

Sunday, December 25, 2016  
Christmas Day  
10:00 AM



Artist: He Qi



# 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**  
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**CHRISTMAS DAY**  
**Sunday, December 25, 2016**  
**From Heaven Above**  
**10:00 AM**

**NOTES FOR WORSHIP**

- + Please sign the white card in the pew rack and hand it to an usher on your way forward for Holy Communion.
- + The entire service is printed in this bulletin. Some hymns are located in the red hymn book.
- + Hearing enhancement receivers, large print bulletins, and bulletins for children are available. Feel free to ask an usher for assistance.
- + Though we love having children be a part of our worshipping community, we know that you may wish to have your child in the nursery. Please ask an usher for directions to the nursery.
- + 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](http://www.flcbothell.org)

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME**

**A SERVICE FOR CHRISTMAS DAY**

*Martin Luther based his carol "From heaven above" (ELW 268, LBW 51) on a refrain used for a sixteenth-century singing game. In the game, the song sets up a riddle to be solved. Within the nativity story, who would have proclaimed this text?*

*"From heaven above to earth I come  
to bear good news to every home!  
Glad tidings of great joy I bring  
to all the world, and gladly sing."*

*In the hymn, the stanzas in quotation marks become the words of the angels rejoicing at Jesus' birth, while the other stanzas offer commentary and prayers. By sending Jesus into our world, God answers the riddle of sin and our human condition. We are set free to proclaim with the angels: "Glory to God in highest heaven, who unto us the Son has given."*

## CHRISTMAS PROCLAMATION

Many ages after God created the heavens and the earth,  
when man and woman were formed  
in God's own image;  
long after the great flood, when God set the rainbow  
in the clouds as a sign of the covenant;  
twenty-one centuries from the time of Abraham and Sarah;  
thirteen centuries after Moses led God's people to freedom;  
eleven centuries from the time of Ruth and the judges;  
a thousand years from the anointing of David as king;  
in the sixty-fifth week as Daniel's prophecy takes note;  
in the one hundred and ninety-fourth Olympiad;  
the seven hundred and fifty-second year  
from the founding of the city of Rome;  
the forty-second year of the reign of Octavian Augustus;  
in the sixth age of the world,  
all earth being at peace,  
Jesus Christ, eternal God, Son of the eternal Father,  
willing to hallow the world by his coming in mercy,  
was born of the virgin Mary in Bethlehem of Judea.  
Today is the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
God made flesh.

## GATHERING SONG: *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly* (ELW 276)



- 1 In - fant ho - ly, in - fant low - ly, for his bed a cat - tle stall;
- 2 Flocks were sleep - ing, shep - herds keep - ing vig - il till the morn - ing new



ox - en low - ing, lit - tle know - ing Christ the child is Lord of all.  
saw the glo - ry, heard the sto - ry, tid - ings of a gos - pel true.



Swift - ly wing - ing, an - gels sing - ing, bells are ring - ing, tid - ings bring - ing;  
Thus re - joic - ing, free from sor - row, prais - es voic - ing, greet the mor - row:



Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!  
Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!

## DIALOGUE

Who are these angels who come to earth,  
**bearing the news of the Christ child's birth?**

Who are these shepherds who run to see,  
**and worship the babe on bended knee?**

Who is this child, so small, so slight,  
**of whom the angels sang that night?**

Who is this king, a manger his throne,  
**who humbles himself to make us his own?**

Who is this God who sends a Son  
**into our midst, the promised one?**

## GREETING AND PRAYER

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Son of God sent from heaven above, be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

**Incarnate God, on this Christmas Day we give you thanks for sending your Son to bring light to our darkness. Grant that we, like the angels over Bethlehem, may sing your praises in our hearts and lives. Amen.**

## SONG OF PRAISE: *Away in a Manger* (ELW 278)



1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed,  
2 The cat - tle are low - ing; the ba - by a - wakes,  
3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask you to stay



the lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down his sweet head;  
but lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes.  
close by me for - ev - er and love me, I pray.



the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,  
I love you, Lord Je - sus; look down from the sky  
Bless all the dear chil - dren in your ten - der care



the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.  
and stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.  
and fit us for heav - en, to live with you there.

## WHO ARE THESE ANGELS WHO COME TO EARTH? Luke 2:8-14

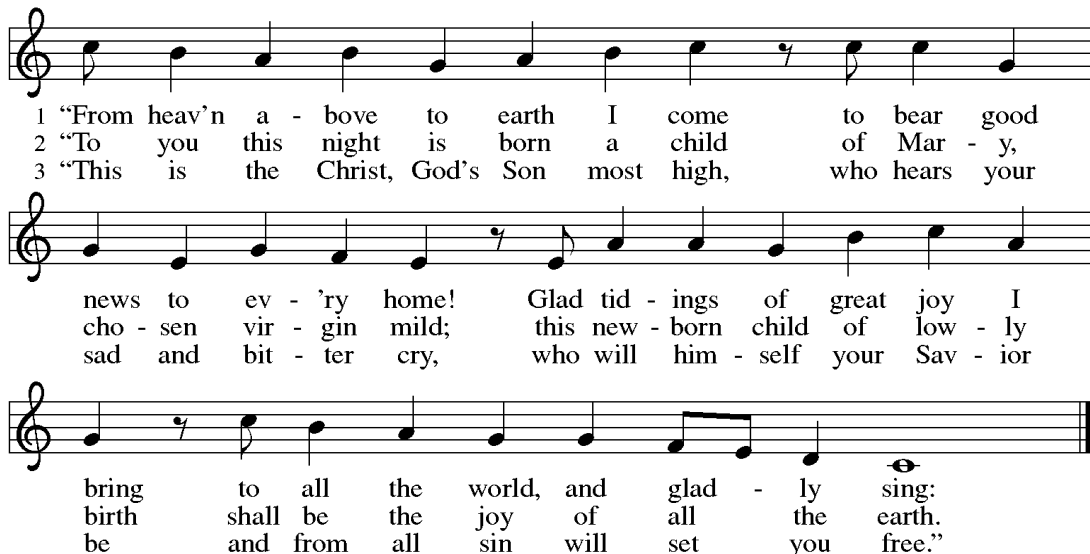
<sup>8</sup>In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup>to you is born this day in the city of David a

Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup>This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

<sup>14</sup>"Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

Glory to God in highest heaven,  
who unto us the Son has given.

*From Heaven Above (ELW 268) sts. 1-3*



1 "From heav'n a - bove to earth I come to bear good  
2 "To you this night is born a child of Mar - y,  
3 "This is the Christ, God's Son most high, who hears your  
news to ev - 'ry home! Glad tid - ings of great joy I  
cho - sen vir - gin mild; this new - born child of low - ly  
sad and bit - ter cry, who will him - self your Sav - ior  
bring to all the world, and glad - ly sing:  
birth shall be the joy of all the earth.  
be and from all sin will set you free."

**WHO ARE THESE SHEPHERDS WHO RUN TO SEE? Luke 2:15-20**

<sup>15</sup>When 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." <sup>16</sup>So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup>When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; <sup>18</sup>and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup>But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup>The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Glory to God in highest heaven,  
who unto us the Son has given.

**Carol : *From Heaven Above* ELW 268, sts. 4-6**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 4 “The blessing that the Father planned<br>the Son holds in his infant hand,<br>that in his kingdom, bright and fair,<br>you may with us his glory share.” | 6 Now let us all with joyful cheer<br>go with the shepherds and draw near<br>to see this wondrous gift of God,<br>the blessed child to us bestowed. |
| 5 “These are the signs that you will see<br>to let you know that it is he:<br>in manger-bed, in swaddling clothes<br>the child who all the earth upholds.” |   |

**WHO IS THIS CHILD, SO SMALL, SO SLIGHT? Hebrews 1:1-4**

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets,  
<sup>2</sup>but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of  
all things, through whom he also created the worlds. <sup>3</sup>He is the reflection of  
God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things  
by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at  
the right hand of the Majesty on high, <sup>4</sup>having become as much superior to  
angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

Glory to God in highest heaven,  
**who unto us the Son has given.**

**Carol : *From Heaven Above* ELW 268, sts. 7-9**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 7 Look, look, dear friends, look over there!<br>What lies within that manger bare?<br>Who is that lovely little one?<br>The baby Jesus, God's dear Son.      | 9 O Lord, you have created all!<br>How did you come to be so small,<br>to sweetly sleep in manger-bed<br>where lowing cattle lately fed? |
| 8 Welcome to earth, O noble Guest,<br>through whom this sinful world is blest!<br>You turned not from our needs away;<br>how can our thanks such live repay? |  |

**WHO IS THIS KING, A MANGER HIS THRONE? Isaiah 9:2-7**

- <sup>2</sup>The people who walked in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
those who lived in a land of deep darkness —  
on them light has shined.
- <sup>3</sup>You 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.  
<sup>4</sup>For 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.  
<sup>5</sup>For all the boots of the tramping warriors  
and all the garments rolled in blood  
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.  
<sup>6</sup>For 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.  
<sup>7</sup>His 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.

Glory to God in highest heaven,  
who unto us the Son has given.

**Carol : *From Heaven Above ELW 268, sts. 10-11***

<p>10 Were earth a thousand times as fair and set with gold and jewels rare, still such a cradle would not do to rock a prince so great as you.</p>	<p>11 For velvets soft and silken stuff you have but hay and straw so rough on which as king so rich and great to be enthroned in humble state.</p>
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**WHO IS THIS GOD, WHO SENDS A SON?** John 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being <sup>4</sup>in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. <sup>9</sup>The true light,

which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

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

<sup>14</sup>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.

**Carol : From Heaven Above ELW 268/LBW 51, sts. 12-14**

12 Ah, dear - est Je - sus, ho - ly child, pre - pare a  
13 My heart for ve - ry joy now leaps; my voice no  
14 "Glo - ry to God in high - est heav'n, who un - to  
bed, soft, un - de - filed, a qui - et cham - ber in my  
long - er si - lence keeps; I too must sing with joy - ful  
us the Son has giv'n." With an - gels sing in pi - ous  
heart, that you and I may nev - er part.  
tongue the sweet - est an - cient cra - dle - song;  
mirth a glad new year to all the earth!

**MEDITATION**

**HYMN OF THE DAY: *Of the Father's Love Begotten* (ELW 295)**

1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten ere the worlds be -  
2 Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, when the vir - gin,  
3 This is he whom seers in old time chant - ed of with  
4 Let the heights of heav'n a - dore him; an - gel hosts, his  
5 Christ, to thee, with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly



gan to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga,  
full of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,  
one ac - cord, whom the voic - es of the proph - ets  
prais - es sing; pow'rs, do - min - ions, bow be - fore him  
Ghost, to thee, hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing



he the source, the end - ing he, of the things that are, that  
bore the Sav - ior of our race, and the babe, the world's re -  
prom - ised in their faith - ful word; now he shines, the long - ex -  
and ex - tol our God and King; let no tongue on earth be  
and un - wea - ried prais - es be: hon - or, glo - ry, and do -



have deem - been, and that fu - ture years shall see,  
pect - er, first re - vealed his sa - cred face,  
si - ed; let cre - a - tion praise its Lord  
min - lent, ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring  
ion, and e - ter - nal vic - to - ry



ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
ev - er - more and ev - er - more! A - men.

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Gracious God, you come from heaven above into the midst of our world.  
**Fill our hearts with the joy of the angels at your birth.**

You come from heaven above to the lowliest of human conditions.  
**Watch over those in need, the sick, the hungry, the grieving.**

You come from heaven above to walk the way of the cross.  
**Guide us to follow your path of forgiveness, mercy, and peace.**

You come from heaven above to become flesh and live among us.  
**May we see your glory, full of grace and truth. Amen.**

## PEACE

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

## MEAL

## OFFERING

### OFFERTORY SONG: *Love Has Come* (ELW 292)



- 1 Love has come— a light in the dark - ness! Love shines forth in the
- 2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der. Love is God now a -
- 3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us! Love is life ev - er -



Beth - le - hem skies. See, all heav - en has come to pro - claim it;  
sleep in the hay. See the glow in the eyes of his moth - er;  
last - ing and free. Love is Je - sus with - in and a - mong us.



hear how their song of joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to  
what is the name her heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the  
Love is the peace our hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the



you, a Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.  
name she whis - pers; Love! Love! Je - sus, Im - man - u - el.  
gift of Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Good and loving God, we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be a blessing for others. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **DIALOGUE**

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 One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.

Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,  
the Word made flesh.

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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

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.

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Emmanuel! God is with us, come and see!

**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 yellow pew card.*

## COMMUNION CAROLS:

*The Bells of Christmas (ELW 298)*

*Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming (ELW 272)*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Radiant God, with our eyes we have seen your salvation, and in this meal we have feasted on your grace. May your Word take flesh in us, that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## BLESSING

May the God who comes from heaven above  
be born in your hearts and lives this day and always.  
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

Go in peace. Christ is with us.  
Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE

**Assisting With Today's Service:**

<b>Presiding Minister:</b>	Rev. Tor Kristian Berg
<b>Organist:</b>	Lucy Kay Osborne
<b>Lector:</b>	Mark Hatlen
<b>Acolyte:</b>	
<b>Communion Assistants:</b>	Susan Berg
<b>Sound Tech:</b>	
<b>Ushers:</b>	Allen Glenn

**INFORMATION For the Week!**

**Sunday, December 25 First Sunday of Christmas**

**Merry Christmas!**

10:00 am Christmas Day Worship

**Monday, December 26**

Church Office Closed

**Wednesday, December 28**

1:00 pm Youth & Returning College Students Lunch at Pen Thai—***Celebrate & reconnect with friends!***

3:00 pm FLC Young Adult, College Students & Youth Party—***Reunite with old friends at Three Lions' Pub on Main Street in Bothell. Over 21 may sit anywhere; under 21 must sit in designated area.***

**Sunday, January 1**

10:00 am Worship with Holy Communion  
No Education Hour

**Monday, January 2**

Church Office Closed

**(The FLC church office will be closed intermittently between Dec. 23 and Jan. 3. Please call the office at 425-486-2314 before going in.)**