



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
10:30am - Contemporary

C O N T A C T

Church: 360-491-3552
School: 360-491-1733
Childcare: 360-491-1118
Community
Center: 360-491-3868
Pastor: Greg Strand
pastorgreg@flschool.org

*“Raising Up
Families and Followers
of Jesus Christ”*

**Third Sunday After
the Epiphany**
January 22, 2023
8:15 AM



The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; Isaiah 9:2a

THE DAWN OF A NEW DAY

AS WE GATHER

When Jesus appeared on the scene of human history, His coming was like the light of a new day. Isaiah had prophesied a day would come filled with joy as at the harvest or when victors divide spoils. But daylight also reveals problems covered by darkness, like the divisions at the Church in Corinth, as Paul writes. Jesus' light not only reveals, but it also forgives, heals, and enlivens. People brought the sick and demon-possessed to our Lord, and the first four disciples jumped at the opportunity to follow Him. What ills shall we bring to worship today for resolution? Sins requiring forgiveness, gloom needing joy, divisions seeking reconciliation? Jesus came into human history to die and rise for us; today He comes through Word and Sacrament in grace and mercy to meet our deepest needs. Let us rejoice in the light of God's forgiveness, mercy, and love.

+ PREPARATION +

712 SEEK YE FIRST



1 Seek ye first the king - dom of God, And His
2 Ask and it shall be giv - en un - to you, Seek and
3 Man does not live by bread a - lone, But by



rig - teous - ness. And all these things shall be
ye shall find, Knock and the door shall be
ev - 'ry word That pro - ceeds from the



add - ed un - to you! Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!
o - pened un - to you, Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!
mouth of the Lord, Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!

Text and tune: Karen Lafferty, 1948 Text and tune: © 1972 Maranatha! Music, admin. EMI. Used by permission: 10005394 no. 900010146

INVOCATION

Pastor In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES *1 Corinthians 1:18; Psalm 27:14*

Pastor The word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing,

Congregation **but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.**

Pastor Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage;

Congregation **wait for the LORD!**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Matthew 4:17; Philippians 3:20; 1 Corinthians 1:18*

Pastor St. Matthew writes that Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." Let us respond by confessing our sins and asking our Lord's forgiveness.

Congregation **Heavenly Father, we confess our sins to You. We are too much a part of this fallen world. Because our citizenship is in heaven, invade our thoughts, words, and deeds by Your gracious power. Help us to live each day as pilgrims heading to the eternal promised land. Turn us from our sinful direction to follow our Savior's gracious lead, walking in ways pleasing to You for Jesus' sake. Amen.**

Pastor "For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God." Be assured that through Jesus' blood-bought rescue, you are already citizens in the Kingdom of heaven. In the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation **Amen.**

+ WORD +

SALUTATION

Pastor The Lord be with you.

Congregation **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God,

Congregation **mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us;**

Pastor through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Congregation Amen.

MISSION MOMENT Options Baby Bottle Drive

READING INTRO

The burden and darkness of past failures will be overcome by the light of the Savior, so that they will be joyful rather than walking in darkness. They will know freedom from oppression, not only of land and control, but from the darkness of sin.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Isaiah 9:1–4*

¹There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

²The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined. ³You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil. ⁴For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

Reader This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation Thanks be to God.

PSALM FOR EPIPHANY 3 *Psalms 27:1–14; antiphon: v. 1*

Pastor The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life, the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

Congregation **The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life, the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?**

Pastor The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? When evildoers assail me to eat up my flesh, my adversaries and foes, it is they who stumble and fall.

Left Side *Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war arise against me, yet I will be confident. One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in His temple.*

Right Side *For He will hide me in His shelter in the day of trouble; He will conceal me under the cover of His tent; He will lift me high upon a rock. And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in*

His tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the LORD.

Congregation **The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life, the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?**

Pastor Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud; be gracious to me and answer me! You have said, "Seek My face." My heart says to You, "Your face, LORD, do I seek."

Left Side *Hide not Your face from me. Turn not Your servant away in anger, O You who have been my help. Cast me not off; forsake me not, O God of my salvation! For my father and my mother have forsaken me, but the LORD will take me in.*

Right Side *Teach me Your way, O LORD, and lead me on a level path because of my enemies. Give me not up to the will of my adversaries; for false witnesses have risen against me, and they breathe out violence.*

Pastor I believe that I shall look upon the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living! Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD!

Congregation **The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life, the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?**

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649 BLEST BE THE TIE THAT BINDS *sts. 1-2*



1 Blest be the tie that binds Our hearts in Chris - tian love;
2 Be - fore our Fa - ther's throne We pour our ar - dent prayers;



The fel - low - ship of kin - dred minds Is like to that a - bove.
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, Our com-forts and our cares.

Text: John Fawcett, 1740–1817, alt. Tune: Lowell Mason, 1792–1872, alt. Text and tune: Public domain

READING INTRO

Paul reminds us that we are called to unity as the Body of Christ -- God's Church -- and not to division. The message that unites us seems foolish or illogical to the world, but is the power of God's salvation to all of us in Jesus.

EPISTLE *1 Corinthians 1:10–18*

¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

Reader This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation Thanks be to God.

READING INTRO

Jesus calls simple fisherman as partners who will join him as He shines the light of truth, hope and peace on the darkness of this world. Just as He calls Peter, Andrew, James and John, He also calls us to be "fishers of men".

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 4:12–25*

Pastor The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fourth chapter.

Congregation Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵"The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death, on them a light has dawned."

¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. ²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So

his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

Pastor This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Congregation Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

826 HARK, THE VOICE OF JESUS CRYING



1 Hark, the voice of Je - sus cry - ing, "Who will go and work to - day?
2 If you can - not speak like an - gels, If you can - not preach like Paul,
3 If you can - not be a watch - man, Stand - ing high on Zi - on's wall,
4 Let none hear you i - dly say - ing, "There is noth - ing I can do,"



Fields are white and har - vests wait - ing— Who will bear the sheaves a - way?"
You can tell the love of Je - sus, You can say He died for all.
Point - ing out the path to heav - en, Of - f'ring life and peace to all,
While the mul - ti - tudes are dy - ing And the Mas - ter calls for you.



Loud and long the Mas - ter call - eth; Rich re - ward He of - fers thee.
If you can - not rouse the wick - ed With the judg - ment's dread a - larms,
With your prayers and with your boun - ties You can do what God com - mands;
Take the task He gives you glad - ly, Let His work your plea - sure be;



Who will an - swer, glad - ly say - ing, "Here am I, send me, send me?"
You can lead the lit - tle chil - dren To the Sav - ior's wait - ing arms.
You can be like faith - ful Aar - on, Hold - ing up the proph - et's hands.
An - swer quick - ly when He call - eth, "Here am I, send me, send me!"

Text (sts. 1–2, 4): Daniel March, 1816–1909, alt.; (st. 3): unknown, alt. Tune: Joseph Barnby, 1838–96

Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON

APOSTLES CREED

Congregation 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, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will 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.

OFFERING

<https://faithlutheranlacey.breezechms.com/give/online>
or text to give, 360-732-8020.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Let us pray for the Church here and around the world, that God's light would shine through us, attracting many who still walk in the darkness of their own making, and uniting in faith and confession all who trust in Christ their Lord.

Congregation **Light of the world, use Your Church to enlighten those who live in this world's darkness, and enable our brothers and sisters to find in their Savior the true source of peace and concord.**

Pastor Let us pray for governments local and national, that God would open leaders' eyes to see opportunities for peace between nations and safety and concord among their citizens.

Congregation **Light come to us from above, we ask that You guide, protect, and defend elected officials, police in our communities, and troops deployed, that peace may break out and the Church may prosper.**

Pastor Let us pray for those near and dear to us, *[including . . .]*. Lord Jesus,

Congregation **source of light and health and peace, hear the prayers of all who call to You in their illnesses, sorrows, and grief. Shine on them in blessings and peace so that faith may remain firm until it is replaced by sight.**

Pastor Let us pray for expectant parents, helpful counselors, and resourceful agencies as they seek to help families be nurseries of growth in body, soul, and mind.

Congregation By Your gracious visitation, give them strength, increase their love, and provide unexpected joy in their service to You and the people around them.

Pastor Into Your hands, heavenly Father, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Congregation Amen.

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.

BENEDICTION

Pastor 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.

Congregation Amen.

411 I WANT TO WALK AS A CHILD OF THE LIGHT



1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
2 I want to see the bright-ness of God.
3 I'm look - ing for the com - ing of Christ.



I want to fol - low Je - sus.
I want to look at Je - sus.
I want to be with Je - sus.



God set the stars to give light to the world.
Clear Sun of Righ - teous - ness, shine on my path,
When we have run with pa - tience the race,



The star of my life is Je - sus.
 And show me the way to the Fa - ther.
 We shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain



In Him there is no dark - ness at all.



The night and the day are both a - like.



The Lamb is the light of the cit - y of God.



Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Text and tune: Kathleen Thomerson, 1934 Text and tune: © 1970, 1975 Celebration. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005394

DISMISSAL

Pastor Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

Congregation Thanks be to God.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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