December 24, 2023 Christmas Eve 5:00 pm, 7:00 pm and 10:30 pm





FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH STATEMENT OF WELCOME

We, the community of First Lutheran Church of Bothell, proclaim the message that the grace of our Lord is infinitely inclusive and that everyone is welcome. We believe that Christ calls us to reconciliation and wholeness in a world of alienation and brokenness.

As a Reconciling in Christ congregation and as disciples of Christ seeking justice and reconciliation among all peoples, we at First Lutheran Church welcome all into the fullness of God's love. We welcome everyone, without exception and regardless of sex, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical and mental ability, age, or station in life. We recognize that each person is a unique creation of God, and through grace, a child of God.

All are welcome at First Lutheran.

All are welcome to worship, to hear the Good News, to receive the sacraments, and to share in fellowship and service. As members of First Lutheran Church, we pledge ourselves and our congregation to exercise our faith in Christ, treasuring one another's similarities while embracing our God-given differences. We pledge that we will strive to live as a reconciling people, in our life together and in our outreach to the world.

Pastor Rev. Tor Kristian Berg tberg@flcbothell.org

Director of Music/Organist Lucy Kay Osborne lkosborne@flcbothell.org Director of Reach Ministries: Roger Steinke rsteinke@flcbothell.org

Office Manager Kristin Smith ksmith@flcbothell.org



10207 NE 183rd Street Bothell WA 98011 (425) 486-2314 office@flcbothell.org www.flcbothell.org

December 24, 2023 Christmas Eve 5:00pm, 7:00pm, and 10:30pm

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE: Carols from around the World Lucy Kay Osborne, Organ

10:30 pm - Patty Weston, Flute

GATHERING CAROLS: Joy to the World (ELW 267)

Joy earth to the world, the Lord is come! Let re -1 2 Joy the earth. the Sav ior reigns! Let all their to No let sin thorns in -3 more and sor row grow nor He rules the world with truth makes the 4 and grace and ceive her king; let 'ry heart him ev pre pare em - ploy, fields hills. songs while and floods. rocks, and the ground; he make his bless - ings fest comes to tions prove the glo ries his righ na of teous room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture plains re - peat the sound-ing joy, peat the sound-ing re found. flow far as the curse is far the curse is as won-ders won-ders of his of his ness and love. and and heav'n, heav'n sing. sing, and and na ture joy, re peat, re peat the sound - ing joy. found, far as. far as the curse is found. ders of his love. love, and won ders. won

O Come, All Ye Faithful (ELW 283)



ANTHEM: 10:30 pm - Christmas is Coming (Dunstan/Moore/Raney) Sanctuary Choir

CHRISTMAS PROCLAMATION

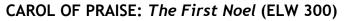
Many ages from the time when God created the heavens and the earth and then formed man and woman in his own image; long after the great flood, when God made the rainbow shine forth as a sign of the covenant; twenty-one centuries from the time the promise was given to Abraham and Sarah; thirteen centuries after Moses led the people of Israel out of Egypt and Miriam danced in freedom; eleven hundred years from the time of Ruth and the judges; one thousand years from the anointing of David as king, in fulfillment of the times and years and months and days discerned by the prophets; in the one hundred and ninety-fourth Olympiad; the seven hundred and fifty-second year from the foundation of the city of Rome; the forty-second year of the reign of Octavian Augustus; while the whole world enjoyed a span of peace, Jesus Christ, eternal God and Son of the eternal Father, desiring to sanctify the world by his most merciful coming, being conceived by the Holy Spirit and nine months of growth in the womb of his mother— now in our own times is the nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ, God made flesh.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.





WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

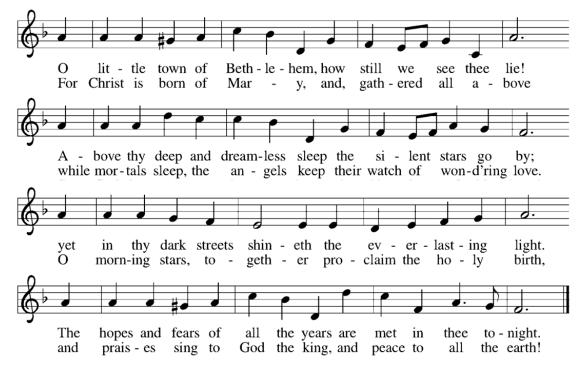
FIRST READING: Isaiah 9:2-7 ²The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darknesson them light has shined. ³You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. ⁴For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. ⁵For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. ⁶For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

ANTHEM: 5:00 pm - Lo, How a Rose E're Blooming (arr. Be Portman) Alexia Payne, Violin 7:00 pm - O Holy Night (arr. S. Decesare) Burke Anderson, French Horn 10:30 pm - Silent Night (T. Manor) Sanctuary Choir Patty Weston, Flute

THE CENSUS: Luke 2:1-5

¹In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child.

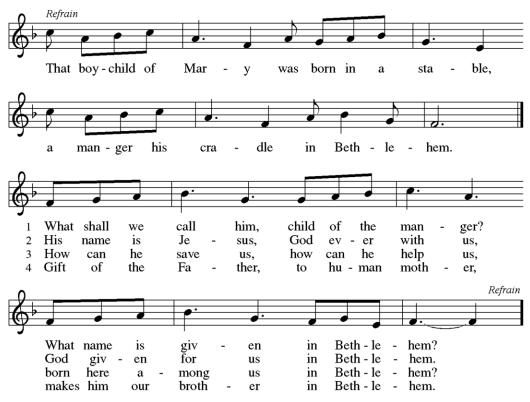
CAROL: O Little Town of Bethlehem (ELW 279)



THE BIRTH: Luke 2:6-7

⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

CAROL: That Boy-Child of Mary (ELW 293)

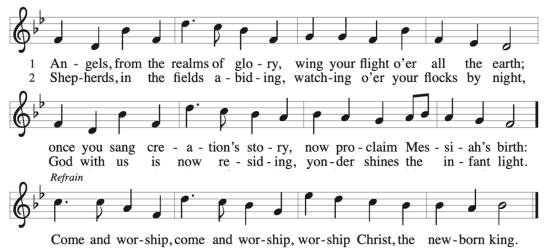


THE CHORUS OF ANGELS: Luke 2:8-14

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see – I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, ¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest heaven,

and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

CAROL: Angels, from the Realms of Glory (ELW 275)



THE SHEPHERDS: Luke 2:15-20

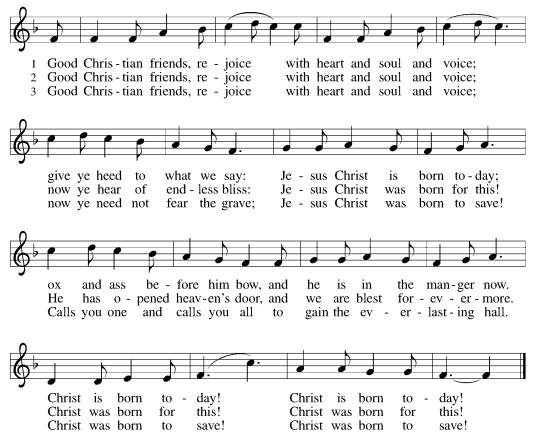
¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

CAROL: It Came upon the Midnight Clear (ELW 282)



SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: Good Christian Friends, Rejoice (ELW 288)



PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Trusting in God's good news of great joy for all people, we offer our prayers for ourselves, our neighbors, and the world God loves.

Glory to you, God, for the song of the angels, proclaiming to the world Christ's holy birth. Give your church a joyful song to sing, that we bring the good news of peace and salvation to all people. Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

Glory to you, God, for the stars that shine in the depth of the night. Provoke awe in our hearts at the expansive mystery of the cosmos. Open us to find beauty in the clear darkness of night and in the first glimmers of dawn. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Glory to you, God, for the child born to us who establishes a kingdom of justice and righteousness. Break bonds of oppression, bring reconciliation to warring lands, and establish peace from this time onward and forevermore. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Glory to you, God, for Mary's loving care. Lead us to tend to one another in time of need. Share the comfort of your presence with all people tonight who are alone or separated from loved ones due to estrangement, incarceration, or illness. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Glory to you, God, for the faithfulness of the shepherds in their vocation. Grant rest to any who feel exhausted from their work during this season: retail and restaurant workers, church musicians, administrative staff, and clergy, organizers of charitable-giving events, and service workers doing essential tasks. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Glory to you, God, for the multitude of the heavenly host. We rejoice in the zeal of all your saints who have witnessed the appearing of your grace, and who reveal to us your salvation for all. Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

Abide with us, 0 God of mercy, and receive our prayers according to your abundant grace.

Amen.

MEAL God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERTORY: In the Bleak Midwinter (arr. L. Larson) Lucy Kay Osborne, Organ



OFFERING: What Child Is This (ELW 296)



OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of abundance, receive and bless these gifts we have offered. Join our hearts with the song of the angels, and gather us at your table of celebration. Strengthen us to share with all the world the abundance of your grace upon grace, poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. 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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, Creator of all and Source of life, at the birth of time your word brought light into the world. In the fullness of time, you sent your Word, born of Mary, to shine in our darkness and to make us your daughters and sons.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his birth and life among us, his death and resurrection, we await his coming again when all things will be restored in him.

By your Spirit bless us and this bread and cup, that, held and nourished by you, we may live as your children, shining with the light of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

Amen

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us. Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,

your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,

now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Glory to God in the highest! Come to the table of peace.

COMMUNION

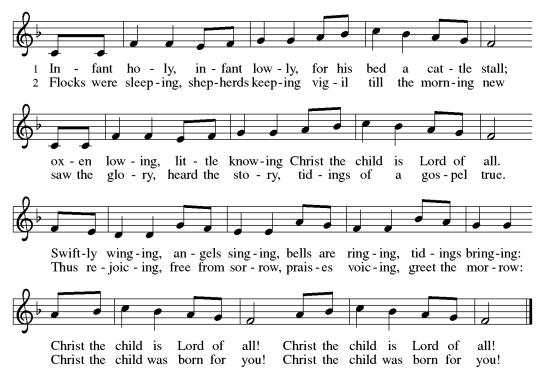
The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

COMMUNION: We will receive the body of Christ as bread with these or similar words: The body of Christ, given for you. If you desire a gluten-free option that is available. The blood of Christ will be received as either red wine or white grape juice with these or similar words: The blood of Christ, shed for you.

WHO MAY COMMUNE? All are welcome at the Lord's Table. It is a free gift given to all for the forgiveness of sins. The words "for you" really mean FOR YOU! Children may commune at the discretion of their parents. If you wish to receive a blessing: cross your arms over your chest as a sign for the communion assistants.

DIRECTIONS FOR COMMUNION: Please come forward by the center aisle at the direction of the ushers to receive the sacrament and return to your seat down the side aisle. Please register each person taking communion on a pew card.

COMMUNION CAROLS: Infant Holy, Infant Lowly (ELW 276)



Away in a Manger (ELW 278)



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

God our redeemer, you have fed us at this table with gifts of grace, truth, and life. As you have gathered us in joy, send us forth as messengers of your peace. Make us shine with the good news of your glory, born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

GOSPEL OF LIGHT: John 1:1-14 (While this is read, we will come and light your candles. Please tip the unlit candle towards the lit candle.)

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him,

and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being 4 in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And 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.

CAROL OF LIGHT: Silent Night, Holy Night! (ELW 281)



BLESSING

God bless you and keep you, + Jesus grant you grace and truth, and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts, now and forever. Amen.

SENDING CAROL: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing



DISMISSAL

Christ the Savior is born! Go in peace. Proclaim this good news. Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: From Heaven Above (W. Held) Lucy Kay Osborne, Organ

Presiding Minister: Organist/Music Director	<u>Assisting With Today's Services:</u> Rev. Tor Kristian Berg Lucy Kay Osborne	
Greeter	5:00 pm 7:00 pm 10:00 pm	Paul Desilet Jan Anderson Nora Strothman
Worship Assistant:	5:00 pm 7:00 pm 10:30 pm	Roger Steinke Stephanie Almeida Gordy Phelps
Lector:	5:00 pm 7:00 pm 10:30 pm	Christy Freriks Mona Shogren Jean Peterson
Communion Assistants:	5:00 pm 7:00 pm 10:30 pm	Christy & Dave Freriks Kendahl Adjorlolo & Emily Almeida Marilyn Iverson
Sound Tech:	5:00 pm 7:00 pm 10:30 pm	Linda Chapman Alain Adjorlolo Ann Bormann
Camera Techs:	5:00 pm 7:00 pm 10:30 pm	David Osborne David Osborne David Osborne
Ushers:	5:00 pm 7:00 pm 10:30 pm	Alex & Thorin Freriks Jeff Almeida & Dave Shogren Dan Bormann & Kaaren Hatlen

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THE CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS GIVEN IN HONOR AND MEMORY OF LOVED ONES We thank everyone who has so generously given the gift of poinsettias to beautify the chancel this Christmas season.

Given By: Ann & Knut Aagaard **In Memory of:** Annie & Gunnar Aagaard, Charlotte, Paul & Jan Heide

Given By: The Adjorlolos **In Memory of:** Ruth & Marvin Boyd; Laurence & Ezueyou Adjorlolo

Given By: Clint & Dawn Bastin In Memory of: Tom McMaster; Barbara & Clinton Bastin

Given by: Robert Berg & family **In Memory of:** Diane Berg (Nana)

Given by: Richard & Kathryn Chester

Given by: Ross & Susan Cook In Memory of: Marion Hamifon & Michael McCullough; Richard & Agnes Cook; Walter & Beverly McCullough

Given by: Nancy Davis **In Memory of:** her husband, Rev. Dr. Charles R. Davis & their daughter, Barbara

Given by: Sally Delvecchio

Given by: The Desilet Family In Memory of: Dennis Pemberton; Roy & Opal Sieck; Des & Elaine Desilet; Gene & May VanAlshine

Given by: Paula Glandon

Given by: Allen & Sandy Glenn **In Honor of:** Our 60th anniversary on 12/28/23 and granddaughter, Emily's marriage to Timothy Johnson on 5/6/2023

Given by: Tracy Harrison In Honor of: Her parents, Lois & Les Tayer

Given by: The Hatlen Family **In Memory of:** Matthew Danforth

Given By: Dave & Donna Hillard **In Honor of:** Nicholas, Brian, Elizabeth, and Erica **Given by:** Marilyn Iverson **In Memory of:** Her beloved husband, Jim, her precious sister, Carol, and her wonderful parents, Ruth & Jack

Given by: Darryl & Debbie Lageson **In Honor of:** Their family

Given by: The Mass Family **In Memory of:** Torrey Carls, Gordonna Cole, Alan Mass & Louis Hoadley

Given by: Nancy & Neil McGee In Memory of: Their parents

Given by: Beth & Gordy Phelps In Honor of: Their granddaughters. Reagan & Marin Rahlfs

Given by: Dave & Judy Richards **In Memory of:** Their parents **In Honor of: Their** children & grandsons

Given by: Sandy & Karl Sailand In Honor of: Their children & grandchildren

Given By: John & Lynn Scoggins In Memory of: Their parents In Honor of: Their children & grandchildren

Given by: Mona & Dave Shogren In Memory of: Arlene & Frank Smathers; George Shogren In Honor of: Emma Shogren

Given by: Marilyn Sides In Memory of: Don Sides

Given by: Roger Steinke In Memory of: Herta & Paul Steinke

Given by: Nora Strothman In Honor of: Family near and far **Given by:** Tim & Barb Thieme In Memory of: Jerry Thieme, Giles Thieme, Keira Thieme, Bob West & Kenny Kasper

Given by: Carsten & Joyce Thode In Memory of: Hank & Frances Rodne, Manfred Thode; In Honor of: Sigrid Thode

Given By: Karen & Ray Thomas In Memory of: Paul Anderson In Honor of: Grandchildren

Given by: Melanie Veazey In Memory of: Phil Jensen In Honor of: Mary Jensen



Mondy, December 25 Christmas Day Merry Christmas! Church office closed

Tuesday, December 26

Wednesday, December 27

Thursday, December 28

Friday, December 29 Church office closed

Saturday, December 30

Sunday, December 31 First Sunday of Christmas10:00 amWorship with Holy Communion

Monday, January 1 Happy New Year!

(The FLC church office will be closed intermittently between Dec. 26 and New Year's day. Please call the office at 425-486-2314 before going in. For pastoral emergencies please call Pastor Berg directly at 509-595-5493)



Starts January 7. 2024 Morship = 9:30 am Education Hour + 10:30 am New Sunday Schedule

SERMON NOTES

Interesting things I heard:

My favorite quote:

Main message:

