



Faith Evangelical
Lutheran Church
Walworth, WI

ORDER OF SERVICE

Christmas Eve, December 24, 2020

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who was in the beginning,
who makes a dwelling among us,
who covers us with justice and mercy.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

God of goodness and lovingkindness,

**we confess that we have sinned against you
and our neighbors.**

We have turned away from your invitation to new life.

We have turned away from the lowly and downtrodden.

**In your abundant mercy, forgive us our sins,
those we know and those known only to you,
for the sake of the one who came to live among us,
Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

Hear the good news of peace and salvation!

God forgives us all our sins,

not through our own work,

but through ☩ Jesus Christ, made known to all people.

With all who come to the manger,

rejoice in this amazing gift of grace.

Amen.

GREETING

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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 9:2-7

Light shines: a child is born for us

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]

God with us

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 2nd chapter: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

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

MESSAGE

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Gracious God,
you came to us as one unknown,
bringing joy and salvation to the earth.
Nourish us at your banquet table,
that with all who welcome your birth
we may proclaim your peace,

revealed in Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

SHARING THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

(All gathered are invited to share a sign of peace, maybe a wave or a peace sign, a hello from afar.)

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who are 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.**

BLESSING

Almighty God,
who sent the Holy Spirit to Mary,
proclaimed joy through the angels,
sent the shepherds with good news,
and led the magi by a star,
bless you this day ☩ through the Word made flesh.
Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus.

Thanks be to God.

SENDING SONG *"Night of Silence / Silent Night"*

Verse 1:

Cold are the people, winter of life;
We tremble in shadows this cold, endless night.
Frozen on the ground lie roses, sleeping;
Flowers that will echo the sunrise.
Fire of hope is our only warmth;
Weary, its flame will be dying soon.

Verse 2:

Voice in the distance, call in the night;
On wind You enfold us, You speak of the Light.
Gentle on the ear, You whisper softly,
Rumors of a dawn so embracing.
Breathless Love awaits darkened souls,
Soon we will know of the morning.

Verse 3:

Spirit among us, shine like the star;
Your light that guides shepherds and kings from afar.
Shimmer in the sky so empty, lonely;
Rising with the warmth of Your Son's love.
Star unknowing of night and day;
Spirit, we wait for Your loving Son.

Verse 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.

Verse 2:

Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight;
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heavenly hosts sing, "Alleluia!"
Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!

Verse 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.