



First English Lutheran Church

9 NW 3rd Street; Ortonville, MN 56278

Reverend Denise Fossen

Lisa Berdan, Senior Choir Director

Dr. Stephen and Jodi Swanson, Missionaries/Tanzania

Fifth Sunday of Advent – Time Flies



December 10, 2023

“Out of Time”

9:00 am

PREPARATION

Prelude

Bells

Welcome & Announcements

GATHERING

Greeting & Passing of the Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

Call to Worship

P: We gather today. **C: It is time to worship!**

P: We listen for God. **C: It is time to hear!**

P: We receive God's grace. **C: It is time to be loved!**

P: We leave in peace. **C: It is time to serve others!**

P: As we wait for Jesus' arrival, Emmanuel, God-with-us, is already here in this time and place.

Prayer of Confession:

P: People of God, when we think that we have nowhere ...Holy one,

C: We have not stayed awake. We have missed you when you appeared in our neighbors, in strangers half a world away, in the suffering planet. We have wasted the time and the skills that you gave us and assumed we were powerless to mend the breaches in our world. Sometimes, we even gave up on your mercy, justice, and love. God, is it too late for us? Speak tenderly to our anxious hearts. Tear open the heavens and heal what we have done. Amen.

P: People of God, God's judgement... we will witness wonders. **C: Amen.**

Lighting the Advent Wreath

Julie Hipple, Jocelyn Schowalter, & Marilyn Hanson

Isaiah 40:7

Advent Prayer L: Let us pray: Everlasting God, we are changeable. We change our minds and our passions. We grow and expand. We age and fade. Yet through all our changes, you are constant. You never leave us. As

we light another candle on this wreath, lend us your patience and stability, that we will know peace in all the changes of this life. **C: Amen**

Candle Lighting Hymn

'Out of Time'

SONG SHEET

Greeting

pg. 147

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C: And also with you.**

Hymn of Praise

'O Come, O Come, Emmanuel' v. 5

#257

Prayer of the Day

P: Stir up our hearts, Lord God, **C: to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming strengthen us to serve you with purified lives; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

MEAL

Offering Collection and Presentation

Offertory Hymn

'Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus'

#254

Offertory Prayer

P: Loving God, For the time we have, we say: **Thank you.**

P: For the gifts we offer, we say: **C: Thank you.**

P: For the chance to help others, we say: **C: Thank you.**

P: For the people whose lives will be better because of these gifts, we say:

C: Thank you.

P: For the ways you are changing the world, we say: **C: Thank you.**

P: We pray in the name of Jesus, who appears wherever people need our help **C: Amen**

Sunday School Program

Sunday School Presents "Signs of Christmas"

(created by Cathy Skogen-Soldner)

BELLS: Silent Night (PreS, K, Gr. 1)

Skits: Jace, Dawson, Katelyn, Jordan, Mya, Oliver, Gibson, Mia, Riley, Hartley, Kimberly

Luke 2:1-5 Kimberly

SONG: No Vacancy (Solo-Maizie)

Innkeeper – Hayden Mary – MaKiyah Joseph – Coby

FINGERPLAY: The First Christmas (PreS, K)

Fiona, Tessa, Eira, Winnie, Sullivan, Evelyn, Ander, Kora, Oakley, Gia, Eleanor

Luke 2:6-7 Jace

Skit

SONG: Away in a Manger (PreS, K, Gr. 1) Solo – Brinley and Tenley

Skit

Luke 2:8 Dawson

SONG: Counting Sheep

Shepherds: Joey, Wiley, Henry, Bodhi, Owen, Avery, Jaxton, Mason, Jacob

Skit

Luke 2:9, 13-14 Riley

Gabriel – Tessa

SONG: Joy to the World

Angels: Malia, Maizie, Landri, Tenley, Vayda, Poppy, Reba, Arlie, Brinley, Kova

Luke 2:15-20 Mia

Skit

SONG: Born to Bring Us Joy Solos – Vayda and Tessa

Skit

SONG: Follow the Star

Wisemen: Sailor, Weston, Isaac Star: Hayden

SONG: The Gift (with God Rods) Solos – Malia and Maizie

Skit

SONG: Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful, v. 1 Congregation & Sunday School #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!

Text: attr. John Francis Wade, 1711-1786; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802-1880.

SENDING

Benediction

P: God our Creator, who made the starlit sky, blesses you. Jesus our Redeemer, † who arrives at just the right time, blesses you. The Holy Spirit our Enlivener, who sparks hope for the hopeless, blesses you. You are blessed in the name of God, the Three in One. **C: Amen.**

Dismissal:

P: As you leave this place, remember: whether you feel patient or have no patience at all, God is already ahead of you. Keep alert; trust God; seek peace.

C: We Will! Thanks be to God.

Announcement – After Dismissal, all of you are invited downstairs to sing Happy Birthday to Jesus and have Birthday Cake!

Skit

Closing Hymn

'Go Tell It on the Mountain'
(Sunday School sings with Congregation)

#290

Bells

Postlude

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Psalm 139:14. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.

In other words, "created to be..."

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

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. Please join us downstairs following worship for coffee and fellowship.

KDIO Radio Broadcast is sponsored in memory of Mark Block's 72nd Birthday on Dec. 12th from Terry, Mark II, Jennifer, Matthew and families. [Radio broadcast cards are available on the information kiosk in the narthex; cost is \$100/week].

OFFERING UPDATE: Here are the expenses for November: \$18,989.29. Here is what we received: \$17,514.25. We deficit spent by \$1,475.04 You're also encouraged to visit our webpage for Online Giving at www.firstenglish.net.



THANK YOU to all who helped with the Sunday School program: Amy Adelman, accompanist; Kaitlyn Burdorf, Ashley Hanson, Kayla Teske, Sara Wollschlager, and Carmen Zupfer, members of the Board of Christian Ed.; Liv Wollschlager; Emily Sigler and other parents who helped at rehearsals. Thank you to all of the parents who supported these young people in sharing the true meaning of Christmas! We are SO blessed to have almost 50 students

participating--a very special thanks to each one of you!! May the true meaning of Christmas live and grow in your hearts! Marilyn Chindvall

The Giving Tree has the opportunity to give to **Katie's Kicks** and **Trojan Takeout**. Katie's Kicks is a non-profit program that gives new shoes to Ortonville area school students. All shoes are purchased new and kids are able to pick out their own pair. So far this year, the program has served 120 kids. Trojan Takeout sends home a weekly bag of food to help curb hunger in children over the weekend and holidays. There are no income requirements, it's confidential and no one will be turned away. Thank you for sharing in these and other local needs.

We have received word that Mary Lou Olson has been moved to the Madison Nursing Home for the time being.


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 the week leading up to Christmas. 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.

Please pick up & fill out your pledges & opportunity sheets and put them in the box in the Narthex before the end of the year. We need new opportunity sheets each year, so that we know you are still interested and willing to continue volunteering. You can also pick up your giving envelopes for 2024.

If you want to receive a box of donation envelopes in 2025, please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex.

We are looking for some volunteers for our holiday services. Can you help with our Christmas Eve morning and/or afternoon services, or New Years Eve morning? Contact the office to be an acolyte, greeter, lay assistant (Christmas Eve), tech desk helper, (Christmas Eve), usher (Christmas Eve), or lector (NYE Morning).

Photo Directory Pictures Will Be Taken today after the service. There are 'how to' instructions available next to the newsletters in the narthex if you wish to upload your own photo yourself. You will need to create an online account to do that.

Coffee Fellowship needs volunteers to continue. Please contact the office or sign-up in the fellowship hall if you're willing to help to prepare & serve coffee. If no one volunteers to serve, we won't have coffee fellowship that Sunday. 

The Bellingham Bloodmobile is set for Tuesday, December 12, 1-6 p.m. at the Bellingham Community Center. Regular or Power Red donation appointments

can be made by calling Audrey Volkenant at (320)568-2385 or online at redcrossblood.org/Bellingham location or by using the Red Cross Blood Donor app. There will be a drawing for a Red Cross t-shirt quilt made by local quilters that day.

Stonecroft Ministries Women's Connection will be meeting on Tuesday, December 19th at 5:30 pm at Tabor Methodist Church in Big Stone City, SD. Speaker will be Levi Wadell of Marvin, SD. He is the part-time youth coordinator at Central Church in Milbank. He will tell of his work with the youth and his faith walk. Jim Wagar of Odessa, MN, accompanied by guitar, will lead group singing of Christmas Carols. This cost is \$6.00 and there is a free nursery by reservation. You can register with Carol Rabe at 605-862-8570 or you are welcome to be a walk-in.

PRAYERS FOR HEALING and COMFORT for Carol Barrett; Marcus Hanson, Arlen LaCombe; Gail Olson; Harris Selvig; Beth Swanson; Brandi Tweeter; Clara Zeek; Monty Athey, Paul Erdman; Beckett Foster; Rosie Frank; Larry Helgeson; Natalie Henneberg; McCoy Jipson; Zane Kilde; Brian Pribyl; Janice Redfield; David Scholberg; and Jerry Stotesbery. AT FAIRWAY VIEW NEIGHBORHOODS: Janet Anderson; Ricky Anderson; Arvilla Bergseth; Adeline Burgess; Ruth Hansen; Jim Hipple; Vivian Janssen; & Eleanor Nickolauson. ALL OUR MILITARY who are deployed to areas of conflict, especially Alexander Johnson (Ev Johnson's grandson). 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 and on the bulletin board (kiosk) in the narthex. The church office number is (320) 839-2527.

This Week's Ministry Assistants—December 10th

Greeters: Marge Dragseth & Lexi Kaye **Acolytes:** Eliot & Archer
Coffee Servers: Boards of Christian Ed & Youth & Family
Organist: Amy Adelman **FWV:** Paula Reisdorph & Marge Dragseth
Tech Desk: Marge Dragseth & Marina Thomson
Ushers: Liz Ketz, Eldon Knutson, Darin Ehrenberg, & Harley Helgeson
Advent Volunteers: Julie Hipple, Jocelyn Showalter, & Marilyn Hanson

Next Week's Ministry Assistants—December 17th

Greeters: Ginger Athey & Lola Backstrand **Acolytes:** Miley & Mason
Coffee Servers: NEED VOLUNTEERS **Advent Volunteers:** Courtney & Arlie Giese
Tech Desk: Marge Dragseth & Marina Thomson **Organist:** Marilyn Hanson
Ushers: Russell Thielke, Warren Wiese, Gale May, & Connie Newman

Weekly Calendar

Sun – 12/10 9:00 am Worship – Sunday School Presents 'Signs of Christmas' – KDIO & FB Live



10:00 am Bake Sale, Birthday Cake & Coffee Fellowship

Pictures will be taken for the Photo Directory

10:30 am Fairway View Worship Pre-Recorded

4:00 – 5:30 pm Cantata Practice



Mon – 12/11

10:00 am Staff Meeting

Tues – 12/12

4:00 pm Pastor Denise at Donnie's Diner at Fairway View

Wed – 12/13

9:30 am Channel 3 broadcast

3:30 pm Confirmation (7-8th grade)

4:30 pm Confirmation (9th grade)

5:30 pm Youth Group (7-12th grade) & Channel 3 broadcast

7:00 pm Senior Choir

Fri – 12/15 9:00 am Bulletins Printed

7:00 pm Cantata Rehearsal (Dress Rehearsal)

Sat – 12/16 9:30 am Cantata Practice (Dress Rehearsal)

3:00 pm **Christmas Cantata at FELC**

4:00 pm Scandinavian Lunch in Fellowship Hall

Sun – 12/17 9:00 am Worship – KDIO Broadcast & Facebook Live

NO SUNDAY
SCHOOL FOR
THE REST OF
THE YEAR

10:00 am Coffee Fellowship

3:00 pm Christmas Cantata (with refreshments after) at
Abbey of the Hills, Marvin, SD