

**Sunday of Advent
Children' s Christmas Program**

His Name Shall Be Called

**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
Sunday, December 15, 2024
10:15 a.m.**

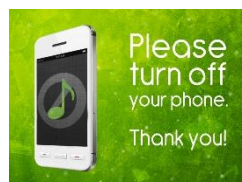
Isaiah 9:6 For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.



WELCOME VISITORS: We extend a warm welcome to all our visitors today. We pray that your worship with us is rewarding. Please be sure to sign your name and address in

our guest register, located in the narthex. If you are looking for a church home we would like to invite you to be a part of our Bible Based Church family.

Please **TURN OFF ALL CELLPHONES** before service begins. Phones that are on may interfere with transmission of the service to social media and shutting down your phone can help solve network connectivity problems.



PROCESSIONAL HYMN “Oh Come Little Children”

Congregation:

**Oh come , little children, oh come, one and all,
O come to the cradle in Bethlehem’s stall.
The bright star will guide us and show us the way
To Jesus who’s lying asleep on the hay.**

**O come everybody, O come to the stall,
With hearts full of love for this baby so small,
O sing little children to Him you adore.
O sing with the angels, sing peace evermore.**

Children:

*Oh come , little children, oh come, one and all,
O come to the cradle in Bethlehem’s stall.
The bright star will guide us and show us the way
To Jesus who’s lying asleep on the hay.*

INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

- P** To us . . .
C a child is born!
P To us . . .
C a son is given!
P His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor,
C **Mighty God,**
P Everlasting Father,
C **Prince of Peace.**

The Children's Program



Readers

Darby Bonnell, Evelyn Reinhart, Khloe Olson, Koi Olson

READINGS

HYMN “Away in the Manger”

Children:

*Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the sky looked down where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.*

Congregation:

**The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes.
I love Thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.**

**Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
And take us to heaven to live with Thee there.**



READINGS

Children's Recitation:

*The people that in darkness sat
A glorious light have seen;
The light has shined on them who long
In shades of death have been.*



Children's Recitation:

*To us a Child of hope is born,
To us a Son is given,
And on His shoulder ever rests
All power in earth and heaven.*

HYMN "Silent Night, Holy Night"

Children:

*Silent night, holy night!
All is calm, all is bright.
Round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.*

Congregation:

Silent night, holy night!

Shepherds quake at the sight;

Glories stream from heaven afar,

Heav'nly hosts sing, Alleluia!

Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!

Silent night, holy night!

Son of God, love's pure light

Radiant beams from Thy holy face

With the dawn of redeeming grace,

Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth,

Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.



READINGS

Children's Recitation:

His name shall be the Prince of Peace,

The Everlasting Lord,

The Wonderful, the Counselor,

The God by all adored.

HYMN “Go Tell It on the Mountain”

Children sing refrain:

Refrain:

*Go tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and ev’rywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born!*

Congregation:

**While shepherds kept their watching
O’er silent flocks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens
There shone a holy light. *Refrain***

**The shepherds feared and trembled
When lo, above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus
That hailed our Savior’s birth. *Refrain***

**Down in a lonely manger
The humble Christ was born;
And God sent us salvation
That blessed Christmas morn. *Refrain***





READINGS

Children's Recitation

His righteous government and power
Shall over all extend;
On judgment and on justice based,
His reign shall have no end.

HYMN "*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*"

Children:

*Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"*

Congregation:

**Christ, by highest heav'n adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold Him come,
Offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,
Hail the incarnate Deity!
Pleased as Man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Immanuel!**

**Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"**

**Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
Ris'n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.**

**Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"**

The Divine Worship Service

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father who gave His Only Begotten Son.

C **To be born for me.**

P In the name of the Son

C **Who loved me and gave Himself up for me.**

P In the Name of the Holy Spirit.

C Who calls me and leads me by His Holy Word.
Amen.

HYMN “Joy to the World”

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!

Let earth receive her King;

Let ev’ry heart prepare Him room

And heav’n and nature sing,

And heav’n and nature sing,

And heav’n, and heav’n and nature sing.

2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!

Let men their songs employ,

While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains

Repeat the sounding joy,

Repeat the sounding joy,

Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

3 No more let sins and sorrows grow

Nor thorns infest the ground;

He comes to make His blessings flow

Far as the curse is found,

Far as the curse is found,

Far as, far as the curse is found.

4 He rules the world with truth and grace

And makes the nations prove

The glories of His righteousness

And wonders of His love,

And wonders of His love,

And wonders, wonders of His love.

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P 1 Timothy 1:15-17 we read “Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst.

C But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his unlimited patience as an example for those who would believe on him and receive eternal life. Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

P And 1 John 1:8-9 God's Holy Word teaches "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."**

P Therefore, let us with true heart confess our sins to God our Father and receive His Almighty Forgiveness.

(We observe a few moments of silence and personal confession before our God and Savior)

P Together let us confess:

C **God forgive me a sinner.**

P "For God so loved the World that He gave His only begotten Son, so that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but shall have everlasting life. (John 3:16) Blessed is one whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. Blessed is the one whose sin the LORD does not count against him and in whose spirit is no deceit. *(based on Ps 32:1,2)* Upon, this your confession, I by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word announce the Grace of God unto you, and by the command and in the stead of the Lord Jesus Christ, *(John 20:22-23; Matthew 16:19 NIV)* I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the (+) Son, and of the Holy Spirit. "Be of Good Cheer Your; your sins are forgiven you. *(Matt.*

9:2 KJV) Now, go live a life worthy of your calling in Christ Jesus, and produce fruit in keep with real repentance. (*Eph 4:1; Matthew 8:3*)

C Amen!

HYMN OF RESPONSE

“From Heaven Above To Earth I Come”

Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child,
Prepare a bed, soft, undefiled,
A quiet chamber set apart
For You to dwell within my heart.

THE HOLY SPIRIT TEACHES US THROUGH THE HOLY WORD OF GOD

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING: *Isaiah 7:13-14*



And he said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

P This is the Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God.

THE EPISTLE READING: *Romans 1:1-7*

Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, ² which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, ³ concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh

⁴ and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, ⁵through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations, ⁶including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, ⁷To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

P This is the Word of the Lord

C Thanks be To God.

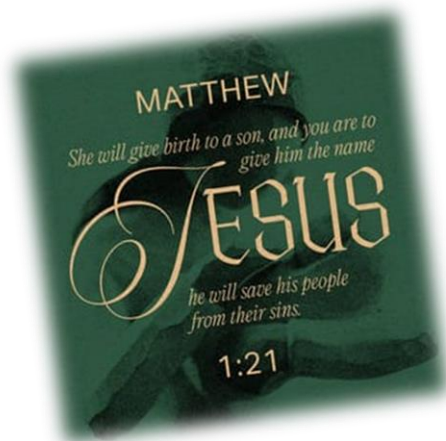
THE GOSPEL READING: *Matthew 1:18-25*

“Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly.

²⁰But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.

²¹She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”

²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,



and they shall call his name Immanuel” (which means, God with us).²⁴ When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife,²⁵ but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

P This is Gospel of the Lord!

C Praise be to You, O Christ!

SERMON HYMN “A Great & Mighty Wonder”

**A great and mighty wonder, a full and holy cure!
the Virgin bears the Infant with virgin-honor pure:**

Repeat the hymn again:

'To God on high be glory, and peace on earth to men.'

**Since all He comes to ransom, by all be He adored,
the Infant born in Bethl'em, the Saviour and the Lord:**

Repeat the hymn again:

'To God on high be glory, and peace on earth to men.'

SERMONETTE

**WE DEDICATE OUR
OFFERINGS TO THE
KING OF KINGS**



THE FAMILY OF GOD PRAYS TOGETHER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

- P** Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:
- 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 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 † give you peace.
- C** **Amen.**

HYMN *“Angels from the Realms of Glory”*

**Angels from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight o'er all the earth:
Ye who sang creation's story,
Now proclaim Messiah's birth.
Come and worship, come and worship;
Worship Christ, the newborn King.**

**Shepherds in the field abiding,
Watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing,
Yonder shines His Infant Light.
Come and worship, come and worship;
Worship Christ, the newborn King.**

All creation, join in praising
God the Father, Spirit, Son.
Evermore your voices raising
To the eternal Three in One.
Come and worship, come and worship;
Worship Christ, the newborn King.



DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Sunday: Isaiah 30:27 – 31:9;
Revelation 3:1-22

Monday: Isaiah 32:1-20;
Revelation 4:1-11

Tuesday: Isaiah 33:1-24; Revelation 5:1-14

Wednesday: Isaiah 34:1-2, 8 – 35:10; Micah 1:1 – 7:20;
Revelation 6:1-17

Thursday: Isaiah 40:1-17; Revelation 7:1-17

Friday: Isaiah 40:18 – 41:10; Revelation 8:1-13

Saturday: Isaiah 42:1-25; Revelation 9:1-12



FAITH and ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCHES

*Please remember the following in
your prayers:*

Gary Baumann Bob Burish
Alice Fromm Wallace Emmerich
Sally Hannemann Angie Harkner Emma Hein
Dale Janisch Cecelia & Lucille Klade Rob Koebe
Bruce Krenz Ron Lang Karen Love Debbie Olson
Mark Pester Edgar Pfaff Marge Radenz Karen Rajek
Jo Schedler Audrey Steckling Lorraine Steckling
Carl Uttech Philip Vogel Deb Wiederhoeft
Susie and Ellie Zastrow

TODAY'S EVENTS

- ✓ **Christmas Caroling** at 1:00 p.m. from Faith. Lunch served.
- ✓ **Angel Tree gifts** at Faith need to be returned today.
- ✓ **Poinsettia Fund donations** at Faith need to be in today



2025 OFFERING ENVELOPES

Are available on tables at Faith in the church narthex.

Do NOT use until after January 1, 2025.



Thank You

Chris and Deb Stogbauer, Bonnie Grueneberg, Judy Schlueter, Beth Bartelt, Phyllis Buch, Terry Seidler, Tim and Vickie Bartelt for decorating the church for Christmas. Also thank you to the team that set up the tree.



CHURCH CALENDAR ST. JOHN'S and FAITH

Sunday, December 15

8:30 a.m. Children's Christmas Program and Worship at St. John's

9:15 a.m. Sunday School at Faith

10:15 a.m. Children's Christmas Program and Worship at Faith

11:15 a.m. Bible Class at Faith

1:00 p.m. Caroling to Shut-Ins

Wednesday, December 18

5:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith

6:30 p.m. Midweek Advent Worship at Faith

Sunday, December 22

8:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion at St. John's

Sunday School during Sermon at St. John's

9:15 a.m. Sunday School at Faith

10:15 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion at Faith

11:15 a.m. Bible Study at Faith

Christmas Eve Tuesday, December 24

4:30 p.m. Candlelight Worship at St. John's

7:00 p.m. Candlelight Worship at Faith

Christmas Day Wednesday, December 25

8:30 a.m. Worship at St. John's

10:15 a.m. Worship at Faith



ST. JOHN'S CHRISTIAN CARE is looking for a **part time assistant teacher**. Must have Infant/Toddler and Early Childhood experience. If the right person fits, we will be willing to train if person is willing to take cases. For more information or to apply, contact

Patti Beilke at St. John's Christian Care at 715-539-8120.

CHRISTMAS COUNTDOWN! Be sure to pick up scrip cards for your holiday feasts and those special gifts for your ‘naughty and nice’ list. Pick up scrip for all your household needs. Help support the ministry of our church through the Scrip program. ... *All without it costing you an extra penny!*



2024 Advent Series

His Name Shall Be Called

MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICES

**Wednesday,
December 18**

at 6:30 p.m. at Faith



Our third midweek Advent sermon is “Everlasting Father”—a title given to Jesus in Isaiah 9:6. We will learn why Jesus is called “Father” even though He is

the eternal Son of the Father. We will also learn why Jesus is called “Everlasting.” Finally, we will learn why Jesus’ title “Everlasting Father” is such a great comfort to us—especially when we face trials or suffering in this world.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank You for your generous sacrificial offerings to the Lord, to help us keep our ministry going. You can also mail your offerings to Our Churches at

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

15425 County Road K South
Merrill, WI 54452 or

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

134058 County Road L
Athens, WI 54411

(Please do not send hard cash through the mail)

Please help us spread the Word. Visit us online at Pastor's (Don Love) Facebook Page, or Faith Lutheran Church, or on the church website at

www.faithlutheranmerrill.com

