



Preparation for Worship:

Like a child excited for Christmas morning, may I always be eager to receive the gift of your love, O Lord.

Please stand as you are able* **Bold Items read in unison

GATHERING *We come together to worship God*

Welcome and Announcements

Invocation

Christmas Prayer & Lighting of the Christ Candle **O Heavenly Father, we thank You, that out of Your great goodness and mercy You sent Your only-begotten Son to be born in the flesh, that we, through Him, might be redeemed from sin and everlasting death. We ask that You would enlighten our hearts, that we may be truly thankful for His precious incarnation and birth, in order that we may be comforted by this truth, in all times of trial and temptation, and in the end, be saved with an everlasting salvation. In the name of Jesus Christ, Our Lord and Savior, Amen.**

* Opening Hymn – *From Heaven Above to Earth I Come* Red **#27**

Communion Exhortation

Confession of Sin: **Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess to You that we are by nature sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed. Therefore, we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy and ask You for Christ's sake, grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to eternal life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Response: (sung, #6) **Re-pent, the gracious call be-lieve; Haste, His for-give-ness to re-ceive. The Prince of Life, in-car-nate Word, Life and sal-va-tion can af-ford.**

Declaration of Grace

WORD *We seek guidance from God's Word*

- Isaiah 7:10-14 Old Testament
- Psalms 98 Responsive Reading
- * Luke 2:8-20 * Gospel

[Christmas Offering at FA – All Nations Family Center unless otherwise noted]

*Offertory (sung, p. 33 for melody) **Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence: and take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Your salvation: and uphold me with Your free Spirit.**

Hymn – *What Child Is This?* Red **#26**

Titus 3:4-7 Epistle

Sermon – *A Savior Has Been Born* Pastor Barry Nelson

Hymn – *O Come All Ye Faithful* Red **#19**

MEAL *The Table of Our Lord*

Holy Communion **p. 35-38**

Nunc Dimittis: **Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss your servant in peace. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all nations: a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be. Amen.**

SENDING *We go out to live in & share God's Word*

* Closing Hymn – *All My Heart This Night Rejoices* Red **#30**

* Benediction & Doxology: (sung, p. 24 for melody) **Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; Praise Him, all crea-tures here be-low; Praise Him a-bove, ye heaven-ly host: Praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. A-men.**

* Dismissal L: Go in Peace, and Serve the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

Moments of Incarnation

The wonder of the infinite-personal God is displayed, more than anywhere else, in the Incarnation. Nothing can prepare us for the birth of God: a Jewish boy with dark brown curly hair born in the fall or winter of 5 B.C. in the city of Bethlehem in the Roman province of Judea in western Asia.

It is so particular it staggers the imagination. God found a parking spot, a specific place and time where his love would touch our world. [Similarly,] prayer is a moment of incarnation — God with us. God involved in the details of my life.

—Paul E. Miller, *A Praying Life*



This Week in the Parish - December 25 – 31

SUNDAY Maurice Bueber & the Happy Memories Band
9:00 am Hope Worship
10:45 am First American Worship

Merry Christmas! Welcome to Christmas Day worship! We rejoice that “God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, ... [not] to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him” (John 3:16-17). Guests, please sign the book in the narthex.

Our time of prayer during our corporate worship service is very important. To maintain a current prayer list, requests for non-members will be printed in the bulletin for three weeks. For additional time, please send an update to Pastor Barry. New additions will be underlined, and those scheduled to come off the next week will be in italics.

Health Needs of our Members: Raymond Anderson. Sandy Baier. Wayne Bietz. Allan Hale. Dawsyn Johnston.

Health Needs: Linda Nelson (mother of Pastor Barry).

Sympathy: Prayers for the family & friends of Roy Isaak (former member of First American) and Ed Pickar (husband of Pinky Huether’s cousin.)



“May God give you peace with yourselves;
may he give you good will towards all your friends, your enemies and your
neighbors; and may he give you grace to give glory to God in the highest.”

—Charles H. Spurgeon

Tripp-Delmont Parish + Association of Free Lutheran Churches
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Today's Readings

December 25, 2023

Christmas Day

Old Testament

Isaiah 7:10-14

The LORD spoke to Ahaz, ¹¹ “Ask the LORD your God for a sign, whether in the deepest depths or in the highest heights.” ¹² But Ahaz said, “I will not ask; I will not put the LORD to the test.” ¹³ Then Isaiah said, “Hear now, you house of David! Is it not enough to try the patience of humans? Will you try the patience of my God also? ¹⁴ Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.

Psalm 98

- ¹ Sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things;
his right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.
- ² **The LORD has made his salvation known
and revealed his righteousness to the nations.**
- ³ He has remembered his love and his faithfulness to Israel;
all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.
- ⁴ **Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth,
burst into jubilant song with music;**
- ⁵ make music to the LORD with the harp,
with the harp and the sound of singing,
- ⁶ **with trumpets and the blast of the ram's horn—
shout for joy before the LORD, the King.**
- ⁷ Let the sea resound, and everything in it, the world,
and all who live in it.
- ⁸ **Let the rivers clap their hands,
let the mountains sing together for joy;**
- ⁹ let them sing before the LORD, for he comes to judge the earth.
He will judge the world in righteousness and the peoples with equity.

Epistle

Titus 3:4-7

⁴ But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, ⁵ he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷ so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel

Luke 2:8-20

⁸ And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. ¹¹ Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.” ¹³ Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, ¹⁴ “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.” ¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.” ¹⁶ So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

** Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord. * C: Praise to You, O Christ.*

Titus 3:4-7
"A Savior Is Born"

December 25, 2023



Advent & Christmas 2023

1. Who Is This Savior?

2. What Has He Done?

3. Why Has He Done This?

He Will Be Called

Sunday Morning Services

Online – FAHope.org

Isaiah 64:1-9

Mighty God

Online – FAHope.org

Mark 1:1-8

Prince of Peace

Online – FAHope.org

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Wonderful Counselor

Online – FAHope.org

2 Samuel 7:1-11,16

Everlasting Father

Special Services

For Unto Us

Advent Service at Hope

Galatians 4:4-7

A Child Is Born

Online at FAHope.org

Advent Service at First Am.

John 3:16-21

A Son Is Given

Online at FAHope.org

Carol & Candlelight Service at

First American

Isaiah 9:2-7

A Ruler Shall Come

Online at FAHope.org

Christmas Day

Titus 3:4-7

A Savior Has Been Born

Monday, Dec. 25

Christmas Programs

First American:

Online at FAHope.org

Hope:

Online at FAHope.org

