

Apostles' Creed: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit; born of the virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and is seated on the right hand of God the Father Almighty, from where He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; the Holy Christian Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Narrators: Leah Dewald; Kinley Werning

[Sunday School] From heav'n above, [Congr.] **To earth in love!**

Hymn – From Heaven Above to Earth I Come

**(7) Glory to God in highest heav'n; Who unto us His Son has giv'n!
While angels sing with pious mirth; A glad new year to all the earth.**

Responsive Reading:

[Leader] From heaven above, [Congr] **The angels sing.**

[L] On earth below, [C] **Our praises bring.**

[L] Our Lord has come, [C] **With us to dwell.**

[L] Now we go out: [C] **Good News to tell!**

[L] The angels gave [Sunday School] Good News to tell!

[L] The shepherds ran [Sunday School] Good News to tell!

[L] Now we go out: [C] **Good News to tell!**

* Christmas Prayer (ALL): **Father in Heaven, You sent Your Son to earth to be our Savior. You sent the angels down to tell the Good News. You sent the shepherds out to tell the Good News. And You send us now to tell the Good News. Help us share the message of Your love throughout the world. In His name we pray. Amen.**

* Benediction

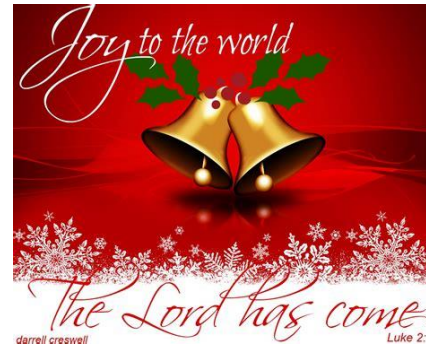
* Recessional Hymn (All) – Go Tell It on the Mountain

**(Refrain:) Go tell it on the mountain, Over the hills and ev'rywhere:
Go tell it on the mountain, That Jesus Christ is born!**

**(1) While shepherds kept their watching, O'er silent flocks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens, There shone a holy light. (Refrain)**

**(2) The shepherds feared and trembled, When, lo, above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus, That hailed our Savior's birth. (Refrain)**

**(3) Down in a lonely manger, The humble Christ was born;
And God sent us salvation, That blessed Christmas morn. (Refrain)**



First American Lutheran Church 2023 Sunday School Christmas Program

*Please stand as you are able; **Bold**
Items: Congregation

Welcome/Announcements

Processional Hymn – Angels We Have Heard on High

**(1) Angels we have heard on high, Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply, Echoing their joyous strains.**

Refrain: Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.

**(2) Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be, Which inspire your heav'nly song? (Refrain)**

(Verse 3) – Sunday School (**Congregation: Refrain**)

Invocation/Responsive Reading:

[Leader] From heaven above, [Congr] **The angels sing.**

[L] On earth below, [C] **Our praises bring.**

[L] Our Lord has come, [C] **With us to dwell.**

[L] Now we go out: [C] **Good News to tell!**

Hymn – What Child Is This?

(Verse 1) – Sunday School

**(2) Why lies He in such mean estate, Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here, The silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce Him through, The cross be borne for me, for you;
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The babe, the son of Mary!**

**(3) So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh; Come, peasant, king, to own
Him. The King of kings salvation brings; Let loving hearts enthrone Him.
Raise, raise the song on high; The virgin sings her lullaby;
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, The babe, the son of Mary!**

Christmas Meditation – Pastor Barry Nelson

Offering/Prayers of the Church (P: Lord in Your mercy C: Hear our prayer.)

From Heaven Above

Scene 1: The Birth of Jesus

Narrators: Leah Dewald; Kinley Werning

Hymn – Away in a Manger

**(1) Away in a manger, No crib for His bed.
The little Lord Jesus, Laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the sky, Looked down where He lay.
The little Lord Jesus, Asleep on the hay.**

**(2) The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes.
I love Thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.**

**(3) Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
And take us to heaven to live with Thee there.**

Sunday School Action Reading – Jill & Kristie's Classes
[Sunday School] From heav'n above, [Congr.] **To earth in love!**

Hymn – From Heaven Above to Earth I Come

(Verse 1) – Sunday School

**(2) To you this night is born a child, Of Mary, chosen virgin mild;
This little child of lowly birth, Shall be the joy of all the earth.**

Scene 2: Angels Appear to the Shepherds

Narrators: Aaron Nelson; Declyn Schmidt

Hymn – O Come, All Ye Faithful

**(1) O Come, All Ye Faithful; Joyful and triumphant!
O Come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem.
Come and behold Him, Born the King of Angels.**

**(Refrain) O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord!**

**(2) Highest, most holy, Light of Light eternal,
Born of a virgin, a mortal He comes;
Son of the Father, Now in flesh appearing! (Refrain)**

**(3) Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation;
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above!
Glory to God, In the highest! (Refrain)**

Sunday School Reading – Sam's Class

[Sunday School] From heav'n above, [Congr.] **To earth in love!**

Hymn – From Heaven Above to Earth I Come

(Verse 3) – Sunday School

**(4) How glad we'll be to find it so! Then with the shepherds let us go
To see what God for us has done, In sending us His own dear Son.**

Scene 3: Shepherds Go to Bethlehem

Narrators: Brileigh Ziegler; Gabriel Nelson

Song – What a Glorious Night – Sunday School

Sunday School Reading – Jon's Class

[Sunday School] From heav'n above, [Congr.] **To earth in love!**

Hymn – From Heaven Above to Earth I Come

(Verse 5) – Sunday School

**(6) My heart for very joy must leap; My lips no more can silence keep.
I, too, must sing with joyful tongue; That sweetest ancient cradlesong.**

Hymn – Little Children, Can You Tell?

**(1) Little children, can you tell, Do you know the story well,
Ev'ry girl and ev'ry boy, Why the angels sing for joy
On the Christmas morning?**

**(2) Yes, we know the story well; Listen now, and hear us tell,
Ev'ry girl and ev'ry boy, Why the angels sing for joy
On the Christmas morning.**

**(3) For a little Babe that day, Cradled in a manger lay.
Born on earth our Lord to be; This the wond'ring angels see
On the Christmas morning.**

Scene 4: Nativity & Confession of Faith

Nativity Cast: Mary – Brileigh Ziegler; Joseph – Declyn Schmidt
Angels – Aaron Nelson, Amelia Meyer, Corra Jensen, Gabriel Nelson, Khloe Hoff, Kinley Werning, Leah Dewald, Oakley Wynia; Shepherds/Wisemen – Adriana Bueber, Camden Ziegler, Jace Ziegler, Kacynn Bietz, Oliver Schmidt, Rhett Ziegler; Animals – Audrey Eggebraaten, Austyn Jo Ziegler, Conner Bietz, Cort Jensen, Elsa Ziegler, Emery Eggebraaten, Kelsey Bietz, Meyer Peskey, Nash Johnston, Ryder Wynia, Wyatt Bietz.

This Week in the Parish - December 17 - 25

TODAY!	10:00am	Packing Cheer Sacks at Hope
WEDNESDAY	7:30 pm	First Am. WMF w/Potluck & cookie exchange
THURSDAY		Newsletter Deadline!
SUNDAY	9:00 am	Hope Worship
	9:30 am	First American Sunday School
	10: 00am	Hope Sunday School
	10:45 am	First American Worship
	6:00 pm	Sunday School Christmas Program at Hope
	7:30 pm	Carol & Candlelight Service at First American
CHRISTMAS DAY	9:00 am	Hope Worship with Holy Communion
	10:45 am	First American Worship with Holy Communion

Rejoicing in your presence & gifts – December 10, 2023

First American: General—\$1580. Benevolence—\$42. Sunday School—\$17. AFLC Home Missions—\$25. The SON Network-Pastor Scheiermann—\$100. Budget per Sunday—\$1662

Welcome to what some branches of the Christian church call Gaudete, or Rejoice, Sunday. May we find joy in worshiping God and anticipating the celebration of Christ's birth. 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). Ed Pickar (husband of Pinky Huether's cousin).

Sympathy: Prayers for the family & friends of *Judy Brown* (Tripp community) and Roy Isaak (former member of First American).

Birthdays: 18 Howard Friederich. 19 Glen Dewald, Wilma Herr. 22 Melissa Schmidt. 23 Drew Kurtz.

Anniversaries: 14 Logan & Jordan Albers. 21 Andrew & Whitney Schaeffer.

AFLC Churches: Our Savior's Lutheran, Patterson, CA; Trinity Free Lutheran, Bemidji, MN; Faith Free Lutheran, Brockton, MT.

Mission: Safe Place of Eastern SD, Mitchell, SD

Our members in Care Centers: Avera Bormann Manor in Parkston: Elmer Bietz
Avera Weskota Manor in Wessington Springs: Lorene Jerke
Freeman Mennonite Assisted Living: Dorothy Friman
Good Samaritan Society-Scotland: Rose Prien
Menno-Olivet Care Center: Elvera Friederich



Advent & Christmas 2023

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

December 17 (Hope Only)

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Wonderful Counselor

December 24 – Christmas Eve

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

Christmas Eve, 7:30 pm

Christmas Day

Titus 3:4-7

A Savior Has Been Born

Monday, Dec. 25

Christmas Programs

First American:

Sun, Dec. 17th, 10:45 a.m.

Hope:

Christmas Eve, 6:00 p.m.

