

# Online Worship Advent Midweek December 9, 2020



## Faith Lutheran Church

### *Mission Statement*

*“We are building a welcoming, nurturing faith community  
that is guided by Jesus and shares the Gospel.”*

**MINISTERS**  
**SENIOR PASTOR**  
**ASSOCIATE PASTOR**

**Every Member**  
**Derek Harkins**  
**Sylvia Bull**

1402 East Avenue C, Bismarck, ND

[faithbismarck.com](http://faithbismarck.com)

701-223-2236

Pastoral Care Emergency Number: 701-595-0233

## **PREPARING IN CHRIST'S PRESENCE: EXPERIENCE WONDER**

**Focus Question:** *How can we experience wonder for God's works and be fed by wonder in the midst of this busy season?*

*Worship begins in silence as the light is processed into the worship space.*

### **SERVICE OF LIGHT**

Jesus Christ, you are the light of the world;

**The light no darkness can overcome.**

Stay with us now for it is evening.

**And the day is almost over.**

Let your light scatter the darkness.

**And shine within your people here.**

**Joyous light of heavenly glory, loving glow of God's own face, you who sing creation's story, shine on ev'ry land and race. Now as evening falls around us, we shall raise our songs to you. God of daybreak, God of shadows, come and light our hearts anew.**

**In the stars that grace the darkness, in the blazing sun of dawn, in the light of peace and wisdom, we can hear your quiet song. Love that fills the night with wonder, love that warms the weary soul, love that bursts all chains asunder, set us free and make us whole.**

**You who made the heavens splendor, ev'ry dancing star of night, make us shine with gentle justice, let us each reflect your light. Mighty God of all creation, gentle Christ, who lights our way, Loving Spirit of salvation, lead us on to endless day.**

May God be with you all.

**And also with you.**

Let us sing our thanks to God.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Blessed are you, creator of the universe. From old you have led your people by night and day. May the light of your Christ make our darkness bright. For your word and your presence are the light of our pathways, and you are the light and life of all creation. **Amen.**

**PSALMODY: PSALM 141**

**Let my prayer rise up like incense before you,  
The lifting up of my hands as an offering to you.**

**O God, I call to you  
Come to me now;  
O hear my voice when I cry to you.**

**Let my prayer rise up like incense before you,  
The lifting up of my hands as an offering to you.**

**Keep watch within me God  
Deep in my heart may the light of your love  
Be burning bright.**

**Let my prayer rise up like incense before you,  
The lifting up of my hands as an offering to you.**

**All praise to the God of all  
Creator of life;  
All praise be to Christ and the Spirit of love.**

**Let my prayer rise up like incense before you,  
The lifting up of my hands as an offering to you.**

## **FIRST READING: Job 37:14-24**

'Hear this, O Job;

stop and consider the wondrous works of God.

Do you know how God lays his command upon them,  
and causes the lightning of his cloud to shine?

Do you know the balancings of the clouds,  
the wondrous works of the one whose knowledge is perfect,  
you whose garments are hot

when the earth is still because of the south wind?

Can you, like him, spread out the skies,  
unyielding as a cast mirror?

Teach us what we shall say to him;

we cannot draw up our case because of darkness.

Should he be told that I want to speak?

Did anyone ever wish to be swallowed up?

Now, no one can look on the light  
when it is bright in the skies,

when the wind has passed and cleared them.

Out of the north comes golden splendour;  
around God is awesome majesty.

The Almighty—we cannot find him;

he is great in power and justice,

and abundant righteousness he will not violate.

Therefore mortals fear him;

he does not regard any who are wise in their own conceit.'

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## **SECOND READING: Matthew 8:23-27**

And when Jesus got into the boat, his disciples followed him. A gale arose on the lake, so great that the boat was being swamped by the waves; but he was asleep. And they went and woke him up, saying, 'Lord, save us! We are perishing!' And he said to them, 'Why are you afraid, you of little faith?' Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a dead calm. They were amazed, saying, 'What sort of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey him?'

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**“The Birth of Wonder,”** a poem by Madeleine L'Engle (from *WinterSong: Christmas Readings*, Vancouver: Reghent, 2003.)

As I grow older / I get surer  
Man's heart is colder, / His life no purer.  
As I grow steadily / More austere  
I come less readily / To Christmas each year.  
I can't keep taking / Without a thought / Forced merrymaking  
And presents bought / In crowds and jostling. / Alas, there's naught  
In empty wassailing / Where oblivion's sought / Oh, I'd be waiting  
With quiet fasting / Anticipating / A joy more lasting  
And so I rhyme / With no apology / During this time  
Of eschatology: Judgment and warning / Come like thunder.  
But now is the hour / When I remember / An infant's power  
On a cold December. / Midnight is dawning / And the birth of wonder.

### **Time of Quiet Reflection**

Take some time to reflect and be quiet with God. You may want to consider the focus question for this week: *How can we experience wonder for God's works and be fed by wonder in the midst of this busy season?*

## **THE ANNUNCIATION**

An angel went from God to a town called Nazareth, to a woman whose name was Mary. The angel said to her, "Rejoice, O highly favored. For God is with you. You shall bear a child, and his name shall be Jesus, the chosen one of God Most High." And Mary said, "I am the servant of my God. I live to do your will."

## **THE MAGNIFICAT**

**My soul proclaims your greatness, O God. And my spirit rejoices in you. You have looked with love on your servant here and blessed me all my life through.**

**Great and mighty are you, O Holy One, strong is your kindness, evermore. How you favor the weak and lowly one, humbling the proud of heart. You have cast the mighty down from their thrones, and uplifted the humble of heart. You have filled the hungry with wondrous things and left the wealthy no part.**

**Great and mighty are you, O Faithful One, strong is your justice, strong your love. As you promised to Sarah and Abraham, kindness forevermore.**

**My soul proclaims your greatness, O God. And my spirit rejoices in you. You have looked with love on your servant here and blessed me all my life through.**

## **PRAYERS**

**(Hmmm) God of mercy, hold us in love.**

In peace, in peace, we pray to you...

**God of mercy, hold us in love.**

For peace and salvation we pray to you...

**God of mercy, hold us in love.**

For peace between nations, for peace between peoples...

*Continued on next page.*

**God of mercy, hold us in love.**

For us who are gathered to worship and praise you...

**God of mercy, hold us in love.**

For all of your servants who live out your gospel...

**God of mercy, hold us in love.**

For all those who govern, that justice might guide them...

**God of mercy, hold us in love.**

For all those who labor in service to others...

**God of mercy, hold us in love.**

Grant weather that nourishes all of creation...

**God of mercy, hold us in love.**

Keep watch on our loved ones and keep us from danger...

**God of mercy, hold us in love.**

For all the beloved who rest in your mercy...

**God of mercy, hold us in love.**

Help us, comfort us all of our days...

**Keep us, hold us, gracious God.**

Wondrous God, cultivate in us a sense of awe and curiosity. Inspire us by your work in this world and in our lives. In the name of your Son, Jesus, for whom we wait expectantly.

**Amen.**

God, remember us in your love, and teach us to pray:

**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 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.**

## **Blessing**

Let us bless our God.

**Praise and thanks to you.**

**May God Creator bless us and keep us.**

**May Christ be ever light for our lives.**

**May the Spirit of Love be our guide and path, for all of our days.**

**Amen.**

## **Dismissal**

Go in peace. Be filled with wonder.

**Thanks be to God.**

Liturgy: Pastor Derek Harkins and Pastor Sylvia Bull

Musician: Joe Dietrich



*“The beginning of the good news about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God, as it is written in Isaiah the prophet: ‘I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way - a voice of one calling in the wilderness, ‘Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.’ ”*

————— *Mark 1:1-3* —————



**Thank you** for your gifts of \$13,220 in general fund offerings for last week.



## *Poinsettia Sale*

The Altar Guild is selling Poinsettias this Advent season to decorate the sanctuary.

**\$10 per plant**

Call the church office at **701.223.2236** to order and inform whom the poinsettia is for. Please mail your payment to the church office at 1402 E. Avenue C, Bismarck ND 58501.

**Struggling during this time apart?** Visit our website: [faithbismarck.com/get-help](https://faithbismarck.com/get-help) for resources on mental wellness, parenting, financial assistance, addiction recovery, and more. You are not alone. *God loves you.* We want to walk with you through this hard time. You can also call the office at 701-223-2236 for assistance. Be well and safe!

**Just a reminder that we still are collecting Dan's receipts.** The receipt bucket is in the entryway, so please drop them off at the Church the next time you stop by! *Thank you.*

**Looking for ways to serve God and neighbor during this time?** Check out our new "Serve" page on our website [faithbismarck.com/serve](https://faithbismarck.com/serve) to learn how you can respond to needs from our partner ministries and the wider community. *Thank you for the many ways you are serving as the church in the world in these days!*

You can **continue to give** to FLC's mission and ministry via mail: (1402 E Ave C, Bismarck, ND 58501), directly through your bank's bill pay feature, electronically through our website, or by using the Give+ app. If you do not already give, please consider committing to a sustaining gift of \$5 or \$10 a month as we continue to share in ministry together.

QR Code:



## **AT A GLANCE...**

### **Wednesday, December 9**

10:00 Bible Study - Zoom  
11:30 \* Limited Indoor Worship  
4:30 (B) 8th & 9th Confirmation  
6:00 Church School - Online  
7:00 Streaming Only Worship

### **Thursday, December 10**

### **Friday, December 11**

8:00 NA

### **Saturday, December 12**

### **Sunday, December 13**

8:30 Streaming Only Worship  
9:45 Congregational Meeting -  
Facebook live - limited in  
person

Church School following the  
Congregational Meeting -  
Facebook live

### **Monday, December 14**

7:00 AA

### **Tuesday, December 15**

### **Wednesday, December 16**

10:00 Bible Study - Zoom  
11:30 \* Limited Indoor Worship  
4:30 (C) 8th & 9th Confirmation  
6:00 Church School - Online  
7:00 Streaming Only Worship

### **Thursday, December 17**

### **Friday, December 18**

8:00 NA

### **Saturday, December 19**

### **Sunday, December 20**

8:30 Streaming Only Worship  
9:45 Church School - Online

\* *Reserved for those without online access.*

# 2021 Summer Camp Programs



- ⇒ Camp of the Cross Ministries offers camps for children and youth that are entering grades 2 through 12!
- ⇒ CCM offers on-site and off-site adventure camps! & Family camps!
- ⇒ CCM offers 2 nights or 5 nights options!
- ⇒ Do you love CCM so much that you want to go twice? Receive half off registration for your second week!

## **Early Bird Registration Deadlines**

**1/2 price before Christmas Eve!!**

**February 1, 2021**

**April 1, 2021**

Check out the amounts for each week on our website!



**Camp of the Cross Ministries**  
PO Box 1257 Garrison, ND 58540  
701-337-2246  
info@campofthecross.com

## **FEATURED CAMPS**

### **Voyagers (entering grades 2-3)**

- 3 days/2 nights at camp exploring with Bible study, games, campfires and much more!
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### **Homesteaders (entering grades 4-5)**

- Specialty Camps– fishing, art & in-tents
- Christmas in July
- Mini Week (3 days, 2 nights)

### **Prairie Dwellers (entering grades 6-7)**

- Specialty Camps
- Trekkers Canoeing Week

### **Pathfinders (entering grades 8-9)**

- Specialty Camps
- Pathfinders Week
- Trekkers Canoe Week
- North Country Backpacking
- Christmas in July

### **Senior High (entering grades 10-12)**

- Trekkers
- North Country Backpacking

**Camps for Families** (check them out!)

# REGISTER ONLINE TODAY!

# www.campofthecross.com

