



Faith Lutheran Church

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FAITHLUTHERANCHURCH.ORG



ST. ANDREW'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Empowered by God, we are instruments of the Holy Spirit's passion to grow in our faith, support each other with a sense of belonging, and by sharing Jesus' love by being good neighbors in the community.

Guided by the Spirit, we share the love of Jesus and walk with our community.

Sunday, December 20, 2020 4th Sunday of Advent

We enter today into the 4th and last Sunday of Advent. The waiting period of preparing our hearts and minds for the birth of Christ is coming to an end. However, Christmas isn't here yet, we are still waiting! The 4th Sunday of Advent brings the wonderful, hoped for theme of "Love!" We have had Hope, Peace, Joy, and now Love. The popular wedding verse from First Corinthians "now these three remain faith, hope and love. The greatest of these is love!" May you feel God's deepest love as we move closer to Christmas.

Our Gospel lesson today from Luke chapter 2 tells of one of the most famous Bible verses ever! The angel Gabriel visits Mary to announce that she will be with child, and to name the child Jesus, because he will save us from our sins! And how does Mary respond? "Let it be!" This is our response as well to God's call in this last week of Advent. In this time of waiting and preparing our hearts for Christmas! "Let it be!" Similar to that famous Beatles song by the same name!

Let it be, oh God, as we have no control. Let it be, oh, God as we have no control and life is not up to me! And then Paul winds up his Book of Romans, in our second lesson, with this same theme: "Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to the Gospel...of Jesus Christ...to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever. Amen! (Romans 16: 25-27)



INTRODUCTION and WELCOME

God keeps the promise made to David to give him an everlasting throne. The angel tells Mary that God will give David's throne to her son Jesus. She is perplexed by Gabriel's greeting and by the news of her coming pregnancy, but she is able still to say, "Count me in." We who know that Jesus is called king only as he is executed still find it a mystery hard to fathom, but with Mary today we hear the news of what God is up to and say, "Count us in."

GATHERING

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

Lighting the Fourth Advent Candle

Advent is a time of waiting; for the miracle of Christmas born anew into our hearts and lives in new and refreshing ways.

Advent reminds us that we are also waiting for God to come to us, God in the form of the baby Jesus, who lived and died and rose for us. We wait for God, who will come again in a new and surprising way. We light the fourth candle to remind us to wait.

(The first, second, third and fourth candle is lit)

Candle Lighting Hymn

“Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah”

#240 vs. 1, 2, 3 & 4

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah



- 1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 3 Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 4 Light four can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra - el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.
He shall feed the flock like a shep-herd, gent - ly lead them home-ward.
Lift your heads and lift high the gate-way for the King of glo - ry.
He is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be shin - ing!

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954

Music: TIF IN VELDELE, Yiddish folk tune

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Let us pray,

God, in whom we hope, we wait for you to come to us once again. Strengthen us as we wait, so that we will not lack any spiritual gift. Help us to stay awake to the signs of your coming with the themes of Advent: love, joy, peace and hope

Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, whose forgiveness is sure and whose steadfast love endures forever.

Amen.

Together let us honestly and humbly confess that we have not lived as God desires.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Loving and forgiving God, we confess that we are held captive by sin. In spite of our best efforts, we have gone astray. We have not welcomed the stranger; we have not loved our neighbor; we have not been Christ to one another. Restore us, O God. Wake us up and turn us from our sin. Renew us each day in the light of Christ.

Amen.

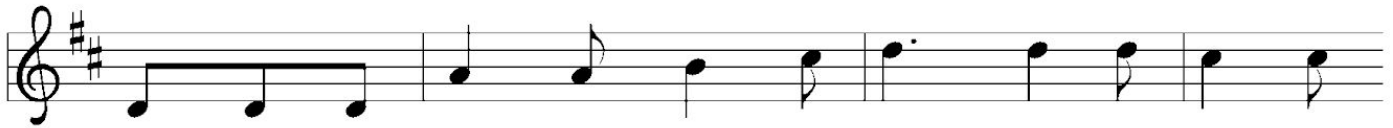
People of God, hear this glad news: by God's endless grace your sins are forgiven, and you are free—free from all that holds you back and free to live in the peaceable realm of God. May you be strengthened in God's love, ☩ comforted by Christ's peace, and accompanied with the power of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

GREETING

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

People, Look East



1 Peo - ple, look east. The time is near of the crown - ing
 2 Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is
 3 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the
 4 An - gels an - nounce with shouts of mirth him who brings new



of the year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble,
 plant - ed there. Give up your strength the seed to nour - ish,
 bowl shall brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er,
 life to earth. Set ev - 'ry peak and val - ley hum - ming



trim the hearth and set the ta - ble. Peo - ple, look
 that in course the flow'r may flour - ish. Peo - ple, look
 bright as sun and moon to - geth - er. Peo - ple, look
 with the word, the Lord is com - ing. Peo - ple, look



east, and sing to - day— Love, the Guest, is on the way.
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Rose, is on the way.
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Star, is on the way.
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881–1965

Music: BESANÇON, French carol

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that would obstruct your mercy, that willingly we may bear your redeeming love to all the world, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

First Reading: 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

Instead of David building a house (temple) for God, God promises to establish David's house (dynasty) forever. Centuries later, after the Babylonian exile, no king sat on the throne. Even then, however, the people of Israel remembered this promise and continued to hope for a king, the messiah, God's anointed.

1 Now when the king was settled in his house, and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, 2 the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." 3 Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the Lord is with you."

4 But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: 5 Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the Lord: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? 6 I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. 7 Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" 8 Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the Lord of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; 9 and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. 10 And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, 11 from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. 16 Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

The word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

Psalm: Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26

Your love, O Lord, forever will I sing. (Ps. 89:1)

- 1 Your love, O Lord, forever will I sing;
from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.
- 2 For I am persuaded that your steadfast love is established forever;
you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.
- 3 "I have made a covenant with my chosen one;
I have sworn an oath to David my servant:
- 4 'I will establish your line forever,
and preserve your throne for all generations.' "
- 19 You spoke once in a vision and said to your faithful people:
"I have set the crown upon a warrior and have exalted one chosen out of the people.
- 20 I have found David my servant;
with my holy oil have I anointed him.
- 21 My hand will hold him fast
and my arm will make him strong.
- 22 No enemy shall deceive him,
nor shall the wicked bring him down.
- 23 I will crush his foes before him
and strike down those who hate him.
- 24 My faithfulness and steadfast love are with him,
and he shall be victorious through my name.
- 25 I will set his hand on the sea,
and his right hand on the rivers.
- 26 He will say to me, 'You are my father,
my God, and the rock of my salvation.'

Second Reading: Romans 16:25-27

Paul closes his letter to the Romans by praising God because, in the proclamation of the gospel of Jesus Christ, God has revealed the promised, divine plan of salvation for all humanity. Paul proclaims this gospel of Christ in order to bring about the obedience of faith among all nations.

25 Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages 26 but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—27 to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

The word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

In this annunciation, Luke makes clear that God comes with good news for ordinary people from little known places. This king will not be born to royalty in a palace, but to common folk in a stall. Here Luke highlights the role of the Spirit, a special emphasis in this gospel.

26 In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, 27 to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. 28 And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." 29 But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. 30 The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. 31 And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. 32 He 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. 33 He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." 34 Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" 35 The 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. 36 And 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. 37 For nothing will be impossible with God." 38 Then 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.

The Gospel of our Lord, **praise to you, O Christ.**



CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

A group of children were asked what it means to "love?" Here are their answers:

"When someone loves you, the way they say your name is different. You just know that your name is safe in their mouth."

"When my grandmother had arthritis and could not paint her toenails, my grandfather did it for her. That's love!"

"Love is when you tell a guy you love his shirt, and he wears it everyday!"

"Love is when your puppy licks your face"

"When you love somebody, your eyelashes go up and down and little stars come out of you!"

"Love is what's in the room with you at Christmas if you stop opening presents and listen!"
(Bobby, age 7).

Love is our theme today for this Fourth Sunday of Advent. Our Advent journey is toward the end and today we light all 4 candles on our Advent wreath. Recall we have had 4 themes during our Advent journey: Hope, Peace, Joy and Love. The themes help us move through the Advent season and we know we can essentially say that Jesus is our Advent Journey. Jesus is Hope, Peace, Joy and Love. We know that from John 3:16!

The love of God comes to us in the form of Jesus Christ! Love came down from Heaven on Christmas Eve in Jesus, the babe born in the manger. The "set up" to this story is our Gospel today from Luke 2 as the angel Gabriel meets Mary. The angel greets her just like God greets us today! First thing said is "Greetings Favored one! The Lord is with you" (Luke 1:28) and God believes you and I are "favored" or loved! And the angel said "Lord is with you." This is reference to the promise coming from Matthew chapter 1 with a name given to Jesus "Emmanuel". The word means "God with us!"

The angel goes on to tell Mary about God's plan that she is to name the baby Jesus. Gabriel says that God will give Jesus the throne of David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever. These are Old Testament references to solidify the connection back to King David. The angel goes on to say "nothing will be impossible with God" and Mary answers "Here am I, the servant of the Lord, let it be with me according to your word." Her answer "Let it be" is such a wonderful response.

And couldn't we, the broken hearted, worn out children of God say the same thing? Lord, for all the problems in my life, let it be! Lord, for all the struggles, the anxiety and worry and depression "Let it be!" We don't have control friends, and life will not go directly as we want...we all have to just "Let it be!" When we lay it down at the manger, Jesus promised to take that heavy load and die for it only to rise again. This is love, that God sent his only son to take our sin and problems, and worries, and anxieties away from us.

Love is summed up in the way Paul ends his Romans letter today in our Second Reading. "Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to the Gospel, and the proclamation of Jesus Christ to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever!"

Our job? To let it be, to let it go!! As we let issues, problems go to God we are feeling more healthy in mind, body and soul. It's long time we stop telling God about our problems, and start telling our problems about God! God is love says our Bible and this love is what moves us through life, Advent, and Christmas. It's "Love" that's in the room when Christmas eve/morning unfolds! It Love that always is with us, thanks be to God.

Pastor Doug

There is an introduction verse, then sing the song 4 times.

Come and Fill Our Hearts

Confitemini Domino

The first system of music consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff, both in the key of D major (two sharps). The treble staff contains a vocal line with lyrics underneath. The bass staff contains a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are: *Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no quo - ni - am bo - nus.* and *Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a-lone, O Lord, are ho - ly.*

The second system of music continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are: *Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no. Al - le - lu - ia!* and *Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Al - le - lu - ia!*

Text: Psalm 136:1 (Latin); Taizé Community

Music: CONFITEMINI DOMINO, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994

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APOSTLES' CREED

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

**We 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.**

**We 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 THE PEOPLE

God of power and might, fulfill your promise and come quickly to this weary world. Hear our prayers for everyone in need.

A brief silence.

Gracious God, all generations call you blessed. In this holy season we pray for our neighbors of other denominations and faiths (*Nearby churches, mosques, temples, and synagogues may be named*). Inspire the faith of their people. Cultivate understanding among us and strengthen us in love and service to our community. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Creator God, you scatter the proud. Everything we have belongs first to you. Bless and protect the seas, mountains, plains, forests, skies, and soils that surround us. Give us humility as we tend them. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Righteous God, you humble the powerful and lift up the lowly. We pray for the leaders of all nations, that they amplify the voices of people in need. Guide all people entrusted with leadership, to create societies in which everyone can flourish. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Compassionate God, you fill the hungry with good things and send the rich away empty. Nourish those who lack access to adequate food and nutrition. Bless the work of advocates, community organizers, and food pantries. Encourage others to provide for their neighbors in need. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Healing God, you pour out mercy to all who cry out to you. Surround everyone in need of healing in body, mind, or spirit with your tender presence (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Eternal God, you are faithful to the promises you made to our forebears. We give thanks for the ministry of Katharina von Bora Luther and other ancestors who organized, planned, dreamed, encouraged, and reached out as they served you. We give thanks for the bold leadership of female leaders in our own time. Inspire others with their steadfast witness. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Draw near to us, O God, and receive our prayers for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING

Faith Lutheran	St. Andrew's
Faithful members and friends of Faith and St. Andrews, we thank you for your continued financial support during our time of physical separation.	
Your contributions can be mailed to the church, automatically drafted, and by our new Give+ electronic option. Please use this link to go to the Give+ website or look here for directions on how to download the Give+ app on your smart phone .	Please click HERE to be taken to Tithe.ly to give online. Mail offering to: 6118 Crawfordsville Rd Speedway, IN 46224

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Generous God, you have created all that is, and you provide for us in every season. Bless all that we offer, that through these gifts the world will receive your blessing. In the name of Jesus, Emmanuel, we pray.

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.

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

Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

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.

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, 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

Even as we watch and wait, Christ is here. Come, eat and drink.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

Gracious and abundant God, you have done great things for us, and we rejoice. In this bread and cup you give us life forever. In your boundless mercy, strengthen us and open our hearts to the world's needs, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

And now may the body and blood of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

Announcements

SENDING

BLESSING

The Creator of the stars bless your Advent waiting, the long-expected Savior fill you with love, the unexpected Spirit guide your journey, ✚ now and forever.
Amen.



All Earth Is Hopeful

Toda la tierra



To - da la tie - rra es - pe - ra al Sal - va - dor
 1 All earth is hope - ful, the Sav - ior comes at last!
 2 Peo - ple of Is - rael, you heard the proph - et tell:
 3 Moun - tains and val - leys will have to be pre - pared;
 4 We first saw Je - sus a ba - by in a crib.



y el sur - co a - bier - to, la ob - ra del Se - ñor; es el
 Fur - rows lie o - pen for God's cre - a - tive task: this, the
 "A vir - gin moth - er will bear Em - man - u - el"; she con -
 new high - ways o - pened, new pro - to - cols de - clared. Al - most
 This same Lord Je - sus to - day has come to live in our



mun - do que lu - cha por la li - ber - tad, re -
 la - bor of peo - ple who strug - gle to see how
 ceived him, "God with us," our broth - er, whose birth re -
 here! God is near - ing, in beau - ty and grace! All
 world; he is pres - ent, in neigh - bors we see our



cla - ma jus - ti - cia y bus - ca la ver - dad. dar - nos li - ber - tad.
 God's truth and jus - tice set ev - 'ry - bod - y free.
 stores hope and cour - age to chil - dren of this earth.
 clear ev - 'ry gate - way, in haste, come out in haste!
 Je - sus is with us, and ev - er sets us free.

2 *Dice el profeta al pueblo de Israel:* 3 *Montes y valles habrá que preparar;*
"De madre virgen ya viene Emmanuel," *nuevos caminos tenemos que trazar.*
será "Dios con nosotros," hermano será, *Él está ya muy cerca, venidlo a encontrar,*
con él la esperanza al mundo volverá. *y todas las puertas abrid de par en par.*

4 *En una cueva Jesús apareció,*
pero en el mundo está presente hoy.
Vive en nuestros hermanos, con ellos está;
y vuelve de nuevo a darnos libertad.

Text: Alberto Taulé, b. 1932; tr. Madeleine Forell Marshall, b. 1946
 Music: TODA LA TIERRA, Alberto Taulé
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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Faith's Calendar

- **Saturday, December 19** Food Pantry 9-11am
- **Sunday, December 20** 4th Sunday of Advent Virtual Worship 11am
- **Sunday, December 20** Zoom Holy Communion and Adult Faith Formation 7pm
- **Thursday, December 24** Christmas Eve Virtual Worship 7pm
- **Thursday, December 24** Christmas Eve Zoom Holy Communion & Candle Lighting 8pm
- **Sunday, December 27** 1st Sunday of Christmas IK Synod Virtual Worship 11am
- **Sunday, December 27** Zoom Holy Communion and Adult Faith Formation 7pm

Faith Lutheran's Announcements

In Person Worship Suspended

Your church council has reviewed the current COVID increase in the community and though it is never an easy decision; the council has decided again to suspend in-person worship services and return to online recordings effective immediately. We will close the facility at least until January 18th with in-person worship hopefully resuming on Sunday, January 24th. We will continue to review available information and establish a timeline moving forward.

We need to remember the most important thing for all of us is to stay safe and keep our families and friends safe. With God's help we will get through this and grow in the process. The three recommendations that have been stressed so many times are still the most important to keep us safe. **Wear a Mask, Wash Your Hands, and Maintain a Safe Distance.** If you have concerns or issues, PLEASE, contact either Pastor Doug, or one of the council members, we are here for you. Remember keeping everyone safe is our number one priority.

Adult Faith Formation

Join us **Sunday evenings, 7 p.m.**, for a study from the "Book of Faith" series through Augsburg Fortress (ELCA publishing house). The booklet is entitled "Advent Reflections, While we wait!" From the book itself "Advent Reflections guides you in your advent waiting through daily Biblical reflections, journaling, activities and prayer."

As always, these gatherings on Sunday nights are informal, fun, and enjoyable for an hour of reflection on God's movement in our everyday lives. If you would like a copy of the book (no charge) or more information, please contact Jim Patton from St. Andrews or Pr. Doug. Otherwise, tune in and feel free to join.

Communion Kits

Home communion kits are available! If you were not able to pick these up, please call the church office and we will make sure you get them to use during our worship services.

Read and study God's Word for the coming Sunday!

For next week December 20:

4th Sunday of Advent

1st Reading: 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

Psalm: Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26

2nd Reading: Romans 16:25-27

Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

St. Andrew's Prayer Lists

Families on the Prayer List

Willman, Mr & Mrs Dale (Christine)

Wolfe, Mr Kurt

Wolfe, Mr Michael and Holly

Wolfe, Ms Rebecca and Conor

Additional Prayers for Recent, Current, or Upcoming Medical Care:

Isaac Garcia, friend of Mary Lee Long

Mark Lichlyter, father of Kelli Steurer

Gil Mascher, brother of Jeanette Burbrink

Christine Robertson, great niece of MJ Lynch

David Tryon, son of Mary

Those with Ongoing Special Need of Prayer:

Jerid Edwards, great nephew of MJ Lynch

Ruth Tingle

Remember to Pray for Nursing Home Residents and Shut-Ins:

Lynn Bigelow

Alton Dahl

Thelma Jones

Penny Kalk

Martha Larson

Norma Petraits

David Royer

David Schmalz

The Harrison

Remember to Pray for those Serving in our Armed Forces:

Michael Joseph

Jerry Shake

St. Andrew's Calendar

- **Sunday, December 20** 4th Sunday of Advent Virtual Worship 9am
- **Sunday, December 20** Zoom Holy Communion and Adult Faith Formation 7pm
- **Monday, December 21** Zoom Staff Meeting 10am
- **Tuesday, December 22** Zoom FBS 7-8:30pm
- **Thursday, December 24** Christmas Eve Virtual Worship 7pm
- **Thursday, December 24** Christmas Eve Zoom Holy Communion & Candle Lighting 8pm
- **Sunday, December 27** 1st Sunday of Christmas IK Synod Virtual Worship 9am
- **Sunday, December 27** Zoom Holy Communion and Adult Faith Formation 7pm
- **Monday, December 28** Zoom Staff Meeting 10am

Remember:

- Reach out if you are interested in the digital service on DVD.
- Prayer Chain requests go to Joyce Yockey.
- The Storehouse continues to accept donations.
- FBS Tuesdays at 7:00pm via Zoom.
- In person worship suspended through January 17, 2021

St. Andrew's Announcements

In Person Worship Suspended

Indoor worship services will be suspended through January 17th. We will evaluate the situation again on January 7th with hopes to re-gather for indoor worship on January 24th.

Communication will continue via our website, email, Facebook, phone calls, and mail. We are called to take care of each other; let us continue to maintain communication with one another through our thoughts, prayers, phone calls, and any other means available!

Communion Kits

Home communion kits are available! If you were not able to pick these up, please call the church office and we will make sure you get them to use during our worship services.

A Friendly Reminder From Your Finance Committee

We sincerely thank you for your continued support throughout this year, even in very difficult times. If you have been able to continue to give, you have, and we are very grateful for that. And we know there are Christmas bills and unforeseen expenses for many, so we ask, if you are able to bring your pledges up to date by the end of the year please do so. We are hoping to finish the year with a positive bottom line and we need your help to do that. And we thank you for your strong commitment to St. Andrew's. While our doors are closed, the utilities still are being paid along with salaries, missions and building upkeep.

Currently, we are preparing the budget for 2021. **If you intend to pledge, and we hope that you do, could you please do so soon**, so that we can create an accurate budget. Times are uncertain, but one thing is for sure, bills keep coming! An email has been sent with the link to pledge online. (You can also go to our website and click "Give" in the top right corner.) If you received a paper copy, please be sure to use the self-addressed envelope and return ASAP. Thank you! Your help is greatly appreciated!

Prayers for the Prisoners

With Christmas coming upon us, Kairos Prison Ministry (which Jan Smith has been involved with) is asking for prayer warriors to take the time on December 20th to remember those who will be celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ while incarcerated and the families affected by the incarceration. The pandemic has restricted visitation by family and friends, making Christmas even more difficult for the incarcerated. Please make the time to pray on December 20th for all who have been impacted by incarceration, that they may come to know freedom in Jesus Christ. Please especially remember our neighbors at the Women's Prison on Girls School Road and those at the Plainfield Correctional Facility. As Hebrews 13:3 says: "Remember those who are in prison as if you were in prison with them. Remember those who are suffering as if you were suffering with them." As Jesus said in Matthew, "... I was in prison and you visited me" and "anything you did even for the least of my people here, you also did for me." So please pray.

Read and study God's Word for the coming Sunday!

For next week December 27:

1st Sunday of Christmas

1st Reading: Isaiah: 61:10-62:3

Psalm: Psalm 148

2nd Reading: Galatians:4:4-7

Gospel: Luke 2:22-40