

CALAMUS LUTHERAN PARISH

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

8:00 a.m.

Faith Lutheran Church

10:30 a.m.

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 21, 2014

Welcome in Jesus' name. Please consider using the prelude as a time for meditation and silent prayer. This is the ideal time for quiet preparation, as we come to worship God. Holy Communion is celebrated today. All who are baptized into Christ Jesus are invited forward to receive Holy Communion. Those not communing may come forward to receive a blessing.

Prelude

Ring of the Bell

Welcome and Announcements

HOLY COMMUNION

Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Setting 3, page 138

(* Please stand if you are able)

***ADVENT LITANY**

P: Darkness and sin surround us on all sides.

C: Prepare our dark hearts for the coming of the Christ child, who brings the light of eternal life and the forgiveness of sins.

(To the tune of "Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel")

♪ **My hope is built on nothing less
than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
no merit of my own I claim
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.**

Rejoice! Rejoice!

Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

P: The Lord my God lights up my darkness.

C: To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul. O my God, in you I trust.

♪ **When darkness veils his lovely face,
I rest on his unchanging grace;
in every high and stormy gale,**

**my anchor holds within the veil.
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

P: Once you walked in darkness, but now you walk in the light of Jesus Christ.

C: **Enlighten the eyes of our hearts, that we may know the hope to which we are called and the riches of our glorious inheritance.**

**♪ When he shall come with trumpet sound,
oh, may I then in him be found,
clothed in his righteousness alone,
redeemed to stand before the throne!
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

P: The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light; and they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them has the light shined.
(*Isaiah 9:2*)

C: Amen

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: 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.

C: Amen

WORD

First Reading: 2 Samuel 7:1—11, 16

L: A reading from 2 Samuel.

Now when the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, 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." Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you."

But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a

house to live in? 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. 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?" 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; 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. 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, 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. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalms 89:1—4, 19—26 (*To be read responsively*)

I will sing of your steadfast love, O LORD, forever;
with my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.

**I declare that your steadfast love is established forever;
your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.**

You said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one,
I have sworn to my servant David:

**'I will establish your descendants forever,
and build your throne for all generations.'**

Then you spoke in a vision to your faithful one, and said:

"I have set the crown on one who is mighty,
I have exalted one chosen from the people.

**I have found my servant David;
with my holy oil I have anointed him;**

my hand shall always remain with him;
my arm also shall strengthen him.

**The enemy shall not outwit him,
the wicked shall not humble him.**

I will crush his foes before him
and strike down those who hate him.

**My faithfulness and steadfast love shall be with him;
and in my name his horn shall be exalted.**

I will set his hand on the sea
and his right hand on the rivers.

**He shall cry to me, 'You are my Father,
my God, and the Rock of my salvation!'**

Second Reading: Romans 16:25—27

L: A reading from Romans.

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 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—to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

*** ♪ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah*** (*The tune is found in ELW Hymn 240. During the singing, the acolyte will light four candles of the Advent wreath.*)

**♪ Light four candles to watch for Messiah:
let the light banish darkness.
He is coming, tell the glad tidings.
Let your lights be shining!**

*P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the first chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Luke 1:26—38

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have

found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. 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. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" 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. 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. For nothing will be impossible with God." 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.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON – Pastor David Aanonson

Silence for reflection

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers – Hymn 244

***CONFESSION OF FAITH**

P: Using the words of the Nicene Creed let us confess our holy faith:

We believe in one God,

**the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

**the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven;

by the power of the Holy Spirit

he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man.

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again from the dead,
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven**

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.**

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

(Each petition ends with P: Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.)

***PEACE**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

MEAL

OFFERING

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

P: Let us pray.

C: God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. Amen

♪ *GREAT THANKSGIVING - page 144

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

C: "Holy, holy, holy Lord,..." - page 144

***WORDS OF INSTITUTION – page 132**

P: Holy One, the beginning and the end,...

Do, this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: 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.

C: Come, Lord Jesus.

P: 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.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

P: 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**

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

C: 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.

COMMUNION

♪ "*Lamb of God...*" – page 146

Hymns Sung During Distribution:

Hymn 487: *What Feast of Love*

Hymn 267: *Joy to the World*

Hymn 490: *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*

***POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

P: Let us pray.

God of wonder, we give thanks that you have fed us once again with this foretaste of the feast to come. Keep us alert for signs of your presence in the world around us. Send us as healing oil and sheltering comfort to those in need, and make us bold in testifying to the light of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen

SENDING

***BLESSING**

P. God most high,
God with us,
God poured out on us,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

Cong: Amen

***SENDING SONG: *Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding!* – Hymn 246**

***DISMISSAL:**

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Ring of the Bell

Postlude

Alternate Worship Texts: *Sundays & Seasons*, copyright ©2015 Augsburg Fortress

Organist:	Jason Bousselot
Acolyte:	Chase Knoche
Lector:	Grant Harkness
Communion Assistant:	Cindy Burke
Ushers:	Dan Burke, Mark Olson
Cleaners:	Barb Flynn, David Olson

Holy Communion is celebrated today. All who are baptized into Christ Jesus are invited forward to receive Holy Communion. Those not communing may come forward to receive a blessing. Communion will be continuous. Please proceed forward at the direction of the ushers. White grape juice is available during Holy Communion. Please indicate to the Assisting Minister if this is your preference.

Welcome to our guests and visitors. We are glad to have you worship with us this morning. Thank you for worshipping with us and please come back to worship with us again.

There is a **"cry room"** available in the back of each church, if you would like to make use of the accommodations.

Those to keep in prayer this week: For Scott Fisher (Barb Johnson's son who is in Iowa City recovering from surgery for a brain aneurysm), Heidi Von Behrend, Jerry Weiss, Tim Griffin, Geri Schutt, Kristi Reed, Candice Ogden, Claire Wallace, Julie Coopman, Nancy Schebler, Tom Wright, Caleb May, Josie Watham, Alex Luedtke, Nancy Ramige, Malinda Malmanger, Signe Rock, Alice Schroeder, Florence Petersen, Evelyn Stueland and Myrna Kay Petersen; For Christopher Holmes, Jeremy Koch, Brian Holmes and all others serving in the military.

There is a Sunday School class for all those three years of age and above. Please join us at 9:25 a.m. at Faith Church.

Sidewalk Snow Removal at Faith Church: If anyone is interested in providing this service, please contact Brian Tulley 246-2121 or Hal Shelton 847-6221 or call the church office 246-2622.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

**Our Savior's Lutheran Church
Wednesday, December 24 – 8:00 p.m.**



Christmas Day Worship Service

**Faith Lutheran Church
Thursday, December 25 – 9:00 a.m.**

**NO SUNDAY SCHOOL, GOD SQUAD OR ADULT CLASS
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28
ALL CLASSES RESUME JANUARY 4, 2015**

This Week At A Glance

Today	8:00 a.m. -	Worship Service at Our Savior's Church
	9:25 a.m. -	Sunday School/AC/God Squad at Faith
	10:30 a.m. -	Children's Program at Faith Church
Wednesday	8:00 p.m. -	Candlelight Service at Our Savior's Church
Thursday	9:00 a.m. -	Christmas Day Worship at Faith Church
Sunday	8:00 a.m. -	Worship Service at Our Savior's Church
	10:30 a.m. -	Worship Service at Faith Church

Our Savior's:

Worship Attendance, December 14	58
Midweek Advent Worship Attendance, December 10.....	32

Faith: Worship Attendance, December 14	54
Offering, Sunday, December 14	\$926.00
Needed Weekly to Meet Budget	\$1,976.00

Midweek Advent Service Attendance, December 17	44
Sunday School Attendance, December 14	35
God Squad Attendance, December 14	5
Adult Class Attendance, December 14	15

Calamus Lutheran Parish

Church email address
Church web site

Church Office 246-2622
Pastor's Office 246-2558
clparish@fbcom.net
www.clparish.org

Martin Luther's *Small Catechism* for the Bulletin

Martin Luther wrote the *Small Catechism* as a means by which *the head of the family shall teach* (the Christian faith) *to his(her) household*. He began with the Ten Commandments. This he did because, as Law, the Commandments show us our sin and our need for the Gospel.

The Third Commandment

Remember the Sabbath Day, to keep it holy.

What does this mean? *We should fear and love God, and so we should not despise His Word and the preaching of the same, but deem it holy and gladly hear and learn it* (*Book of Concord*. Theodore G. Tappert, translator. p. 342).

Prayer: Lord God, Holy and Heavenly Father, we give You thanks for the gift of Your Word through which You proclaim to us Your generous gift of saving grace. Grant that we may never be too busy to hear and to receive that Word because that Word is life itself for us. In the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.