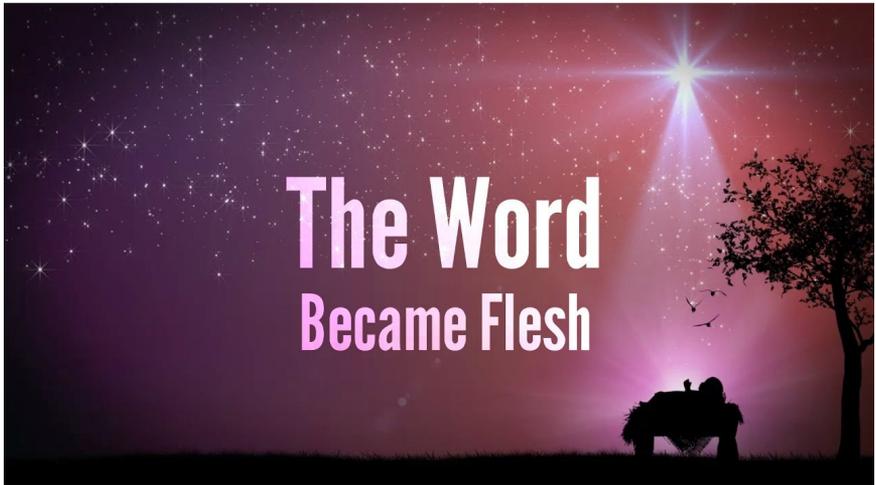




**FAITH**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

*New beginnings. New life.*



**DECEMBER 5, 2021**

Faith Lutheran Church builds up the body of Christ by making disciples, offering new beginnings and new life through the Gospel of Christ.

## DEC 5, 2021 | 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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**Welcome to Faith:** *We are glad that you are here! Please take a few moments to fill out the attendance card in the pew, listing each person in your family on a separate line. If you are a new visitor to Faith, or if your information has changed, please include your contact information. We would also love to pray for you! If you have any prayer requests, please fill out the prayer card in the pew. Both cards may be placed in the offering plate or given to pastor after the worship service.*

**Communion:** *We believe that it is a great privilege to attend the Lord's Supper. We believe that in the Lord's Supper we receive the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ given for us Christians to eat and drink. In this Holy Supper we are given forgiveness of sins and assurance of God's love in Christ. Holy Communion also expresses our oneness in Biblical doctrine. Because this is true, we ask that only those who have the same understanding of the Lord's Supper partake of this Sacrament. Even if you are not partaking in this Sacrament, we invite you to come forward to receive a blessing. Please indicate your desire to receive a blessing by crossing your arms across your chest. Also, please note that grape juice is available in the center circle of the tray for those who cannot have wine. May God bless your worship with us here at Faith and may your faith in Christ be strengthened.*

**To the Parents of Young Children:** *Jesus said, "Let the little children come to Me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these" (Matthew 19:14). We know it can be exhausting as a parent, but you are doing an important thing by being here with your children, as the body of Christ is more fully present. You may think that your child's babbling and squirming is a distraction, but to be honest, it bothers you more than it does anybody else. In fact, the joyful noises of your child bring joy to the rest of the congregation. Your child is already learning about worship in addition to hearing the Word of God. If your child wants to doodle, paper and pencils are available at the welcome desk. If you feel the need to step out for a time with your child, feel free to hang out in the back or in the nursery (which also has a changing table). There are also people at Faith who would love to help you with your child; just talk to the pastor, and he will connect you with one of them. Above all, we are glad that you are here at Faith with your children!*

**Pastor – Terry Strom (309) 533-6687 Office (217) 762-9235**

*Please contact one of the Elders or Pastor Strom as needed for spiritual and emergency items:*

*Dave Trimble – (217) 369-0149*

*Kevin Buck (217) 621-9566*

*Jamey Maxwell - (217) 979-1210*

*Jeff Gregg - (217) 620-9563*

*Brian Sowinski – (217) 778-3321*

**Birthdays: Thurs December 9, 2021 – Mackenzie Klein**

**Anniversaries: No anniversaries this week.**

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent

December 5, 2021

(Noisy Change Sunday)

### Announcements

### Sharing the Peace

### Invocation

*P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.*

**C: Amen.**

*P: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.*

**C: He was with God in the beginning.**

*P: Through him all things were made.*

**C: Without him nothing was made that has been made.**

*P: In him was life, and that life was the light of men.*

**C: The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not overcome it.**

*P: The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.*

**C: We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only.**

*P: Who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.*

**C: From his fullness we have all received grace upon grace.**

*P: The Law was given through Moses.*

**All: Grace and truth came through Jesus Christ!**

# 341 Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

sts. 1-3

1 Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates! Be - hold, the  
2 A righ - teous Help - er comes to thee; His char - iot  
3 How blest the land, the cit - y blest, Where Christ the  
King of glo - ry waits. The King of kings is draw - ing  
is hu - mil - i - ty, His king - ly crown is ho - li -  
rul - er is con - fessed! O peace - ful hearts and hap - py  
near; The Sav - ior of the world is here. Life and sal -  
ness, His scep - ter, pit - y in dis - tress. The end of  
homes To whom this King in tri - umph comes! The cloud - less  
va - tion He doth bring; There - fore re - joice and glad - ly sing.  
all our woe He brings; There - fore the earth is glad and sings.  
sun of joy is He Who comes to set His peo - ple free.  
To God the Fa - ther raise Your joy - ful songs of praise.  
To Christ the Sav - ior raise Your grate - ful hymns of praise.  
To God the Spir - it raise Your hap - py shouts of praise.

Tune and text: Public domain

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

## Confession of Sins

LSB 203

**P:** *If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.*

**C:** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

*P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.*

**All:** Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

*P:* Almighty God in his mercy has given his Son to die for you and for his sake forgives you all your sins. 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.

**All:** Amen

### 341 Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

sts. 4-5

4 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; Make it a  
5 Re - deem - er, come and o - pen wide My heart to

tem - ple set a - part From earth - ly use for heav'n's em -  
Thee; here, Lord, a - bide! O en - ter with Thy grace di -

ploy, A - dorned with prayer and love and joy. So shall your  
vine; Thy face of mer - cy on me shine. Thy Ho - ly

Sov - 'reign en - ter in And new and no - bler life be - gin.  
Spir - it guide us on Un - til our glo - rious goal is won.

To God a - lone be praise For word and deed and grace!  
E - ter - nal praise and fame We of - fer to Thy name.

## Old Testament Reading

*Isaiah 40:1–11*

<sup>1</sup>Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

<sup>2</sup>Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,

and cry to her

that her warfare is ended,

that her iniquity is pardoned,

that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins.

<sup>3</sup>A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;

make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

<sup>4</sup>Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the

uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.

<sup>5</sup>And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

<sup>6</sup>A voice says, "Cry!"

And I said, "What shall I cry?"

All flesh is grass,

and all its beauty is like the flower of the field.

<sup>7</sup>The grass withers, the flower fades

when the breath of the LORD blows on it;

surely the people are grass.

<sup>8</sup>The grass withers, the flower fades,

but the word of our God will stand forever.

<sup>9</sup>Get you up to a high mountain,

O Zion, herald of good news;

lift up your voice with strength,

O Jerusalem, herald of good news;

lift it up, fear not;

say to the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!"

<sup>10</sup>Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him;

behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him.

<sup>11</sup>He will tend his flock like a shepherd;

he will gather the lambs in his arms;

he will carry them in his bosom,

and gently lead those that are with young.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Epistle

*1 Corinthians 9:16–23*

<sup>16</sup>If I preach the gospel, that gives me no ground for boasting. For necessity is laid upon me. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel! <sup>17</sup>For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward, but not of my own will, I am still entrusted with a stewardship. <sup>18</sup>What then is my reward? That in my preaching I may present the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my right in the gospel.

<sup>19</sup>For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them. <sup>20</sup>To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though not being myself under the law) that I might win those under the law. <sup>21</sup>To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (not being outside the law of God but under the law of Christ) that I might win those outside the law. <sup>22</sup>To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. <sup>23</sup>I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings.

**A** *This is the Word of the Lord.*

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

## Holy Gospel

*John 1:6–9,15*

**P** *The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.*

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

<sup>9</sup>The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world...

<sup>15</sup>(John bore witness about him, and cried out, “This was he of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.’”)

**P** *This is the Gospel of the Lord.*

**C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## **Apostles' Creed**

**C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.

**And 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.**

**I 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. Amen.**

*Sit*

## 344 On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry An - nounc - es  
2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; Make straight the  
3 We hail Thee as our Sav - ior, Lord, Our ref - uge  
4 Lay on the sick Thy heal - ing hand And make the  
△ 5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to Thee Whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; A - wake and hear - ken,  
way for God with - in, And let us all our  
and our great re - ward; With - out Thy grace we  
fall - en strong to stand; Show us the glo - ry  
sets Thy peo - ple free, Whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings Glad tid - ings of the King of kings!  
hearts pre - pare For Christ to come and en - ter there.  
waste a - way Like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.  
of Thy face Till beau - ty springs in ev - 'ry place.  
we a - dore And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

Text and tune: Public domain

## Sermon – “A Man Named John”

## Prayer of the Church

## Service of the Sacrament

### Preface

LSB 208

**P** *The Lord be with you.*

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** *Lift up your hearts.*

**C** **We lift them to the Lord.**

**P** *Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

**C** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

**P** *It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You*

*so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:*

## Sanctus

LSB 208

- C** Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;  
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.  
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;  
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

- P** *Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.*

*In Your boundless mercy You sent Your servant, John the Baptist, to proclaim that in Christ the kingdom of heaven draws near.*

*With thankful hearts we pray, "Come, Lord Jesus," confident that in His body and blood, given us to eat and drink, we receive the forgiveness of sins and so proclaim His death until He comes again in glory.*

*Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:*

## Lord's Prayer

- C** 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.**

### **The Words of Our Lord**

**[P]** *Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\text{✠}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."*

*In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\text{✠}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."*

### **Pax Domini**

**[P]** *The peace of the Lord be with you always.*  
**[C]** **Amen.**

### **Agnus Dei**

*LSB 210*

**[C]** **1 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world away;  
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.**

**2 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world away;  
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,  
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.**

### **Distribution**

### **Post-Communion Collect**

**[A]** *Let us pray.  
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through*

*Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*

**C** Amen.

## Benediction

**P** *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  $\text{✠}$  give you peace.*

**C** Amen.

## 540 Christ, the Word of God Incarnate

*sts. 1, 5-6*



1 Christ, the Word of God in - car - nate, Lord and Son of  
5 Christ, the way that leads un - fail - ing, To the Fa - ther's  
△ 6 Christ, the Al - pha and O - me - ga, Christ, the first-born



A - bra - ham; Christ, the ra - diance of the Fa - ther,  
home on high, Christ, the truth that frees the cap - tive,  
from the dead, Christ, the life and res - ur - rec - tion,



Per - fect God, the great I AM; Christ, the light, You  
Christ, the life that can - not die. Me - di - a - tor  
Christ, the Church's glo - rious head: Praise and thanks and



shine un - van - quished, Light and life You bring to all; Light our  
to the Fa - ther, Sac - ri - fice and great High Priest: Lead us  
ad - o - ra - tion And un - end - ing wor - ship be To the



path with Your own pres - ence, Grant us grace to heed Your call.  
to Your heav'n - ly man - sions, There to share Your wed - ding feast.  
Fa - ther and the Spir - it And to You e - ter - nal - ly.

Tune: Public domain

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## Silent Prayer

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## **Announcements:**

### *Dates to Remember*

**Next Sunday – Bible Study & Sunday School** - 9:00 AM  
Worship Service - 10:00 AM

- **Advent services** Wednesday evenings at **7:00 PM**
- **Soup Suppers** will be held at **5:30-6:45 each Wednesday evening** during Advent. Please join us for great food & fellowship before the Advent services. Offerings will go to help support the Youth & those who plan to attend the National Youth Gathering. Sign-up cards for food donations each Wednesday are posted on the bulletin board.
- **Sunday December 12, 2:00-7:00** - Join us for a fellowship activity at the **Rigg's Christmas Market** in Urbana. Sign-up sheet on counter.
- **Week of December 13-17** - Help **deliver Meals on Wheels**. Contact Carol Blankenburg. Sign-up sheet on counter.

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<b>Offering</b>	<b>Last Week</b>	<b>Year to Date</b>
General Fund – Budget	\$ 3,913.00	\$ 187,823.08
General Fund – Actual	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 179,393.29
Building Fund - Actual	\$ --	\$ 1,805.00

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## ***Faith Servant Schedule***

<b>Date</b>	<b>Dec 5, 2021</b>	<b>Dec 12, 2021</b>	<b>Dec 19, 2021</b>
<b>Reader</b>	Kim Maxwell	Lynnea Blackburn	Phil Blankenburg
<b>Usher</b>	Phil Blankenburg Kevin Buck	Jim Ballsrud Cole Sowinski	Jamey Maxwell Steve Sparenberg
<b>Acolyte</b>	Piper Maxwell	Aidan Barnes	Jaxon Clark
<b>Screens</b>	Lucy Maxwell	Cole Sowinski	Piper Maxwell
<b>Music</b>	Roberta Sparenberg	Roberta Sparenberg	Angie Corum
<b>Elder</b>	Jeff Gregg	Jeff Gregg	Jeff Gregg
<b>Altar</b>	Brianna Gregg Angie Corum	Brianna Gregg Angie Corum	Brianna Gregg Angie Corum

Pastor Terry Strom  
 1006 Surrey Rd.  
 Monticello, IL 61856  
 Cell: (309) 533-6687  
[pastorterry@faithmonticello.org](mailto:pastorterry@faithmonticello.org)  
 Office hours: Mon.-Thurs. 9:00-12:00

Faith Lutheran Church  
 1201 Bear Lane, Monticello, IL 61856  
 Office: (217) 762-9235  
[faithmonticello@gmail.com](mailto:faithmonticello@gmail.com)  
 Judy Barnhart, Office Assistant  
 Tues.-Thurs 9:00-12:00