

CALAMUS LUTHERAN PARISH

Nativity of Our Lord

Faith Lutheran Church

9:00 AM on December 25, 2025

Prelude

Ringling of the Bell

Welcome and Announcements

CHRISTMAS DAY LITANY

Hope for Those Who Are Willing

P: Our Savior's birth is celebrated with bold faith:

C: may our hearts be willing.

P: Like Mary, who showed humble surrender,

C: may our hearts be willing.

P: Like Joseph, who exhibited unconditional trust,

C: may our hearts be willing.

P: Like the shepherds, who displayed awestruck wonder,

C: may our hearts be willing.

P: Like the angels, who sang glorious praise,

C: may our hearts be willing.

P: For all who are willing to receive the gift of the Savior
born in Bethlehem,

**C: grant that we might have the peace of Christ as we wait,
the love of Christ as we act, and the grace of Christ
as we speak.**

CANDLE LIGHTING

P: Today we light all the candles. The **first candle is the hope** shining and pointing the way for a new tomorrow. The **second candle is the love** we feel as we gaze at the baby in the manger and see the love God has given to us. The **third candle is the joy** of the season that comes from knowing we are blessed by God. The **fourth candle is the peace** that comes from the angels telling us to not be afraid and hear the good news of the birth of our Savior. Today we light the **Christ Candle**, the true light that radiates in our lives and helps us to know we will never be alone.

HYMN #292 "Love Has Come"

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

All-powerful and unseen God, the coming of your light into our world has brightening weary hearts with peace. Call us out of darkness, and empower us to proclaim the birth of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

HYMN #270 “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

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

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

John 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it.

There was a man sent from God whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE – Pastor Leah

SERMON – Pastor Leah

HYMN #300 “The First Noel”

CONFESSION OF FAITH

P: Living in the Hope of the Gift of Christ's coming again,
we confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed.

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

P: Empowered by the news of Christ's birth, let us pray boldly for the church, creation, and all who are in need.

(A brief silence)

(Each petition ends: P: Hear us, O God. C: Your mercy is great.)

P: With the joy of Christ's birth in our hearts, we commend our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your boundless mercy and eternal love; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

Turn to page 206 in the front of the ELW when you return to your seat.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Let us pray. *(concluding... Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.)*

C: Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING *(page 206; front of the hymnal)*

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 our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

P: It is indeed right.....and join their unending hymn:

**C: ♪ Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
 heav'n and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER (*page 208*)

**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 IS CELEBRATED TODAY

All are welcome at the Lord's Table.

Gluten-free wafers and white grape juice are available.

**♪ O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
you suffered death our lives to save: have mercy now, we pray.**

**O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mercy now, we pray.**

**O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
eternal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.**

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and
keep you always in his grace.

C: Amen.

POST COMMUNION HYMN: "Away in a Manger" (#277)

**♪ Be near us, Lord Jesus, we ask you to stay
close by us forever and love us, we pray.**

**Bless all the dear children in your tender care,
and fit us for heaven to live with you there. Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Let us pray.

Incarnate God, you are among us at the table. May we treasure this gift and ponder in our hearts the mystery of your presence. Move us to discover the wonders of your love in the everyday moments of our lives, through Christ born in us.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

P: The triune God, glorious Mystery, holy Incarnate One, abiding Comforter, ✠ bless you with endless grace, peace and joy.

C: Amen.

HYMN #279 “O Little Town of Bethlehem”

DISMISSAL

P: Glory to God in the highest!

C: And peace to God’s people on earth!

P: Go in joy. Embody God’s redeeming grace.

C: Thanks be to God.

Ring of the Bell

Postlude

SELECTED READING

*All who at the manger
finally lay down
all power and honor,
all prestige,
all vanity,
all arrogance and self-will;
all who take their place
among the lowly
and let God alone be high;
all who see the glory of God
in the lowliness
of the child in the manger:
these are the ones who will truly
celebrate Christmas. (Dietrich Bonhoeffer)*

Worship Leaders

Pastor: Rev. Leah Holloway-Nilsen

Pianist: Rachel Bousselot

Acolyte: Emily Grau

Communion Assistant: Peyton Grau

Ushers: Dirk Braet and Brian Tulley

Altar Ministry: Mark & Marsha Witte

This Week At A Glance

Friday,

December 26th

Church office closed

Sunday,

December 28th

9:00 am Worship at Faith
One Service Only

Monday,

December 29th – January 5th **Church Office Closed**

Sunday, December 28th there will be **one** service at Faith at 9:00 am. There will be no Sunday School that morning.