

*Our Tree of Life*



## First English Lutheran Church

9 NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Street; Ortonville, MN 56278

320-839-2527

Rev. Denise Fossen

Lisa Berdan, Senior Choir Director

Dr. Stephen and Jodi Swanson, Missionaries/Tanzania



**December 18, 2022 ELW SETTING TWO – Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**9:00 am**

### PREPARATION

Prelude

Bells

Announcements

#### **Advent Candle Lighting Prayer**

P: Blessed are you, God of hosts...O house of David, come, **C: let us rejoice, for the Son of God, Emmanuel, comes to be with us. Amen.**

### GATHERING

#### **Greeting & Sharing the Peace**

P: From the One who was...with you all. **C: And also with you.**

**Confession and Forgiveness:** Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things. **C: Blessed be God's name forever. Amen.**

P: God of new beginnings, **C: we confess that we have not welcomed your holy reign. We have strayed from your paths. We prepare for war instead of peace. We dishonor one another and your creation. Purify us with your refining fire and set us again on your way of love, that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance, and welcome your coming among us. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon... **C: Amen**

Offertory Hymn

*'Oh Come, All Ye Faithful'*

#283

**1 O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant! O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem; come and behold him, born the king of angels:**

**Refrain: O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!**

**2 The highest, most holy, light of light eternal, born of a virgin, a mortal he comes; Son of the Father now in flesh appearing! Refrain**

**3 Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation, sing, all ye citizens of heaven above! Glory to God in the highest: Refrain**

**4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning; Jesus, to thee be glory  
giv'n! Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing: Refrain**

Text: attr. John Francis Wade, 1711-1786; tr. Frederick Oakley, 1802- 1880, sts 1,3-4; tr. unknown, st2. Music: attr. John Francis Wade

**WORD**

Sunday School Presents "The Christmas Clinic"

**The Christmas Clinic**-A Children's Christmas Musical by Cathy Skogen-Soldner  
**Bell Choir: Let There Be Peace on Earth**—PreS-2nd Graders

**Clinic Scene 1:** Lola, Sailor, Jace    **Bell Ringer:** Landri

**Luke 2:1-7:** Gibson    **Mary:** Maliah    **Joseph:** Wiley

**Away in a Manger**—Maliah

**Silent Night**—Joey and Wiley

**Clinic Scene 2:** Martino, Hayden, Dawson

**Luke 2:8:** Riley

**Shepherds:** Joey, Henry, Bodhi, Owen, Jaxton, Mason, Sullivan, Ander

**The First Noel, v.1**—Congregation

ELW #300

**The first Noel the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they  
lay; in fields where they lay, keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night  
that was so deep. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel! Born is the King of Israel.**

Text: English traditional. Music: English traditional; arr. John Stainer, 1840-1901

**Clinic Scene 3:** Bailey, Makiyah, Tessa, Mia

**Luke 2:9-12:** Dylan

**Angel:** Maizie

**Glory to God**—Maizie

**Clinic Scene 4:** Liam, Coby, Oliver

**Luke 2:13-14:** Hartley

**Angels:** Maizie, Reba, Poppy, Vayda, Tenley, Evelyn, Brinley, Arlie,  
Eira, Tessa, Fiona, Gia, Kora

**Glory to God**—all angels

**Oh, What a Glorious Night!** (Words and music by Sidewalk Prophets) Sunday School

**Luke 2:15-16:** Kimberly

**Angels We Have Heard on High chorus**—angels

**Clinic Scene 5:** Bennett, Katelyn

**Luke 2:18-20:** Dylan

**Joy to the World, v.1**—Congregation

ELW #267

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her 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.**

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748. Music: English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792-1872.

**Clinic Scene 6:** Nash, Weston, Jordan

**Matthew 2:9-11:** Gibson

**Wisemen:** Jacob, Avery, Oakley

**The First Noel, v. 2 & 3**—Congregation

ELW #300

**2 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. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel! Born is the King of Israel.**

**3 No more let sin and sorrow grow nor thorns infest the ground; he comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel! Born is the King of Israel.**

Text: English traditional. Music: English traditional; arr. John Stainer, 1840-1901

**Clinic Scene 7:** Livia, Isaac, Mya

**Let It Be Christmas Everywhere** (words and music by Alan Jackson)

**Sunday School Solos: v.1** Lola & Livia **v.2** Oliver & Jordan **v.3** Lola & Livia

**Speaker for John 3:16** Riley

**Backdrops made by Kids Club**

**Director:** Marilyn Chindvall

**Accompanists:** Amy Adelman, Carmen & Pete Zupfer

**Bd. of Christian Ed.:** Jennifer Anderson, Kayla Teske, Ashley Hanson, Kaitlyn Burdorf, Carmen Zupfer

**Parent Helpers:** Beth Fladhammer, Amy Hodenfield, Michelle Bauer and all parents for your support and patience!

Lord's Prayer

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**SENDING**

Benediction

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Christ is near. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Announcement – After dismissal, all our invited downstairs to sing Happy Birthday to Jesus and have Birthday Cake!

Closing Hymn

‘Go Tell it on the Mountain’

#290

**Refrain: Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and ev'rywhere; go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!**

**1 While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night, behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. Refrain**

**2 The shepherds feared and trembled when, lo, above the earth rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth. Refrain**

**3 Down in a lonely manger the humble Christ was born; and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. Refrain**

Text: African American spiritual, refrain; John W. Work Jr., 1872-1925, stanzas, alt. Music: African American spiritual

Bells, Postlude

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*Revelations 22- Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb <sup>2</sup>through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. <sup>3</sup>Nothing accursed will be found there anymore. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; <sup>4</sup>they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads.*

**Welcome to all visitors and guests!** May the joy of Christ fill you as we worship today. Friendship Pads are at the ends of each pew (by middle aisle). Fill them out, pass them on to your neighbor(s), and send them back to the middle aisle. Visitors are invited to pick up a ‘Pocket Prayer Shawl’ from the ushers as they leave today. Please join us downstairs following worship for coffee and fellowship.

**Now is the time** for thankful hearts to give back to our community. Please support this project by choosing an ornament from the Advent Giving tree after November 22. Your donation and the tag from the ornament should be placed in the envelopes provided. Thank you for supporting this project by leaving your donations in the box near the tree.

**God’s Creations Fundraiser Calendars** are in! \$8.00 cash or checks (written to FELC Youth) can be brought to the office if you’d like one!

**Remember to pick up** your envelopes and please turn in your pledges and opportunity sheets in the Narthex.

**Volunteers needed** for Christmas Eve services. Please contact the church office if you are interested in helping. There are two services (2 pm & 4 pm). We need greeters and lay assistants for both services. We need ushers and an acolyte for the 4:00 pm service only.

**Sunday School Presents:** "The Christmas Clinic," a series of several short skits with speaking parts, also including the nativity, Sunday December 18<sup>th</sup> during 9:00 am Service.

**We are seeking to fill** the FELC Youth and Children Program Leader position. It will start at approx. 20-hours per week, Mon-Fri, plus limited evenings and weekend hours for youth ministry activities and chaperoning youth events and trips. There is potential for future growth in hours with program growth. If you or someone you know is interested, drop off your resume and references at the church office or e-mail it to [pastor@firstenglish.net](mailto:pastor@firstenglish.net).

**Free Holiday Grief Support Groups** will be held at OAHS Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> at 3-4pm. There is also a virtual group available. If you would like more information on the grief groups, please contact the church office.

**If you would like to give a poinsettia** or Christmas Flower to FELC during this advent/Christmas season, please bring or have it delivered to the church office. Don't forget to let us know who it is from and memorial/in-honor-of information so that we can list it in our Christmas Eve bulletin. If you want your poinsettia back, please put your name on it.

**Stonecroft Ministries Women's Connection** will be meeting on Tuesday, December 20<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm at Tabor Methodist Church in Big Stone City, SD. Speaker will be Alicia Dixon on "Finding God's Light in the Darkness." Special music features A Christmas Carol sing along with Kathy Haukos leading and playing beautiful piano selections. This cost is \$6.00 and there is a free nursery by reservation. You can register with Carol Rabe at 605-862-8570 or just be a walk-in.

**KDIO Radio Broadcast** is sponsored this week by Rodney & Vicky Torgerson in honor of their 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on December 20<sup>th</sup>. [Radio broadcast cards are available on the information kiosk in the narthex; cost is \$100/week]. 2023 cards are available in the box.

**2 Large Print Bibles** have been graciously donated to the church. If you or anyone you know could benefit from them, please contact the office. The first bible translation is "The Message" and the second translation is "New Living Translation."

**OFFERING UPDATE:** Amount needed weekly: \$5,500. Last week's offering: General: \$5,509.25; Operating Reserve: \$245. You're also encouraged to visit our webpage for Online Giving at [www.firstenglish.net](http://www.firstenglish.net).

**It's the season** for festive music and good food! You will have an opportunity to experience both in the upcoming event *The Silence and the Sound*, a musical presentation of the story of Christmas, which will be performed at First English on Sunday, Dec. 18, at 3:30 p.m. The hour-long cantata of memorable music features nearly 50 singers and instrumentalists from the Ortonville, Clinton, and Milbank areas. (Prelude music by local musicians begins at 3:00.) Following the concert, join us for a festive celebration with a Scandinavian influence in the fellowship hall, including a variety of sweets, lefse, Scandinavian goodies, and open-faced sandwiches. Would you like to help with this community event in any way, either with gifts of time, money, or donations of food? If so, please see the sign-up board in the narthex or contact Lori Strei.

**The Mobile Meals program** is looking for drivers to deliver meals to the elderly and those in need. Delivery times are about half an hour and done Monday through Friday. Meals are prepared by the dietary department at Fairway View Senior Communities and are usually ready around 11:30 am each day. If you are interested in volunteering contact Julie Kramin at 839-4172 or Pam Streich at 320-839-4185.

**Prairie Five RIDES** is seeking volunteer drivers to join them in providing safe, reliable transportation to individuals in our communities. Drivers will be reimbursed the federal mileage rate for the use of their vehicle (\$.625/mi) and be able to choose when and where they are available to travel. Call 1-877-757-4337 for more information.

**'Tis the season to be** .....a BLOOD DONOR! The Red Cross Bloodmobile will be at the Bellingham Community Center on Tuesday, December 13 from 1pm until 6 pm. Call Audrey Volkenant at (320) 568- 2385 to schedule your appointment. They'll also gift you with a \$10 gift card by email as thanks for your donation in addition to a variety of items for the donor to choose from.

**PRAYERS FOR HEALING and COMFORT** for Carol Barrett; Ken Henneberg; Arlen LaCombe; Gail Olson; Harris Selvig; Brandi Tweeter; Mick Boone; Paul Erdman; Baby Rosie Frank; Larry Helgeson; Natalie Henneberg; Baby McCoy Jipson; Zane Kilde; Brian Pribyl; Janice Redfield; Jerry Stotesbery; and Terry Ward. AT FAIRWAY VIEW NEIGHBORHOODS: Swede & Janet Anderson; Ruth Hansen; Eleanor Nickolauson; & Aletta Simonitch. ALL OUR MILITARY who are deployed to areas of conflict. *If you would like a name added/removed, please contact the church office.*



**REMINDER:** Calendar and other important information is on our website at [www.firstenglish.net](http://www.firstenglish.net) and on the bulletin board (kiosk) in the narthex. Church office number is (320)839-2527.

**This Week's Ministry Assistants—December 18<sup>th</sup>**

**Tech Desk:** Marge Dragseth & Marina Thomson      **Organist:** Amy Adelman  
**Acolytes:** Owen & James      **Ushers:** Russel Thielke, Warren Wiese,  
**Greeter:** Lori Larson and Michelle Giese      Connie Newman & Gale May

**Next Week's Ministry Assistants—December 24<sup>th</sup> (2:00)**

**Greeter:** NEED VOLUNTEERS      **Acolytes:** Archer & Ashton S.  
**Organist:** Marilyn Hanson      **Ushers:** Russell Thielke, Vern Nickolauson,  
**Lector:** Marge Dragseth      Ron Athey, Gale May  
**Tech Desk:** Marina Thomson      **Lay Assistants:** Liz Ketz & VOLUNTEER

**Next Week's Ministry Assistants—December 24<sup>th</sup> (4:00)**

**Greeter:** NEED VOLUNTEERS      **Acolytes:** Bryson Karels & VOLUNTEER  
**Organist:** Marilyn Hanson      **Ushers:** Russell Thielke, Vern Nickolauson,  
**Lector:** Jim Schmeichel      Ron Athey, Gale May  
**Tech Desk:** Marina Thomson      **Lay Assistants:** Ranet Schmeichel & VOLUNTEER

**Weekly Calendar**

**Sun – 12/18** 9:00 am Worship – Sunday School Presents “The Christmas Clinic” –KDIO & Facebook Live  
10:00 am Fellowship  
3:00 pm Christmas Music Prelude  
3:30 pm Christmas Cantata

**Mon – 12/19** 10:00 am Staff Meeting

**Tues – 12/20** **NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

**Wed – 12/21** 9:30 am Channel 3 broadcast  
NO CONFIRMATION, YOUTH GROUP, OR  
KID'S CLUB (early out)  
5:30 pm Channel 3 broadcast  
NO CHOIR PRACTICE

**Fri – 12/23** 9:00 am Bulletins Printed

**Sat – 12/24** 2:00 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service – KDIO & Facebook Live  
4:00 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

**Sun – 12/25** **CHRISTMAS DAY**  
NO SUNDAY SCHOOL  
**NO CHURCH SERVICE**



\*If you have pastoral needs, please call Pastor Denise  
anytime at 763-516-2026