



## First English Lutheran Church

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

Lisa Berdan, Senior Choir Director

Rev. Cheryl Rondeau-Bassett, Pastor



### Third Sunday of Advent - Sunday School Christmas Program

December 14, 2025

ELW SETTING TWO

9:00 am

#### PREPARATION

Prelude

Bells

Welcome & KDIO Announcement

#### GATHERING

##### Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

#### Gathering Hymn & Offering Collection 'O 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 Oakeley, 1802-1880, sts. 1, 3-4; tr. unknown, st. 2.

#### Lighting of the Advent Wreath Week 3 - [KAYE FAMILY]

**Speaker 1:** The light glowing from our Advent wreath is burning brighter. This radiance warms our hearts and fills us with joy! The Lord has done great things for us. Let us rejoice.

**Speaker 2:** "May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy. Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves" (Psalm 126:5-6).

*The first three candles are lit.*

**Speaker 3:** Light three candles, see them glow brightly, so that all may know How three candles show the way making our darkness bright as God's day.

**Speaker 4:** Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves.

**All pray:** Dear God, we carry many burdens and worry over many things. Help us to hear your promise in this Advent season, that in hearing, we may receive the Spirit's gift of joy. And may our spirits be kept sound at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Advent Lighting Hymn     'Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah' vs. 3     #240

**The Christmas Story**  
**from Luke 2:1-20 and Matthew 2:1-12 with excerpts from**  
**"Bed, Bath and Beyond: When Heaven Touched Earth" by Ellen S. Bunnell.**

**Bell Choir: Silent Night: (PreS/K/1)**

PreS: Logan, Ryley, Savannah, Barrett, Tuesday, Micah, Penelope,  
Louie, Amber     K: Eleanor     Gr. 1: Ander, Kora, Laklyn, Watson,  
Oakley, Gia

Luke 2:1-5     Narrator: Coby

**Song: O Little Town of Bethlehem** Solo by Maliah

Innkeeper: Isaac

Joseph: Sailor

Mary: Tessa

**A Christmas Story Fingerplay (PreS/K/1)**

Luke 2:6-7

**Song: Away in a Manger (SS)** Solo by Landri

Luke 2:8

Angels: Maliah, Poppy, Arlie, Vayda, Landri, Fiona, Tenley, Reba, Brinley,  
Eira, Evie, Maizie, Tessa, Winnie,

Gabriel: Makiyah

Luke 2:9-13

**Song: Glory to God (Angels)**

**Song: Joy to the World (Angels)**

Luke 2:15-19

Shepherds: Wiley, Steve, Owen, Mason, Bodhi, Leo, Jacob, Sully, Avery,  
Henry

**Song: Silent Night (SS and Congregation)**

Hymn

'Silent Night, Holy Night!'

#281

**1. Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright round yon virgin mother and child. Holy Infant, so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.**

**2. Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight; glories stream from heaven afar, heav'nly hosts sing, alleluia! Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!**

**3. Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light radiant beams from your holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at your birth, Jesus, Lord, at your birth.**

Text: Joseph Mohr, 1792-1849; tr. John F. Young, 1820-1885. Music: Franz Gruber, 1787-1863.

Luke 2:20

**Song: What Child Is This?** Solo by Isaac

Matthew 2:1

Herod: Joey

Scribe: Wiley

Wisemen: Baylor, Bronson, Braylon

Matthew 2:2-12 summarized

**Song: Prince of Peace (SS)**

Soloists: Poppy, Fiona, Tenley, Evelyn

**Song: Born to Bring Us Joy (SS)**

Soloists: Vayda, Jacob, Reba, Eira, Maizie

Narrations: Coby

Narration: Isaac

**Song: Immanuel (SS)** from Wonder Junctions VBS

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**Director:** Marilyn Chindvall - **Accompanist:** Amy Adelman

**Thank you, Board of Christian Ed members and parents, for your help!**

*Beth Fladhammer, Carmen Leger, Kayla Minder, Sara Wollschlager, Amanda Stattelman, Kandra Kellen, Michelle Bauer, Kelsey Kaye, Kirsten Karels, Emily Sigler.*

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## **Prayers of Intercession for Advent 3A**

(inspired by Isaiah 35:1-10, Psalm 146:5-10,  
Matthew 11:2-11, James 5:7-10)

P: Lord Jesus Christ, like John the ... as evidence of your presence among us.

**C: Stir up your power and come: Be born anew in us.**

P: Dearest Father, your glory is made ... it's your hand that holds us fast.

**C: Stir up your power and come: Be born anew in us.**

P: Holy Spirit, we need your counsel...then you make us bloom in due season

**C: Stir up your power and come: Be born anew in us.**

P: We remember, Lord, that you set...present through us as we attend to all in need.

**C: Stir up your power and come: Be born anew in us.**

P: As we name those whom...even as we whisper our very own names, \_\_\_\_.

**C: Stir up your power and come: Be born anew in us.**

P: Soon, Jesus, comes the Day of...are all children of the Heavenly Father.

**C: Stir up your power and come: Be born anew in us.**

P: All the earth, seas, and heavens are....you have promised to listen to us.

Amen. **C: Amen.**

### **Lord's Prayer**

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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.

### **SENDING**

**Commission & Benediction:** *(based on Isaiah 35: 1-4)*

P: One day the wilderness will blossom with flowers; and the desert wasteland will come alive with new growth. And God's glory and splendor will be on full display.

With this news, strengthen those who have tired hands, and encourage those who have weak knees. Say to those with fearful hearts, "Be strong, and do not fear, for your God is coming to save you."

So go with confidence into the days ahead. And may the love of God, the grace of Jesus Christ, and the presence of the Holy Spirit, be among you and within you. **C: Amen.**

### *Pastor Leaves* **Announcements**

### **Dismissal**

L: Go in peace... Keep awake.

**C: We Will! Thanks be to God.**

Closing Hymn

*'Go Tell It on the Mountain'*

#290

(Sunday School sings with Congregation)

(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 Refrain 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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John 10:27 "My sheep hear my voice; I know them and they follow me."

**Pastor Cheryl's Hours:** Mondays (FELC Pastor Office 10 am to 4 pm), Tuesdays (Zion Lutheran 10 am to 4 pm), Wednesdays (FELC Pastor Office 10 am to 3:30 (and then teaching confirmation classes), & Thursdays (FELC Pastor Office 10 am – 4 pm (unless up at FWV/or visiting members) or by appointment. Contact her anytime via text (605-237-1501) or email at CMQRondeau@outlook.com.

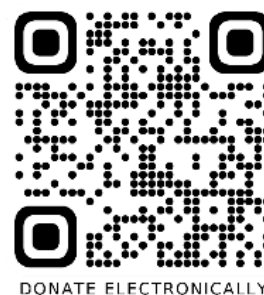
**Welcome to all visitors and guests!** May the joy of Christ fill you as we worship today. Friendship Pads are at the ends of each pew (by middle aisle). Fill them out, pass them on to your neighbor(s), and send them back to the middle aisle.

**KDIO Radio Broadcast** is sponsored in memory of Marvin Schmeichel and Mike & Marvis Northwick by Ranet & Jim Schmeichel. [2026 Radio broadcast cards are available in the narthex; cost is \$100/week].

**OFFERING UPDATE:** You're encouraged to visit our webpage for Online Giving at [www.firstenglish.net](http://www.firstenglish.net) or scan the QR Code from the offering cards or bulletins.



	<u>November 2025</u>	<u>Year-to-Date 2025</u>
Offerings/Gifts:	\$21,933.07	\$199,132.27
Zion Receivable:	\$3,446.52	\$32,827.48
Total Revenue:	\$25,379.59	\$231,959.75
Expenses:	\$17,091.82	\$222,195.48
Balance:	\$8,287.77	\$9,764.27



**December's pink envelope emphasis is for ELCA Missionaries.** You can find special pink envelopes for designated giving in the Narthex.

**You're invited to have coffee and cake in celebration of Jesus' Birthday** down in the Fellowship Hall after today's service.

**God's Creations Fundraiser Calendars are in! If you'd like one,** they can be bought in the office or in the Narthex following church! They're \$8.00. You can bring cash or pay by check (please write checks for calendars out to **FELC Youth**).

**Please return your completed opportunity sheets and pledges** from your envelope. There is a box in the Narthex that says "Leave commitment cards and opportunity sheets here" on it. If the office is open, you can

leave them with Barbara instead. It's important that they be turned in before the end of the year. The first Sunday of 2026 we dedicate the pledges, and the opportunity sheets will be compiled into a list for the council in January.

**Annual report information is due in the office by Friday, Dec. 19<sup>th</sup>.** (Electronic files preferred but a hard copy for back up just in case is also appreciated!)

**Organizations with financial reports** should turn those reports into the office by January 5<sup>th</sup> (*or as soon after as possible*) for our internal audit of FELC books.

**Are you interested in being a part of our special prelude music** for Christmas Eve services at 2:30 pm on Wednesday, December 24, 2025? Prelude music starts ½ hour before the church service. We welcome vocal and instrumental musicians. If you are, then please contact the church office at (320) 839-2527 or Marilyn Hanson by December 17<sup>th</sup>.

**We're looking for volunteers to help during FELC's 2 Christmas Eve** services. We need 2 acolytes each for the 2:30 & 6:30 services, 3 lay assistants for the 6:30 pm service. 1 tech desk volunteer for the 2:30 and 2 tech volunteers for the 6:30. And we need ushers for the 6:30 pm service. Please contact the office if you're willing & able to help serve in this way.

**The Board of Evangelism set up the Giving Tree** in the Narthex.

Next to the tree is a basket of named envelopes of choices you may donate your gift to. Place the envelope of your choice in the box labeled "GIFTS" (preferably a check written to First English Lutheran Church). Thank you!



**Today is the Youth Bake Sale** held before and after worship. All goodies will be available for free-will donation, with every dollar supporting the FELC Youth Mission Trip to Savannah, Georgia next June. Thank you for your continued generosity to the FELC Youth!

**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 contact the office so we know who it is from and the memorial/in-honor-of information so that we can list it in our Christmas Eve bulletin. You can call, e-mail [secretary@firstenglish.net](mailto:secretary@firstenglish.net), or stop in during office hours. If you want your poinsettia back, please put your name on it.



**You're invited to a special Blue Christmas service on Sat, December 20<sup>th</sup>,** at 4:00 PM. This service, sometimes called the Longest Night Service, is a dedicated time for those who find the atmosphere of holiday celebration difficult due to grief, loss, or struggle. The Blue Christmas service provides a safe, quiet place to come as you are to find hope in the darkness where we will join with others who share similar experiences of loss and struggle; hear God's comforting Word of hope and healing; honor your loss in a gentle and non-judgmental atmosphere; and embrace God's promise of light that shines even in the deepest darkness, calling us forward to the new life of spring. This special, non-denominational service offers comfort and support to all. Whether your loss is recent or happened in years past, all are welcome to come and receive a moment of peace and remembrance.

**Oh the weather outside was frightful, but the dinner oh so delightful....** On Tuesday, the Day of Love gals enjoyed their Christmas gathering with a delicious meal catered by the Crazy Aprons. It was a relaxing time, a day when there was no quilting, everything was shut down. All that could be heard was the chatter, a great noise!

There was one assignment which everyone took seriously and that was the signing of cards to be sent out for four weeks. This will enable everyone to get their weekly card in the mail, which they so enjoy and creates a bit of sunshine and smiles. We will be taking a break with our return on January 6th.



You will see the gals that attended the dinner in the picture. Kim came a bit later and just missed the photo!!!

CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS TO ALL FROM THE DAY OF LOVE

**Come One, Come All! (Ages 18-100)! Join our 3<sup>rd</sup> Adults-Only Game Night!**

The evening begins with soup & meat tray at 5:30 pm and then board, card, and dice games to follow. Please call FELC to register (320-839-2527), as a head count is necessary for meal preparation. Transportation can be arranged if people need rides from Fairway View or other local locations. Come for laughs and fellowship! Hope to see you there!

**When:** Friday, January 9<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** 5:30 pm

**Where:** FELC Basement

**Cost:** FREE



**All are welcome to enjoy a free sit-down Community Christmas Dinner,** December 25<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 am – 1:00 pm at Saint John's Catholic Church (421 Madison Ave., Ortonville, MN)

**Stonecroft Ministries Women's Connection** will be meeting on Tues., December 16<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm at Big Stone Tabor Methodist Church. The speaker will be E.J. Moret, of Ortonville, whose talk is titled, "Daughter of the King." The special feature will be Jerrolyn, Doreen, Rhonda, Laura & Denise leading us in singing Christmas carols with Amy Adelman, pianist. The music will be provided by The Weeding Sisters of Ortonville, singing some of our favorites. The cost is \$6.00, and you can register with Paula Reisdorph at 320-760-9583 or just be a walk-in. Free nursery by reservation. ALL ARE WELCOME!

**PRAYERS FOR HEALING and COMFORT** for Kelly Athey, Gail Olson, Nancy Pierzina, Harris Selvig, Beth Swanson, Brandi Tweeter, Jean Zielike; Bishop Craig Anderson, Monty Athey, Paul Erdman, Rosie Frank, Dustin Hanson, Larry Helgeson, Natalie Henneberg, McCoy Jipson, Janice Redfield, David Scholberg, and Jerry Stotesbery. AT FAIRWAY VIEW NEIGHBORHOODS: Ricky Anderson, Arvilla Bergseth, Adeline Burgess, Jim Hipple, Vivian Janssen, Arlen LaCombe, Nola Lockwood, Roger Nornes; Aletta Simonitch; and Mary Lou Olson in Madison. ALL OUR MILITARY who are deployed to areas of conflict especially Jacob Hamann, Colin Hartman, Tyler Ruby, and Thomas Halverson; and our Haitian student, Ycherson Soh and South African students Sanelisiwe Dlamini and Andiswa Mbatha. If you would like a name to be added/removed, please contact the church office.



**This Week's Ministry Assistants—December 14<sup>th</sup>**

**Organist:** Amy Adelman

**Acolytes:** Mya & Justice

**Greeters:** Cody Backstrand & Jordan Stattelmann

**FWV:** Paula Reisdorph

**Tech Desk:** Kim Anderson & Liz Ketz

**Ushers:** Darin Ehrenberg, Eldon Knutson, Ellie & Harley Helgeson

**Next Week's Ministry Assistants—December 21<sup>st</sup>**

**Organist:** Lisa Berdan

**Lay Assistants:** Sara Mattison & Terry Kalberg

**Tech Desk:** Matt Karels & David Ellingson

**Acolytes:** Jace & Lola

**Greeters:** Jace & Austin Schoon

**Lector:** Archer Dorry

**Ushers:** Russ Thielke, Warren Wiese, Gale May, & Connie Newman



**Next Week's Ministry Assistants—Wed. December 24<sup>th</sup> 2:30 PM**

**Organist:** Carol Ydstie    **Lay Assistants:** Archer Dorry, Kari Dorry, & Lori Strei  
**Tech Desk:** Liz Ketz & **Volunteer Needed**    **Acolytes: NEED Volunteers**  
**Greeters: NEED Volunteers**    **Lector:** Archer Dorry  
**Ushers:** Ron Athey, Russ Thielke, Vern Nickolauson, Gale May

**Next Week's Ministry Assistants—Wed. December 24<sup>th</sup> 6:30 PM**

**Organist:** Marilyn Hanson    **Acolytes: NEED 2 Volunteers**  
**Lay Assistants:** Sara Mattison & **NEED 2 Volunteers**    **Lector:** Kathy Randall  
**Tech Desk:** Marge Dragseth & **Volunteer Needed**  
**Greeters: NEED 2 Volunteers**  
**Ushers: NEED Volunteers**

**WEEKLY CALENDAR**

**Sun – 12/14** 8:15 am Coffee Fellowship & Youth Bake Sale in Narthex



9:00 am Worship –Sunday School Presents “The Christmas Story”  
– Broadcast on KDIO & FB Live

10:00 am Youth Bake Sale in Narthex &  
Coffee Fellowship (with cake) in Fellowship Hall



10:00 am (or TBD) Church Council Meeting

10:30 am Worship at Fairway View – pre-recorded

**Mon – 12/15** 11:00 am Staff Meeting

**Tues – 12/16** 4-5:00 pm Bible Study at Donnie's Diner (Fairway View)

**Wed – 12/17** 9:30 am Channel 3 broadcast

3:30 pm Confirmation (7-8<sup>th</sup> grade)

4:30 pm Confirmation (9<sup>th</sup> grade)

5:30 pm Channel 3 broadcast

& Youth Group (7-12<sup>th</sup> gr.) Christmas Party

7:00 pm Senior Choir

**Thurs – 12/18 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

**Fri – 12/19 ANNUAL REPORTS DUE**

9:00 am Bulletins Printed

**Sat –12/20** 3:00 pm Blue Christmas Service (for those who mourn)  
(w/Pastor Cheryl)



**Sun – 12/21** 8:15 am Coffee Fellowship in Narthex

9:00 am Worship – Communion –

Broadcast on KDIO & Facebook Live

11:30 am Swedish Tea at Zion Church