



**FAITH
LUTHERAN**
CHURCH

7075 Pacific Avenue S.E.
Lacey, WA 98503

www.faithlutheranlacey.org
www.flschool.org

Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

W O R S H I P

8:15am – Traditional
9:30am – Gather & Grow
10:45am - Contemporary

C O N T A C T

Church: 360-491-3552
School: 360-491-1733
Childcare: 360-491-1118
Pastor: Greg Strand
541-231-8166
pastorgreg@flschool.org

*"Raising Up
Families and Followers
of Jesus Christ"*

Second Sunday in Advent

December 7, 2025

10:45 AM



BEAR FRUIT IN KEEPING WITH REPENTANCE

AS WE GATHER

The problem with good works is not *that* we should do them but *why*. Our works reflect what it is we believe and hold dear. Works are the fruit of repentance and faith and do not add to what Christ has done in His mighty work of redemption. The call to bear the good fruit of repentance is not to work harder to be saved but to manifest in our everyday lives that we are saved, that we belong to the Lord, and that He has accomplished all things for our salvation. John faced a generation impressed with their works and empty of faith in God's mercy. We should know that doing works is not a choice. Hearts of faith will produce the good fruits of repentance. This is the calling of Christians and the mark of the work of the Spirit in our lives.

WELCOME

Pre-service Music: In the Bleak Midwinter (Gloria)
Light of the World (Sing Hallelujah)

INVOCATION

Leader In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Congregation **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Psalm 72:2, 4, alt.; Philipians 1:6*

Leader May God judge His people with righteousness and justice.
Congregation **May He defend the poor, deliver the needy, and crush the oppressor.**

Silence for self-examination.

Leader Holy and gracious God,
Congregation **I confess that I have sinned against You this day. Some of my sin I know—the thoughts and words and deeds of which I am ashamed—but some is known only to You. In the name of Jesus Christ I ask forgiveness. Deliver and restore me that I may rest in peace.**

Leader Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation **Amen.**

Leader He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

Congregation **Amen.**

357 O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL *sts. ref, 3-4*



3 O come, O come, Thou Lord of might, Who to Thy
4 O come, Thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, Free them from

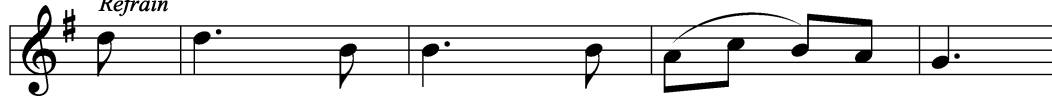


tribes on Si - nai's height In an - cient times didst
Sa - tan's tyr - an - ny That trust Thy might - y



give the Law In cloud and maj - es - ty and awe.
pow'r to save, And give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.

Refrain



Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el



Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

Text: Latin, c. 12th cent.; Psalterium Canticum Catholicarum, 1710, Köln; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-66, alt.
Tune: French, 15th cent. Text and tune: Public domain

387 JOY TO THE WORLD



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive her
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let men their songs em -
3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow Nor thorns in - fest the
4 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the na - tions



King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him
play, While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
ground; He comes to make His bless - ings
prove The glo - ries of His righ - teous -



room And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture
plains Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing
flow Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is
ness And won - ders of His love, And won - ders of His



sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
joy, Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
found, Far as, far as the curse is found.
love, And won - ders, won - ders of His love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748 Tune: George Frideric Handel, 1685–1759, adapt. Text and tune: Public domain

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Isaiah 11:1–10*

¹There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. ²And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. ³And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, ⁴but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

⁵Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins.

⁶The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them.

⁷The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. ⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den. ⁹They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

¹⁰In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

Reader This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation Thanks be to God.

PSALM *Psalms 72:1–7*

¹Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the royal son!

²May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice!

³Let the mountains bear prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness!

⁴May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the children of the

needy, and crush the oppressor! ⁵May they fear you while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations! ⁶May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth! ⁷In his days may the righteous flourish, and peace abound, till the moon be no more!

EPISTLE *Romans 15:4–13*

⁴Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. ⁵May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, ⁶that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁷Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

⁸For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, ⁹and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles, and sing to your name."

¹⁰And again it is said, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people."

¹¹And again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples extol him."

¹²And again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse will come, even he who arises to rule the Gentiles; in him will the Gentiles hope."

¹³May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

Reader This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 3:1–12*

Leader The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the third chapter.

Congregation Glory to You, O Lord.

¹In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, ²"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." ³For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said,

"The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.'"

⁴Now John wore a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, ⁶and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁷But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruit in

keeping with repentance. ⁹And do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham.

¹⁰Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹"I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

¹²His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

Leader This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Congregation Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE – Connie Dougherty

Jesus Loves Me

Verse 1

I was lost I was in chains
The world had a hold of me
My heart was a stone I was covered in shame
When He came for me

Pre-Chorus

I couldn't run couldn't run from His presence
I couldn't run couldn't run from His arms

Chorus 1

Jesus He loves me
He loves me He is for me
Jesus how can it be
He loves me He is for me

Verse 2

It was a fire deep in my soul
I'll never be the same
I stepped out of the dark and into the light
When He called my name

Bridge

He holds the stars and He holds my heart
With healing hands that bear the scars
The rugged cross where He died for me
My only hope my ev'rything

Chorus 2

Jesus He loves me
He loves me oh
Jesus how can it be

He loves me He is for me

Chorus 3

He loves me He loves me

He loves me He is for me

My God it's amazing oh

Jesus loves me

CCLI Song # 7028829 Ben Glover | Chris Tomlin | Reuben Morgan

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SERMON

NICENE CREED

Congregation I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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or text to give, 360-732-8020.

Offering Music: Is Your Heart Prepared for a King?

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Leader In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

Congregation Lord, have mercy.

Leader	For grace to acknowledge the Lord, who made all things for Himself, and for faith to trust in His mercy incarnate in Jesus Christ, His Son, let us pray to the Lord:
Congregation	Lord, have mercy.
Leader	For the church established by Christ and sustained by Him through the means of grace, for boldness to call a world to repentance, and for faithfulness to proclaim His Gospel without fear, let us pray to the Lord:
Congregation	Lord, have mercy.
Leader	For all the nations and peoples of the earth and for those who lead them, but especially for this nation, our president, governor, legislators, and magistrates, let us pray to the Lord:
Congregation	Lord, have mercy.
Leader	For grateful hearts to receive the good fruits of the earth with thanksgiving and for wisdom that we might bear the good fruit of repentance in our lives, let us pray to the Lord:
Congregation	Lord, have mercy.
Leader	For all godly and noble vocations, for marriages and children, for the single and the retired, let us pray to the Lord:
Congregation	Lord, have mercy.
Leader	For an end to poverty and need and for compassion that we may manifest charity for all those in need, let us pray to the Lord:
Congregation	Lord, have mercy.
Leader	For the sick, the suffering, the dying, and those who attend to them, <u>[especially . . .]</u> , let us pray to the Lord:
Congregation	Lord, have mercy.
Leader	For all needs of body and soul, and for courage that we may not depart the way of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.
Congregation	Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Amen.

SERVICE OF COMMUNION

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Leader	Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My † body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."
	In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My † blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

Leader As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

Congregation Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Leader O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER

Congregation 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

Mary Did You Know

Verse 1

Mary did you know
That your baby boy
Would one day walk on water
Mary did you know
That your baby boy
Would save our sons and daughters
Did you know
That your baby boy
Has come to make you new
This Child that you delivered
Will soon deliver you

Verse 2

Mary did you know
That your baby boy
Would give sight to the blind man
Mary did you know
That your baby boy
Would calm a storm with His hand
Did you know
That your baby boy
Has walked where angels trod

And when you kiss your little baby
You've kissed the face of God
Oh Mary did you know

Bridge

The blind will see
The deaf will hear
The dead will live again
The lame will leap
The dumb will speak
The praises of the Lamb

Verse 3

Oh Mary did you know
That your baby boy
Is Lord of all creation
Mary did you know
That your baby boy
Will one day rule the nations
Did you know
That your baby boy
Is heaven's perfect Lamb
And the sleeping Child you're holding
Is the great I Am
Oh Mary oh

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The Manger Holds the Lamb

Verse 1

Behold the humble manger,
Where the baby rests his head.
It will soon become the altar,
Where his gentle heart is bled.
For the manger holds the lamb,
On whose heart our sins are laid.
And the lamb becomes the sacrifice
for the sheep who all have strayed.

Verse 2

Tho' the baby now is sleeping
in the comfort of his bed,
soon his eyelids will be closing
on the cross of death, instead.
For the manger holds the lamb,

On whose heart our sins are laid.
And the lamb becomes the sacrifice
for the sheep who all have strayed.

Verse 3

Do not weep and do not mourn
The loss of your sins that caused him pain.
For beyond the manger and the cross,
He has risen up to reign!
Greater truth was never told,
Nor achievement ever won.
Greater love was never shown to us
Than this deed that God has done!

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BENEDICTION

Leader The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
 The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.
People **Amen.**

For Unto Us A Child is Born (w/Open the Eyes of My Heart)

Verse 1

For unto us a child is born,
A son is given
A son is given
For unto us a child is born,
A son is given
A son is given

Chorus

The Messiah,
Oh to see Him
To see Him high and lifted up,
Shining in the light of Your glory.
Pour out Your power and love
As we sing holy, holy, holy.

Chorus 2

You are high and lifted up
Shining in the light of your glory
Pour out Your power and love
As we sing holy, holy, holy.

Interlude

Holy, holy, holy
Holy, holy, holy
Holy, holy, holy
Holy, holy, holy

Verse 3

For unto us a child is born,
Holy, holy, holy
For unto us a child is born,
Holy, holy, holy

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