

First Lutheran Church – ELCA
1200 4th Avenue - Worthington, MN 56187
Ministers: All baptized members – Jeanette McCormick, Pastor
Web Site: felcwgtm.org & Email: felcwgtm@frontiernet.net
December 25, 2020; Christmas Day

GATHERING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (ELW p. 116)

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.
Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Gracious God, **have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✚ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG – “O Come, All Ye Faithful” (ELW 283) - Eric Parrish, vocals
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*

GREETING (ELW p. 120)

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

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

We have been waiting for this day, Loving God. We have prepared ourselves for this special day. On this Christmas Day, let us live as those who let hope, peace, joy, and love reign in our lives. As the candles burn brightly and light our path, let us live as those who have the Christ's light burning inside us today and everyday. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY (ELW p. 124)

Let us pray. **Almighty God, you wonderfully created the dignity of human nature and yet more wonderfully restored it. In your mercy, let us share the divine life of the one who came to share our humanity, Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

WORD - God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 61:10--62:3

A reading from Isaiah.

To the people who returned to Jerusalem after the exile, the prophet proclaims that God's salvation will fully come to pass. Jerusalem will become a shining light to the nations and righteousness and praise will spring up as surely as the earth puts forth vegetation.

¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. ¹¹For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations. ^{62:1}For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. ²The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give. ³You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 148

The splendor of the Lord is over earth and heaven. (*Ps. 148:13*)

1 Hallelujah! Praise the Lord | from the heavens; praise God in the heights.

2 **Praise the Lord, all you angels; sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.**

3 Praise the Lord, sun and moon; sing praise, all you shining stars.

4 **Praise the Lord, heaven of heavens, and you waters above the heavens.**

5 Let them praise the name of the Lord, who commanded, and they were created,

6 **who made them stand fast forever and ever, giving them a law that shall not pass away.**

7 Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps;

8 **fire and hail, snow and fog, tempestuous wind, doing God's will;**

9 mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars;

10 **wild beasts and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds;**

11 sovereigns of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the world;

12 **young men and maidens, old and young together.**

13Let them praise the name of the Lord, whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over earth and heaven.

14**The Lord has raised up strength for the people and praise for all faithful servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near the Lord. Hallelujah!**

SECOND READING: Galatians 4:4-7

A reading from Galatians.

Paul seeks to show the Galatians that the purpose of Christ's birth was to liberate us from the law's condemnation so that we would be fully adopted into God's family as beloved children.

⁴When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. ⁶And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" ⁷So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Okay, for the Children's sermon today we are going to have some car participation. Okay, if you want to wish the world a Merry Christmas I want you to honk your horns! If you believe that Christ is the light of the world and want to share that with others, flash your lights.

If you believe that the waters of baptism surround you with grace, turn on your windshield wipers. Turn on your right blinker if you believe that God is guiding you in right paths. Turn on your left blinker if you believe that God is loving all of us- no one needs to be left out. Okay, I'll let you think of your own corny things to do with your car for this service, but thank you for joining me in praise and celebration this Christmas.

Let's hear today's Psalm one more time: ¹Hallelujah! Praise the Lord| from the heavens; praise God in the heights. ²Praise the Lord, all you angels; sing praise, all you hosts of heaven. ³Praise the Lord, sun and moon; sing praise, all you shining stars. ⁴Praise the Lord, heaven of heavens, and you waters above the heavens. ⁵Let them praise the name of the Lord, who commanded, and they were created, ⁶who made them stand fast forever and ever, giving them a law that shall not pass away. ⁷Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps; ⁸fire and hail, snow and fog, tempestuous wind, doing God's will; ⁹mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars; ¹⁰wild beasts and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds; ¹¹sovereigns of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the world; ¹²young men and maidens, old and young together. ¹³Let them praise the name of the Lord, whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over earth and heaven. ¹⁴The Lord has raised up strength for the people and praise for all | faithful servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near the Lord. Hallelujah!

This Psalm reminds us that all creation sun, moon, hail fog, birds, cattle... everything and everyone is called to praise God today. You all in your cars are called to praise God today! Because Christ was born into our world to save us! So today, when you are home, think of ways you can keep praising God with song, words and actions. Please pray with me...

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 124)

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL: John 1:1-18

The holy gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹In 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 overcome 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. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵(John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") ¹⁶From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON (ELW p. 125)

A few weeks ago for Confirmation we read the Gospel of Luke's version of the Christmas story. We heard about the journey to Bethlehem, the message of the angels and the visit of the shepherds. Then, we read the version of the Christmas story we heard today from the Gospel of John. I asked them what the difference was between the two stories. To be honest, this probably was a little bit mean because it's almost a trick question. The two stories are so incredibly different even if they both speak to the Good News of Christmas. Almost none of the details of the stories line up and the Gospel of John gives us very few details about when, where, or how Jesus was born.

The Gospel of John really only cares about the "why." The Gospel of John only cares about why Jesus' birth matters. The Gospel of John just doesn't care about the shepherds, angels or the journey to Bethlehem. It only cares about who Jesus is for the world. The Gospel of John reminds us that Jesus existed before all things with God. The Word, or Logos, in Greek, is Jesus Christ. Jesus is the divine reason and creative order that existed before all things with God. And, that amazing, incomprehensible, Divine Order became flesh. In some mysterious way that Logos or Divine order was able to come to the world in the form of a person. God, the Creator of All Things, the great and invincible One, came to earth in human form to suffer alongside of us and experience the joys and sorrow of life with us. The Message states, "The Word became flesh and blood and moved into the neighborhood." This truth that God didn't stay separate and removed from our pain but came to be right smack dab in the middle of it all is why the birth of Jesus matters. What kind of God would be open to the pain and trails of this world? Our God. The true God. A God who loves us more than anything and would do anything for us.

Likewise, the Gospel of John, unlike the Gospel of Matthew, doesn't care about the wise men or Herod, but cares only about who Jesus is for us. The Gospel of John only cares about why Jesus' birth matters. Who Jesus is for us is a light in the darkness that the world can not match, overpower, replicate or even understand. Jesus was and is the source of life. Why was Jesus born? To be a light and life for us.

I admit, I love comedians. I have binge watched stand up comedians during this pandemic time. Laughter, for me, really is the best medicine. One of my favorite comedians is Seth Meyers and his series “The kind of story we need right now.” If you haven’t seen this series it’s usually some upbeat and off-the-wall triumph like scaring away a cougar with a Metallica song or a senior citizen who wrestled his puppy from the grips of an alligator but didn’t hold a grudge against the alligator. As he relays the details of the story of the segment Seth Meyers keeps saying over and over again with growing intensity, “This is the kind of story we need right now.”

Well, when I was reading the Gospel from John I found myself thinking, “This is the kind of story we read right now.” Maybe this is the Gospel version of the Christmas story we need right now. Because John’s focus may help us in our struggle this year. We often get caught up in the details of the Christmas season- the who, what, where, when of our celebrations and purchases. Even in regards to our worship services, we are struggling, I have struggled, when I can’t do things the ways we always have. John helps us remember that, in the end, it’s all about the why. I have been better able to celebrate and focus on the joy of Christmas when my eyes stay focused on the why. To steal the words of Seth Meyers, “This is the kind of story we need right now.”

When some of the details and traditions of Christmas are stripped away, when the world seems to be drug down with the weight of loss and fear, what are we left with? We are left with the One who has been through all things, is going through all things with us and will go through all things.

We are left with the One who moved into our lives, our stores, our loneliness, our frustration, our fights or our fear. We are left with the One who is present in every COVID ward, every graveside, every empty chair, every foreclosure, every frazzled day of trying to homeschool/work/survive.

We are left with the One that can not, and will not be overcome by the political fights, hatred, slander, selfishness, and illnesses of the world. This is what the Gospel of John reminds us... the kind of story we need right now is all about the why.

Maybe better put, this is the kind of story the world needs right now, too. This is the kind of story, the story, the truth, the world has always needed. The world has always needed to know Who the light is. The World has always needed to know that God is not indifferent to their pain but sitting with them right in the middle of it. The World has always needed to know that toil, bills, death and fights are never the final answer, the life given to us by Christ is the final answer. The world has always needed to know that Jesus’ birth is a gift of love from God.

So, even if things aren’t like normal this year, our call and purpose is the same still. We are called to share with the world why we are celebrating in the first place. We are called to share with the world the kind of story.... the story....they need right now. We do this with our generosity, our sacrifice, our words, our Christmas pageant, our music... every single way we can.

May the hope of the word made flesh fill your cars and your homes today. Amen.

HYMN OF THE DAY – “Angels from the Realms of Glory” (ELW 275) - Eric Parrish, vocals

1 Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
once you sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king.

- 2 Shepherds, in the fields abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing, yonder shines the infant light.
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king.
- 3 Sages, leave your contemplations, brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great desire of nations, you have seen his natal star.
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king.
- 4 All creation, join in praising God, the Father, Spirit, Son,
evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in One.
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king.

APOSTLES CREED (ELW p. 126)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.* On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Joining our voices with the song of the angels, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need. *A brief silence.*

Night and day, all creation praises you, O God. Strengthen your church across nations, denominations, and traditions. Fill us with wisdom and unify our proclamation of your forgiveness and mercy. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

All creation is holy to you, O God. You cause the earth to bring forth its shoots and gardens to spring up. Protect hibernating animals and frozen lands that wait earnestly for longer days of awakening and growth. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

The nations are upheld by your hand, O God. Cause righteousness and praise to spring forth, inspiring leaders to serve with compassion and integrity. Send your spirit of discernment upon legislators grappling with complex decisions for the sake of the common good. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Send the spirit of your Son into our hearts, O God. Come quickly to hearts that race with fear, hearts that break with grief, and hearts that long for wholeness. We especially remember: **Members:** Todd Hallstrom, Ron Almjeld, Linda Towne, Charlene Wachter, Bob Dieter, Mary Kraft, Marilyn Frisch, Julie & Denny Christensen, Dianne Sanderson, Betty Nelson; **Members in Nursing Homes:** Bobbie Elvin, Gene Wachter, Sandra Marsh; **Members in Care Facilities:** Joan Doeden, Jean Bender; **Family Members & Friends:** Lois Gruis, Josh Hansen (Mary Ingenthron's son), Lee Morrison (Terry Morrison's son), Henrietta Lais, Tom Morgan (Sandy Randall's dad), Peggy Konold (Norma Radenbaugh's daughter), Brad Martens (Valerie Veen's son); **Our service men and women and Love INC.** Reveal your power to heal and to save. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Adopt us into your family, O God. Bless our elders with the peace and joy of Simeon and Anna. Strengthen those who have retired, those who work in older age, and those in need of income, food, company, or health care. Connect young and old across generations. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Lord keep our families and communities safe as we celebrate Christmas. Be with those who are traveling and watch over them. Be with those who are alone today and surround them with your love. Be with store owners who are disappointed at how things turned out this year and are worried about the future. Be with those administering the COVID vaccine or caring for the health of others today. We thank you for all who are working today to provide for us and keep us safe. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Let us depart in peace, O God, according to your word. For all your saints, we give you thanks. Prepare our salvation in the sight of all your witnesses of every time and place. We especially remember today all families who are grieving the loss of a loved one. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of mercy, come quickly to us with grace upon grace as we lift these and all our prayers to you, in the name of Jesus. **Amen.**

MEAL - God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING (ELW p. 128) - ELW 296, "What Child Is This?" - Cindy Anderson, piano piece

OFFERING PRAYER (ELW p. 129)

Let us pray. Good and loving God, we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be blessing for others. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING/ DIALOGUE (ELW p. 129)

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 our thanks and praise.**

PREFACE (ELW p. 130)

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 130)

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE (ELW p. 130)

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life: Blessed are you for the birth of creation. Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light. Blessed are you for your promise to your people. Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams. Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will. Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh. In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming. **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER (ELW p. 134)

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION (ELW p. 134)

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

COMMUNION (ELW p. 134)

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (ELW p. 136)

Let us pray. Radiant God, with our eyes we have seen your salvation, and in this meal we have feasted on your grace. May your Word take flesh in us, that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING - God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

SENDING OF COMMUNION (ELW p. 136)

Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are *sick, homebound, and imprisoned*. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive

this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

BLESSING - The Work of Christmas

When the song of the angels is stilled, When the star in the sky is gone, When the kings and princes are home, When the shepherds are back with their flock, The work of Christmas begins: To find the lost, To heal the broken, To feed the hungry, To release the prisoner, To rebuild the nations, To bring peace among others, To make music in the heart.¹ (*Howard Thurman*)

SENDING SONG – “Angels We Have Heard On High” (ELW 289) - Taylor Huwe, vocals

1 Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain

Gloria in excelsis Deo; gloria in excelsis Deo.

2 Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heav'nly song? *Refrain*

3 Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn king. *Refrain*

DISMISSAL (ELW p. 137)

Go in peace. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude – “Go Tell It on the Mountain” (ELW 290) - Lori Nienkerk

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*

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Office Hours - Monday—Thursday 8:00 am – 12:00 pm (noon) —1:00 - 4:30 pm & Friday 8:00 am—12:00 pm (noon).

¹“The Work of Christmas.” Howard Thurman. *Bread for the Preacher, 2009.*

<https://www.bread.org/sites/default/files/downloads/howard-thurman.pdf>. Accessed December 11, 2020

Due to the rising numbers of Covid-19 infections, we will not have in-person worship or youth activities through January 19. Council will revisit this decision at their January meeting. **Services** will be on-line or drive-in. You can drive to the church on Wednesday or Sunday and listen to the service on FM 107.9 on your radio. We will have bulletins and communion supplies in the mailbox in the parking lot and by the front steps. There will be ushers to direct you.

Gift Cards will only be available in the office during office hours. Please call ahead to see if someone is available to get you cards. Thank You!

2021 Offering Envelopes are available for pick up in your mailbox. Please pick them up during office hours and reminder to not use them until January 2021 as the numbers are not the same as this year. Thank you.

2020 Offering – The last day to get your offering in for 2020 will be Monday, December 28. Please drop it off during office hours. All offering received through the mail will need to be in before Christmas. This allows us to get it deposited for this year. Thank you!



Annual Reports are due in to the church office by Wednesday, December 30. Please get your reports in by this date as we will be sending out the reports this year and Natalie will need a few extra days to get the reports in the mail on time. Thank you!



The office will be closed on Thursday, December 31, 2020 & Friday, January 1, 2021 for the New Year's holiday.

Radio Broadcast: You can sponsor the broadcast in memory or in honor of a family member or an event in your life. The cost to sponsor a broadcast is \$75.00. Please sign up on the sheet in Centennial Hall or you can call the church office. Thank you.



Members: Todd Hallstrom, Ron Almjeld, Linda Towne, Charlene Wachter, Bob Dieter, Mary Kraft, Marilyn Frisch, Julie & Denny Christensen, Dianne Sanderson, Betty Nelson

Members in Nursing Homes: Bobbie Elvin, Gene Wachter, Sandra Marsh

Members in Care Facilities: Joan Doeden, Jean Bender

Family Members & Friends: Lois Gruis, Josh Hansen (Mary Ingenthron's son), Lee Morrison (Terry Morrison's son), Henrietta Lais, Tom Morgan (Sandy Randall's dad), Peggy Konold (Norma Radenbaugh's daughter), Brad Martens (Valerie Veen's son)

Our service men and women

Our Missionaries: Chuck & Sybil Rounds in Costa Rica and Love INC.

Early Risers Bible Study will not zoom for Bible study on Tuesday, December 29. See you in the new year.

Merry Christmas



POINSETTIAS: The poinsettias adorning our sanctuary this Christmas Season are given to the glory of God by the following people:

In memory of loved ones by Doug & Ardys Jacobson, Jeff & Lynnette Faragher & family, Glen & Lynnea Faragher & family & Mark & Susan Jacobson & family.

In memory of loved ones by Judy Selberg & family.

In loving memory of our parents, Martin & Jeanette Waage & Sam & Ruth Casper by Alan & Barb Waage.

In memory of loved ones by Lonnie & Nancy Myrom.

In memory of Albert Cross by Agnes Cross, John & Nancy Cross & family, Dan Cross & Rick & Sarah Cross.

In memory of Merlin Robinson by his family.

In memory of Gary Milbrath by his family.

In memory of loved ones by Ron & Winora Hallstrom.

In loving memory of Clarence Wasmund by Marie & family.

In loving memory of Vernon Mews by Marie.

In loving memory of Alvin & Jerry Larson & Fred & Rose Hurlbut; In honor of our men & women in the armed forces by Hurlbut & Vosburgh families.

In loving memory of Allen Hurlbut by Brenda & family.

In memory of Craig Nienkerk, Iven & Helen Wachter & Merle & Lois Nienkerk by Lori & family.