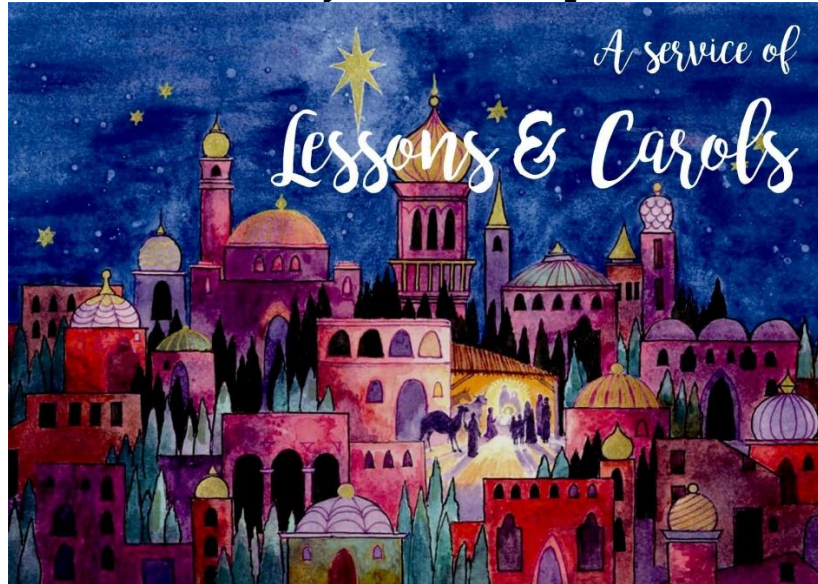


Faith and Rock Creek Lutheran Churches
Sunday, December 29, 2024
Joint Service at Faith 10:30AM
Lay Led Worship



Today's radio broadcast is sponsored by Diane Knudsen
in honor of her parent's wedding anniversary

Welcome and Announcements

Welcome the Word

What Feast of Love WOV 701 (vs 1)

What light of truth is offered here what covenant from heaven
What hope of everlasting life what wondrous word is given
This, this is Christ the king, the Prince of Peace from heaven
Oh, see and hear and sing the Word of God is given

Lesson

Genesis 1

Then God said, "Let us make humans in our image, according to our likeness, and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over the cattle and over all the wild animals of the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth." ²⁸ God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth." ²⁹ God said, "See, I have

given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. ³⁰ And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the air and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so. ³¹ God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day. Thus the heavens and the earth were finished and all their multitude. ² On the sixth day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. ³ So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.”
Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God!**

Carol

Joy to the World LBW 39

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive its King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room and heav'n and nature sing.
and heav'n and nature sing. And heav'n, and heav'n, and nature
sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding
joy, repeat the sounding joy. Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the nations
prove the glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love
and wonders of his love and wonders, wonders of his love.

Greeting

Prayer of the Day

Gracious God, in this season when the good tidings of angels,
shepherds and magi fill our hearts, we give you thanks for the
Christ child, who was born to save us and through whom peace,
hope, love and joy are born in us. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Lesson**Isaiah 9**

“The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness on them light has shined. ³You have multiplied exultation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. ⁴For the yoke of their burden and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. ⁶For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders, and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷Great will be his authority, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.”
Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God!**

Carol**O Come, All Ye Faithful LBW 45**

Oh, come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!
Oh, come ye, oh, come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him born the king of angels
Oh, come, let us adore him, oh, come, let us adore him,
Oh, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God in the highest
Oh, come, let us adore him, oh, come, let us adore him,
Oh, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

Lesson**Jeremiah 31**

“The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a

covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³ But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴ No longer shall they teach one another or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD, for I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more.” Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God!**

Carol **Hark! The Herald Angels Sing LBW 60**
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn king;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled.”
Joyful, all you nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies;
With angelic hosts proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn king!”
Hail the heav’n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of
righteousness! Light and life to all he brings, ris’n with healing in
his wings. Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
Born to raise each child of earth, born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn king!”

Lesson **Luke 2**
“In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴ Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵ He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷ And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no place in the guest room.”
Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God!**

Carol

Away in a Manger LBW 67

Away in a manger; no crib for his bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head; the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay; the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask you to stay close by me forever and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear children in your tender care and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.

Message

ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton

<https://youtu.be/G8nj1yx2vA?si=Dkc4veNXPX6Cj-KX>

Carol

Angels We Have Heard On High LBW 71

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo; gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heav'nly song?
Gloria in excelsis Deo; gloria in excelsis Deo.

Prayers of Intercession

(Please stand as you are able for the Prayers of Intercession)

Trusting in God's good news of great joy for all people, we offer our prayers for ourselves, our neighbors, and the world God so loves.

You inspire faith in our hearts and call us to rejoice with our whole selves at the salvation you bring. Make our churches places of belonging for all people in the fullness of their being.
Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Your praise is sung throughout creation in all times and seasons. As the new year turns, ground us in your changeless and sustaining love. Keep us attentive to the rhythms of the cosmos and inspire us to live in harmony with all the earth.
Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Offering Prayer

God of abundance, receive and bless these gifts we have offered. Join our hearts with the song of the angels. Strengthen us to share with all the world the abundance of your grace upon grace, poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Let us pray the prayer that Jesus taught us. Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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.

Blessing

Lesson

John 1

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it. ⁶There was a man sent from God whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.”

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God!**

Carol

What Child is This LBW 40

What Child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are
keeping? (Refrain) This, this is Christ, the King, whom shepherds
guard and angels sing: Haste, haste to bring Him laud, the Babe, the
Son of Mary!

So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh, come, peasant, king to own
Him. The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone
Him. (Refrain)

Dismissal: Go in peace. Christ is born. **Thanks be to God!**