



Saturday, December 25, 2021

Christmas

Our Father's Lutheran Church

3903 Gilbert Ave SE, Rockford, MN 55373

Phone: 763-477-6300

Email: office@ourfatherschurch.org

www.ourfatherschurch.org

Rev. Aaron Fuller, Pastor
Tammy Jarvi, Director of Music
Melissa Ungaro, Coordinator of Internal Ministry & Administration
Brittni Bronczyk, Coordinator of Community Outreach
Lindsey Bervig, Director of Sunday School
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WELCOME TO OFLC!

We are pleased that you decided to join us in worship this morning. We hope you'll feel at home here, and God's presence! We have a few helpful notes for you on the service to do that:

All hymns are in the red hymnal in the pew in front of you, or under your pew seat. You can find them using the number next to the hymn in the order of service.

The **bold** text indicates parts of the service where the whole congregation is invited to speak together.

Communion is celebrated using small, disposable kits with a wafer and juice. You can pick one up on your way into worship, or get the attention of our service coordinator and they will be happy to bring one to you!

Offering is not required to be with us in worship today, but we greatly appreciate any contribution you wish to make! If you wish to do so, you can place it in the basket at the end of your pew, or in the plate at the back of the sanctuary. If you need assistance, a service coordinator will be happy to help you!

Here at OFLC, we don't have pre-scheduled worship assistants. We allow folks to help out as the Spirit leads them, and that includes visitors as well! If you'd like to take part in worship, please see Pastor Aaron or a service coordinator before the service and they'll be happy to involve you!

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PRELUDE

WELCOME & INSTRUCTIONS

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING & CHRISTMAS LITANY

All four Advent candles and the fifth candle, representing light, are lit as we prepare our hearts and minds for worship.

L: "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them light has shined." (Isiah 9:2)

A: Thanks to God, for the gift of Jesus, the light in darkness and hope of the world, who you have sent to save all humankind.

L: Quietly you came to us. You came with power that we may share your power; humble, that the poor and lowly might see their greatness; destined for a cross, that all might have life eternal.

A: God so loved the world that we have God's only begotten Son.

L: The work of Christmas is to find the lost, heal the broken, feed the hungry, release the captive, rebuild the nations, bring peace among the people, and make music in the heart.

A: Come celebrate, sing carols, and prepare a feast. Glory, glory to the newborn king! O come let us adore him!

THE GOSPEL

LUKE 2:41-52

The Gospel, according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the Feast of the Passover. When he was twelve years old, they went up to the Feast, according to the custom. After the Feast was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it.

HYMN: FROM HEAVEN ABOVE #268 (Verses 1-3)

Thinking he was in their company, they traveled on for a day. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him. After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers.

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HYMN: O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL #283 (Verses 1, 2 & 4)

When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, “Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you?” “Why were you searching for me?” he asked. “Didn’t you know I had to be in my Father’s house?” But they did not understand what he was saying to them.

HYMN: WHAT CHILD I THIS #296

Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.

This is the gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

HYMN: GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN #290

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE (for all ages)

MUSIC MINISTRY/GATHERING OF OFFERINGS

During this time, if you wish to make a contribution to today’s offering, you may do so by placing it in the basket at the outside end of the pew, and passing it to the inside of the pew, closest to the center of the sanctuary. Service coordinators will collect the offering and bring to the front at the conclusion of music ministry.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Worship Assistant: Let us lift up our prayers for the world, all of creation, and all people according to their need.

Worship Assistant: *reads aloud requests made by people this week. After all written requests are read,*

Let us offer additional prayers, spoken aloud or in silence.

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Pastor: Hear us, O God, and may we rejoice that in the birth of your Son, Jesus, in the promise of your eternal grace, justice, and love. **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in Heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

At OFLC, we practice an open table. What that means is all are welcome to participate in receiving communion, for it is the Lord's Table, and the grace given through these communion elements is given freely by God. In this time of COVID, we are using prepackaged communion elements. The Pastor will give instructions as we observe the Sacrament safely. If you need assistance, please raise your hand and one of our Worship Coordinators will assist you.

Pastor: And now may the body and blood of our Lord Jesus strengthen you, and keep you in his grace.

SENDING SONG: JOY TO THE WORLD #267 (Verses 1, 3 & 4)

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING AND SENDING

P: 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.

A: For 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.

P: Jesus Christ, born for all the world, is indeed a blessing! May God fill you with the hope, peace, joy, and love of Christ this evening and each day forward.

A: Amen.

L: Let us go in peace. **A: Thanks be to God.**

THIS WEEK AT OFLC:

Sunday:

No regular worship

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