December 18, 2016 Fourth Sunday of Advent 8:30 AM





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 Godgiven differences. We pledge that we will strive to live as a reconciling people, in our life together and in our outreach to the world.

PastorRev. Tor Kristian Berg tberg@flcbothell.org

Director of REACH Ministries Roger Steinke rsteinke@flcbothell.org

Office Manager Kristin Smith ksmith@flcbothell.org



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WORSHIP

- + 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

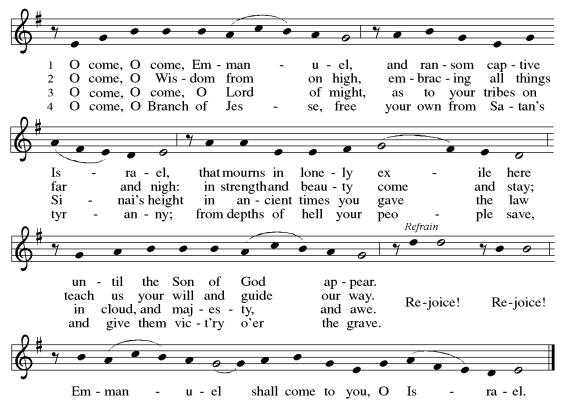
GATHERING

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

PRELUDE: Kingsfold (D. Cherwein)

WELCOME

GATHERING SONG: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (ELW 257)



- 5 O come, O Key of David, come, and open wide our heav'nly home; make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery. *Refrain*
- O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer;
 O Sun of justice, now draw near.
 Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
 and death's dark shadow put to flight. Refrain
- 7 O come, O King of nations, come, O Cornerstone that binds in one: refresh the hearts that long for you; restore the broken, make us new. Refrain
- 8 O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. *Refrain*

GREETING

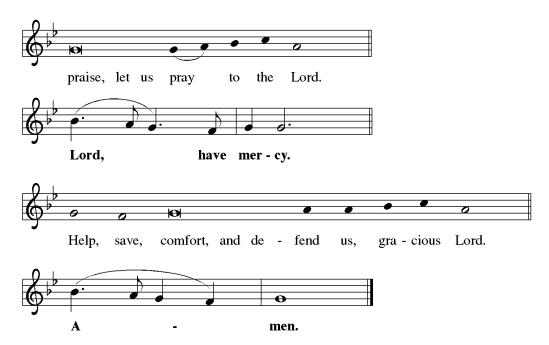
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

KYRIE



For this ho - ly

house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Gracious God, you came into the world like the rest of us - hungry for the milk of life. You came into the world like the rest of us - yearning for the protection of your mother's arms. You came into the world like the rest of us - in a world yearning for peace. Deliver us from hunger. Protect us from violence. Make us workers for peace. Amen.

ADVENT CANDLE HYMN: Light A Candle Bright and Tall Light a candle bright and tall For a LOVE which knows no end. Love that comes to one and all. Fear and hatred to upend. Shine within our hearts today Come, O Love, to us, we pray.

ADVENT PRAYER

You teach us, O God, that <u>LOVE</u> can change the world. We light this second candle on the Advent wreathe remembering the love you have shown your people.

(The candle is lit)

We place the image of Joseph to remind us to not be afraid to embrace love, the donkey and cow as symbols that this love includes your entire creation. Come Lord Jesus.

Amen.

ADVENT CANDLE HYMN REPRISE

ANTHEM: Lo, How a Rose E're Blooming (Michael Praetorius)
Connie Wolter, Guitar; Lucy Kay Osborne, Piano

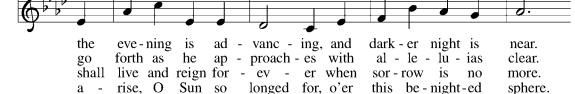
WORD

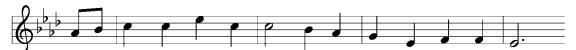
God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

WELCOMING THE WORD: Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers (ELW 244) v. 4



- 1 Re joice, re joice, be liev ers, and let your lights ap pear;
- 2 The watch-ers on the moun-tain pro-claim the bride-groom near;
- 3 The saints, who here in pa tience their cross and suf f'rings bore,
- 4 Our hope and ex pec ta tion, O Je sus, now ap pear;





The bride-groom is a - ris - ing and soon is draw-ing nigh. gates wide o - pen The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; the stand. round the throne of Lamb they shall be glo - ry the hold: With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see



Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; at mid - night comes the cry. A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; the bride-groom is at hand. in tri - umph cast be - fore him their di - a - dems of gold. the day of earth's re - demp - tion that sets your peo - ple free!

THE WORD: Luke 1:26-49

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." ²⁹But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. 32He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." ³⁴Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" ³⁵The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁶And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

³⁹In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, ⁴⁰where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit ⁴²and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. ⁴³And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? ⁴⁴For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

⁴⁶And Mary said,

"My soul magnifies the Lord,

⁴⁷and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

⁴⁸for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.

Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;

⁴⁹ for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name.

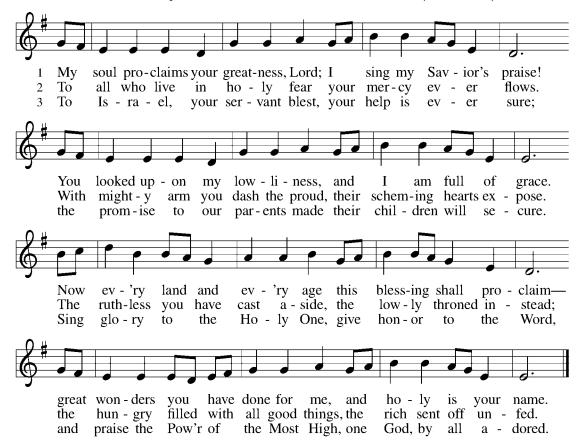
Word of God, word of life.

CHILDREN'S SERMON:

Roger Steinke, Director of REACH Ministries

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness (ELW 251)



APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

As we anticipate the fullness of the presence of Christ, we join with the church throughout the world, praying for all who are in need.

For the church universal and all servants of the gospel, for poets and artists, for musicians and preachers, and for theologians and teachers; that all proclaim that God is with us in Christ, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For all plants and animals, seas and skies, snow and rain, and all of God's marvels; that all of creation grow and thrive as we bless, protect, and use with care what God has made, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For the nations and those in authority, for peace and justice throughout the whole world, and for those who advocate on behalf of others; that all in positions of leadership choose what is good for the community, let us pray. Have mercy, O God.

For the thirsty and hungry, the weak and fearful, those in childbirth, those who mourn, and the sick (*especially*); that they know Christ the Anointed One who dries up every tear and comforts those who suffer, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For those who travel near and far, for those who prepare our congregation for worship and celebration, and for those who gather around word and sacrament; that all experience welcome and refreshment, let us pray. Have mercy, O God.

For whom do the people pray?

In thanksgiving for the saints who have died and are now at rest; that the witness of their faith point us to the promises of grace and resurrection in Christ, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, those spoken aloud and those known only to you, and grant us peace through Jesus Christ, our coming Savior.

Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Let us prepare the way of the Lord by confessing our sin against God and neighbor.

Silence for self-reflection.

God of all time,

we confess that we have not prepared for your merciful reign among us. We ignore our neighbors in need and fail in the labor of justice and peace. In your mercy forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your light and to seek the things that will endure until Christ comes again in glory. Amen.

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God.

In + Jesus Christ your sins are forgiven and all things are made new. Rejoice in this good news!

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: Veni Emmanuel (W. Held)

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Savior of the nations, come. Make your home here in us. Feed us with your love, that our faith shine ever new and our lives reveal your light. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

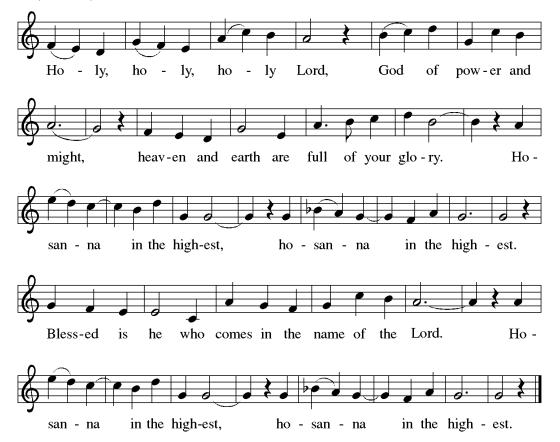
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, the Beginning and the End, our Salvation and our Hope, we praise you for creating a world of order and beauty. When we brought on chaos, cruelty and despair, you sent the prophets to proclaim your justice and mercy. At this end of the ages your Son Jesus came to bring us your love and to heal all the suffering world.

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 life, death, and resurrection, we await his coming again in righteousness and peace.

Send your Spirit on us and on this bread and wine we share: strengthen our faith, increase our hope, and bring to birth the justice and joy of your Son.

Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are sick, homebound, and imprisoned.

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

Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you. Share in the feast of salvation.

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 from a pouring chalice 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 HYMNS:

Comfort, Comfort Now My People (ELW 256) Once in Royal David's City (ELW 269)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

God for whom we wait, you come to us in the broken bread and the cup we share. Make us ready always to welcome Christ into our hearts, and send us forth to be your people in the world, announcing your coming among us in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

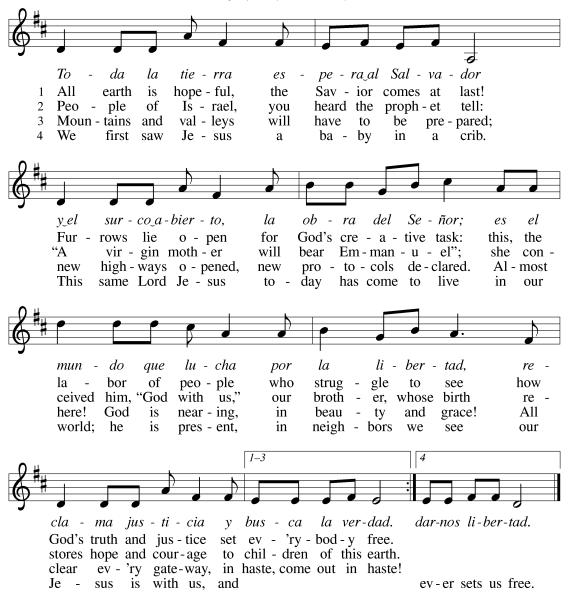
BLESSING

May Christ, the Sun of righteousness, shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path.

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG: All Earth Is Hopeful (ELW 266)



DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: Comfort, Comfort Ye My People (D. Johnson)

Assisting With Today's Service:

Organ	Lucy Kay Osborne	Ushers	Chris Cardwell & Mark Neitzel
Choir Director	Sarah Moran	Communion Assistants	Dawn Bastin, Mary Cardwell & Ruth Neitzel
Lector	David Osborne	Sound Tech	Jacky Schnarre
Acolyte	Benjamin & Levi Schnarre	Greeter	Clint Bastin

Eucharistic Ministry

Every Sunday there are several wood 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 out. They pray and bring comfort to those who cannot be with their worshipping community of faith.

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



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 Curtis Koger and family in the death of his brother, Rev. Larry Koger.

Our Ministry Partners:

Living Truth Chinese Lutheran Church, Lutheran Disaster Response, Lutheran Immigration & Refugee Services and Texas-Louisianna Gulf Coast Synod—Flooding

Those living with cancer:

Paul Aldrich (Lageson Family friend), Carol Angello (Bob & Phyllis Watters' friend), Erika Beers (member), Danna (Cathy Tanner's friend), Neal Beachinor (Paul Desilet's uncle), Janet Berg (Pastor and Susan Berg's sister-in-law), Owen Carter (Lisa Hamilton's friend), Lynn Crutcher (Busch family friend), Joyce Daily (David Osborne's aunt), Janice Davidson (Sandy Flying Cloud's friend), Pam Davis (Phelps family friend). Craig Decker (Judy & Dave Richards' friend), Patricia Dwonch (Stephanie Almeida's aunt), Sandra Glenn (member), Mason Gordon (Curcio Family friend), Jan Gregersen (Nicole Thomas' friend),), Cami Grillo (member), Phyllis Hoefer (Marlis Pehling's friend), Tao Hong (Joy Fu's husband), Bernie Jenkins (Jane King's friend), Edna Kastning (member), Lee Larson (Beth Phelps' cousin), Marcella (Benson family friend), Roy McMullen (Cathy Tanner's friend), Bruce Niermeyer (Cook family friend), Marvin Richter (Renee Markert's father), Bill Schenk (Melanie Veazey's cousin), Audrey Sheffler (Sherrill Baker's friend), Heather Smith (Cami Grillo's niece), Dan Thomson (Jane King's friend), Joanne Wejak (Carolyn Becker's sister-in-law), Michael Wilson (Vicki Kastning's friend) and Darlene Zrust (Andrea Faubion's mother)

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

Jay Arndtson (member), Margie Benson (member), Isabel de Jesus Congdon (Sue Toyoda's friend), Jacquie & Dick Craft (Thieme family friends), Rachel & Jeff Danforth (member), Stephanie Dishneau (Carlene & Sherm Russell's daughter), Cathy Edwards (member), Jess Faubion (member), Sherri Gordon (regular visitor), Marge Gonyea (member), Bernard (Buck) Kelly (Betty Kelly's husband), Annie McCracken (member), Melissa (Judy Richards' friend), John Peterson (Val Cole's father), Michael Preston (Tanya Preston's husband), Mary Riley (Donella Robbins' friend), Ryan & Sarah (Cathy Edwards' grandchildren), Karishma Skjonsby (member), Jeff Smeck (Mark Neitzel's friend), Joyce Sullivan (member), Tina (Dawn Bastin's sister), Gordon Tibbetts (Sherrill Baker's friend), Darlene Toycen (Anne & Tom Larsen's friend), Heidi Van Doren (member), Phyllis Watters (member) and Donna White (Cathy Tanner's friend).

Those who are homebound or in extended care facilities:

Perdy Carlson (member), Claire (Sue Ebert's mother), Phyllis Enger (member), Ardyce Johnson (member), Carol Nelson (member), Erik Olson (member), Fran Tazuma (member), Helen Young (member) and Roger Zimmerman (Connie Wolter's brother)

Special Prayers: Sarah & Mark Joplin (Kathy and Dick Chester's daughter & son-in-law)

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

Israel/Palestine, Syria, Afghanistan, Irag, and those nations battling Boko Haram.

Those Serving Our Country:

AIR FORCE: Tyler Ripley (Jeanne Koruga's nephew) and Erin Siebert (Linda & Joe Siebert's daughter) ARMY: Christopher Field (Richard & Judy Edmonds' grandson) and Lucas Peters (Jim & Vernita Steege's grandson)

MARINES: James Bacon (Jeanne Koruga's friend), Olav Wampler (Elizabeth & Randall Wampler's son) and Luke Yandell (Annie McCracken's grandson)

NAVY: Karl Krueger (Karin Ulvin's friend). Toby Pickens (Jean Pickens' grandson), Kelsey Schunk (Jack Schunk's granddaughter)

> December 24, 2016 Christmas Eve Luke 2:1-20 Birth of Jesus

<u>December 25, 2016 Christmas Day</u> Shepherds Visit Luke 2:8-20

Weekly Financial Report

December 11, 2016 Attendance: 186

General Offerings: \$11,458 Mortgage Fund: \$1,492

Amount needed per Sunday:

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

INFORMATION For the Week!

Sunday, December 18 Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:30 am Worship

9:45 am Sunday School Children's Program in the Sanctuary—All are welcome!

11:00 am Worship

12:30 pm Living Truth Chinese Lutheran Church Worship 4:00 pm Christmas Caroling Party—*All are invited!*

Monday, December 19

Pastor Berg's Sabbath

6:30 pm Hannah Circle

Tuesday, December 20

9:30 am Lectionary—Meet in the library to study next Sunday's Bible text. All are welcome!

11:00 am Staff Meeting

6:00 pm Personnel Committee

7:00 pm Church Council

Wednesday, December 21

10:00 am Rebecca Circle

Peace By Piece Sewing

7:00 pm The Longest Night Worship Service—A worship service for those who struggle this

time of year. Song. Candlelight. Silence. Prayer.

Thursday, December 22

9:00 am Quilters

7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir

Friday, December 23

Church Office Closed

Saturday, December 24 Christmas Eve

5:00 pm Worship with Candlelight and Holy Communion
7:00 pm Worship with Candlelight and Holy Communion
10:30 pm Worship with Candlelight and Holy Communion

Sunday, December 25 Christmas Day

10:00 am Worship

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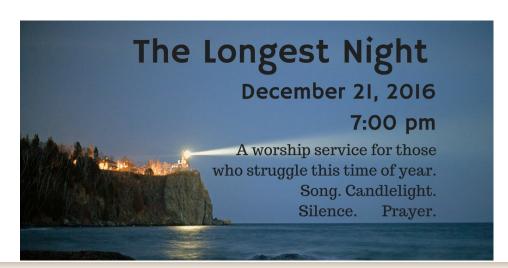
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SERMON NOTES

Interesting things I heard:
My favorite quote:
Main message:
At First Lutheran God calls us to:
CARE for one another in community, GROW in faith and discipleship,
SERVE the needs of a broken world; and in all we do,

PROCLAIM the love and saving grace of Jesus Christ.



Freed&RENEWED in Christ Stars of God's GRACE IN ACTION

