

December 31, 2017
First Sunday of Christmas
10:00 AM



First Lutheran Church
BOTHELL

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
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

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WORSHIP NOTES

- + Please sign the white card in the pew rack and hand it to an usher on your way forward for Holy Communion.
- + The service is printed in this bulletin. Some hymns are located in the red hymn book.
- + Hearing enhancement receivers, large print bulletins are available. Feel free to ask an usher for assistance.
- + Our expectation is that children will be in worship. We understand, though, that there are times when your wiggly ones need a distraction. There is a “Pray Space” under the stairs in the inner narthex with soft toys and books. If you desire the nursery ask an usher for directions.
- + Public Wi-Fi password: MartyLuther.
- + If you would like to have a digital copy of the bulletin, go to our website and download the PDF. www.flcbothell.org

Assisting With Today’s Service:

Presiding Minister	Rev. Tor Kristian Berg	Ushers	Tom Agnew & Ryan Stute
Music Director	Lucy Kay Osborne	Communion Assistants	Kendahl Adjorlolo, Kathy Konieczka & Tamara McIntyre
Lector	Stephanie Almeida	Sound Tech	Ann Bormann
Acolyte		Greeter	Tamara McIntyre

Eucharistic Ministry

Every Sunday there are several wooden boxes on the altar. These boxes are our communion kits for our Eucharistic Ministry Team. This team is made up of members of the congregation who take Holy Communion to our shut-ins, those in the hospital and others upon request. They go out two by two, just as Jesus sent his disciples. They pray and bring comfort to those who cannot be with their worshipping community of faith.

GATHERING

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

PRELUDE: *Noel (D'Aquin)*

WELCOME

GATHERING SONG: *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice (ELW 288)*



- 1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
- 2 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
- 3 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;



give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!
now ye need not fear the grave; Je - sus Christ was born to save!



ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.
He has o - pened heav - en's door, and we are blest for - ev - er - more.
Calls you one and calls you all to gain the ev - er - last - ing hall.



Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Glorious God, help us to hear when your chosen voices proclaim the work of your son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns in this world and the next. Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE: *That Boy-Child of Mary* (ELW 293)



That boy - child of Mar - y was born in a sta - ble,



a man - ger his cra - dle in Beth - le - hem.



- 1 What shall we call him, child of the man - ger?
- 2 His name is Je - sus, God ev - er with us,
- 3 How can he save us, how can he help us,
- 4 Gift of the Fa - ther, to hu - man moth - er,



What name is giv - en in Beth - le - hem?
God giv - en for us in Beth - le - hem.
born here a - mong us in Beth - le - hem?
makes him our broth - er in Beth - le - hem.

5 One with the Father,
he is our Savior,
heaven-sent helper
in Bethlehem.

6 Gladly we praise him,
love and adore him,
give ourselves to him
in Bethlehem.

WORD

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

THE WORD: John 1:19-34

¹⁹This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" ²⁰He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." ²¹And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No."

²²Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" ²³He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said.

²⁴Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. ²⁵They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?"

²⁶John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, ²⁷the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." ²⁸This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

²⁹The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" ³⁰This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' ³¹I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." ³²And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. ³³I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' ³⁴And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God."

Word of God,
Word of life.

ANTHEM: *In the First Light (Bob and Phil Kadidlo)*

Kelly Mannon, Vocalist; Ken DeJong, Pianist

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: *There's a Voice in the Wilderness* (ELW 255)



1 There's a voice in the wil - der - ness cry - ing, a
 2 O Je - ru - sa - lem, her - ald good tid - ings, as -
 3 But the word of our Sav - ior is faith - ful, the



call from the ways un - trod: Pre - pare in the des - ert a
 cend to the heights and sing! Pro - claim to a des - o - late
 arm of our God is strong, who stands in the midst of the



high - way, a high - way for our God!
 peo - ple the com - ing of their king.
 na - tions and soon will right the wrong.



The val - leys shall be ex - alt - ed, the
 Like flow'rs of the field we per - ish, like
 Lord, feed your flock like a shep - herd, the



loft - y hills brought low; make straight all the crook - ed
 grass our works de - cay; the pow'r and the pomp of
 lambs so gent - ly hold; in pas - tures of peace now



plac - es where God, our God, may go!
 na - tions shall pass like a dream a - way.
 lead them, and bring them to your fold.

AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We are not alone, we live in God's world.

**We believe in God: who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

We trust in God.

**We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus,
crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.**

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.

We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Gathered in the name of Jesus, let us confess our sin against God and our neighbor.

Silence for self-reflection.

Gracious God,
in Christ Jesus you come among us as light shining in darkness. We confess our failure to welcome this light. Forgive us and renew our hope, so that we may live in the light of your grace, and welcome the truth of Christ the Lord. Amen.

I bring you good news of great joy for all the people: To you is born a Savior, Christ the Lord. Your sins are forgiven in ☐ Jesus' name.
Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Drawn near to God as children and heirs of Christ's promise, we pray for all people of God, for our nation and our world, and for those in need.

For the faith communities of Bothell and for faith communities throughout the world. Help us to see ourselves in our neighbors, especially those who differ from us, and draw us together in common service to those who are hungry, poor, and oppressed. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

For the well-being of the earth as we begin another year entrusted with its care. Give us lively imaginations to see ways to conserve its limited resources,

harness its renewable energies, and conform ourselves to its natural goodness.
Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

For peace among nations, for peace in our homes, and for peace in our hearts.
Urge us to cry out at injustice and inequality among your people until
vindication comes and righteousness prevails. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

For those who wait in the shadow of death, for those who are ill, for those
who struggle to see the future, and for all who lack even their basic needs.
Transform our love toward them with the vision of eyes that have seen the
salvation of God. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

For those who cannot see, for those who cannot hear, for those who have
varied use of their limbs, and for those able to exercise all the senses. Help us
to appreciate the fullness of God's gift of life in our varied abilities, and to
celebrate the diversity that reveals a more complete image of the one who
makes us all family. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

For whom do the people pray?

We give thanks for those who have gone before us in this year and now rest in
you, especially Richard and Brian. Led by Mary and Joseph, Anna and Simeon,
let us live in your praise until the day we depart in your peace. Lord, in your
mercy,
hear our prayer.

Into your outstretched arms, O God, we commend ourselves and all for whom
we pray, trusting in Jesus Christ, the light and life of the world.
Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERTORY HYMN: *Cold December Flies Away* (ELW 299)



1 Cold De - cem - ber flies a - way at the rose - red splen - dor.
2 In the hope - less time of sin shad - ows deep had fall - en.
3 Now the bud has come to bloom, and the world a - wak - ens.



A - pril's crown - ing glo - ry breaks while the whole world won - ders
All the world lay un - der death. Eyes were closed in sleep - ing.
In the lil - y's pur - est flow'r dwells a won - drous fra - grance.



at the ho - ly un - seen pow'r of the tree which bears the
But, when all seemed lost in night, came the sun whose gold - en
And it spreads to all the earth from the mo - ment of its



flow'r. On the bless - ed tree blooms the red - dest flow'r. On the tree blooms the
light brings un - end - ing joy, brings the end - less joy of our hope, high - est
birth; and its beau - ty lives. In the flow'r it lives, in the flow'r, and it



rose here in love's own gar - den, full and strong in glo - ry.
hope, of our hope's bright dawn - ing, Son be - lov'd of heav - en.
spreads in its heav'n - ly bright - ness sweet per - fume de - light - ful.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God with us: You came as a baby to a manger. You slept on straw and greeted shepherds. You come again in bread and wine. Remind us how good you are at blessing ordinary things. And then, through these gifts, help us to bless the lives of others in the strength of your holy name. 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. As our Eucharistic Ministers bring this meal of hope to your people, may it be a nourishment of faith.

Through Christ 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

Joy to the world! The Lord is come. Let every heart receive your Savior.

COMMUNION: *We will receive the body of Christ as gluten-free bread with these or similar words: The body of Christ, given for you. 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 HYMNS:

'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime (ELW 284)

What Child Is This (ELW 296)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

On this day, O God, you gave us Christ the Son to save us. As you sent the one foretold, send us now with good news for all people. Let the gladness of this feast have no end as we share with others the joy that fills us; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

SENDING

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

May Christ, who by his incarnation
has filled us with grace and truth,
give you peace this Christmas and always.
Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG: *Joy to the World* (ELW 267)



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -
4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the



ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -



room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
plains re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his



sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
found, far as, far as the curse is found.
love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

DISMISSAL

Glory to God in the highest!
Peace to God’s people on earth!
Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: From Heaven Above to Earth I Come (W. Held)

January 7, 2018 First Sunday after Epiphany/Baptism of our Lord

John 1:35-51

Come and See the Lamb of God

December 24, 2017 Attendance: 520

General Offerings: \$13,543 Mortgage Fund: \$685

Amount needed per Sunday:

General Offerings: \$9,038 Mortgage Fund: \$1,098

E-Giving Offering cards are available
for you to drop in the plate if you give electronically.
To give now, scan the code to the right.



What is the “Offering?”

“Offerings” in the church service is understood to consist of the bread and the wine for the Lord’s Supper. Offerings have grown to include the goods and the money we give to the Church to assist in its mission and to provide for the assistance of the needy. The act of bringing our gifts of money to the altar helps keep us mindful that we are now sharing in the work of bringing God’s redeeming love to all people.

IN OUR PRAYERS.

*Prayers of sympathy for Sherri Gordon and Michael & Jackie Fairbanks
in the death of Sherri's father, Richard Peterson.*

Our Ministry Partners:

Living Truth Chinese Lutheran Church, Lutheran Disaster Response, Lutheran Immigration & Refugee Services, Lutheran Counseling Network, Lutheran World Relief

Those living with cancer:

Paul Aldrich (Lageson Family friend), **Bill Beasley** (Russel's brother-in-law); **Barbara Bastin** (Clint Bastin's mother), **Debbie Bell** (Renee Markert's cousin), **Michele Berger** (Karey Coble's friend), **Terry Chausee** (Cathy Edwards' son-in-law), **Neal Beachinor** (Paul Desilet's uncle), **Larry & Marcie Clure** (Dan & Sandy Hendricks' friend), **Kim Coleman** (Kris Linderoth's friend), **Joyce Daily** (David Osborne's aunt), **Janice Davidson** (Sandy Flying Cloud's friend), **Patricia Dwonch** (Stephanie Almeida's aunt), **Mikee Epply** (Elodie Ragan's friend), **Mason Gordon** (Curcio Family friend), **Cami Grillo** (member), **Edith Holbrook** (member), **Darryl Lageson** (member), **Tom McMaster** (Dawn Bastin's father), **Mark Nesse** (Darci Desilet's stepfather), **Susan Oja** (Cathy Tanner's friend), **Pam** (Melanie Veazey's cousin), **Kenneth Rapp** (Loretta Rapp's son), **Marvin Richter** (Renee Markert's father), **Richard Robillard** (Ruth Neitzel's brother), **Robin** (Sherrill and Larry Baker's acquaintance), **Audrey Sheffler** (Sherrill Baker's friend), **Jen Shirley** (Curcio family friend), **Sylvia Stevens** (wife of Steve Stevens and Bob Berg's friend), **Sue** (Paula Glandon's friend), **Mary Beth Torgerson** (Cathy Tanner's friend), **Roger Tuck** (Michelle Tuck's brother-in-law), **Kip Van Alstine** (Paul Desilet's uncle), **Joanne Wejak** (Carolyn Becker's sister-in-law) **Danna White** (Cathy Tanner's friend), and **Michael Wilson** (Vicki Kastning's friend).

Those who are ill, have an injury or who are recovering from surgery:

Cathy Edwards (member), **Lewis Filewood** (Marilyn Iverson's friend), **Gloria Groff** (Cathy Edwards' friend), **Dee Onn Hodges** (Bob Berg's friend), **Swede Johnson** (Sherrill & Larry Baker's friend), **Elodie Ragan** (member), **Sharel Sheldrake** (member) & **Connie Wolter** (member).

Special Prayers: Sarah & Ryan (Cathy Edwards' grandchildren)

Those who are homebound or in extended care facilities:

Margie Bannister (member), **Perdy Carlson** (member), **Phyllis Enger** (member), **Ardyce Johnson** (member), **Arlene O'Neall** (Ruth & Mark Neitzel's friend), **Lillian & Lawrence Romaniuk** (Leon Romaniuk's parents), **Eleanor Simonsen** (Lisa Graumlich's mother-in-law), **Joyce Sullivan** (member), **Fran Tazuma** (member) & **Phyllis Watters** (member) .

Please remember to pray for peace in these war torn areas:

Israel/Palestine, Syria, Afghanistan, North Korea, Somalia and Iraq.

Those Serving Our Country:

AIR FORCE: **Tyler Ripley** (Jeanne Koruga's nephew) and **Erin Siebert** (Linda & Joe Siebert's daughter)
ARMY: **Shaun Cunningham** (Cris Sherman's son-in-law), **Lucas Peters** (Jim & Vernita Steege's grandson), **Asis Montalvo** (Adjorlolo family friend)
MARINES: **James Bacon** (Jeanne Koruga's friend) and **Olav Wampler** (Elizabeth & Randall Wampler's son)
NAVY: **Karl Krueger** (Karin Ulvin's husband), **Kelsey Schunk** (Jack Schunk's granddaughter) & **Kyle Warner**(Karen and Paul Gabrielsen's grandson)

***We are honored to be able to pray for your family members and close friends in need.
Our policy is to publish immediate concerns for 2 weeks, unless we hear from you that an illness or situation is ongoing.***

INFORMATION For the Week!

Sunday, December 31, First Sunday of Christmas

9:45 am Living Truth Bible Study
10:00 am Worship
11:00 am Living Truth Chinese Lutheran Church Worship
12:30 pm Living Truth Lunch

Monday, January 1, 2018

New Years Day
Office Closed

Tuesday, January 2

9:30 am Lectionary — *Meet in the library to study next Sunday's Bible text. All are welcome!*
11:00 am Staff Meeting
7:00 pm IT//Communications Committee

Wednesday, January 3

9:15 am Preschool Chapel
10:00 am Living Truth Fellowship
Deborah Circle
11:00 am Worship Team Meeting
12:30 am Preschool Chapel
Preschool Board Meeting

Thursday, January 4

9:00 am Quilters
7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

Friday, January 5

10:00 am Living Truth Basic Beliefs
6:00 Pasta with Pastor make up meal (Full)
7:00 pm Living Truth Bible Study

Saturday, January 6

9:00 am Garden Guild
Altar Guild

Sunday, January 7, Baptism of Our Lord/First Sunday after Epiphany

8:30 am Worship
9:45 am Education Hour
Living Truth Bible Study
11:00 am Worship
Living Truth Chinese Lutheran Church Worship
12:30 pm Living Truth Lunch

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