka, Liam Greenley, Lincoln Johnson, Lincoln Pilgrim, Ridge Rischmiller, Weston Smith

Camels - Reagan Gray, Alex Jenrich, Tyson Jenrich

Angels - Addy Auka, Brooklynn Auka, Zoey Greenley, Reagan Holm, Alexis Horner, Oakleigh Johnson, Taylor McKay, Shay Pilgrim, Alex Rohde

Introduction Speaker - Christian Pilgrim

Speakers -

Kathy - Max Rischmiller

Bobby - Hadley Rischmiller

Sara - Nora Jacobson

Lily - Harper Van Bruggen

Norm - Cali Anderson

Henry - Kenzington Pilgrim

Gilbert - Odin Greenley

