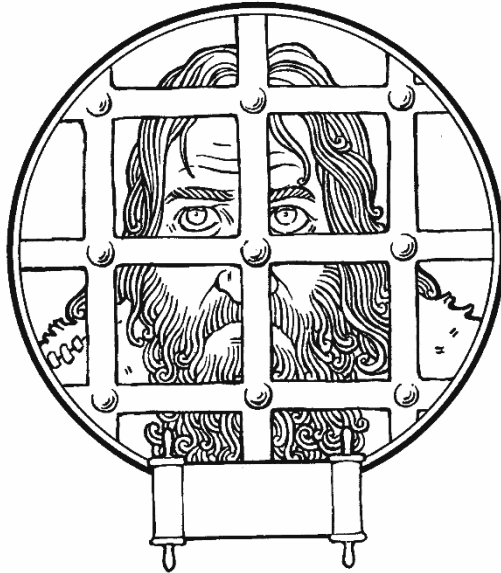


The Third Sunday in Advent (Gaudete)

December 15, 2024



**“And blessed is the one who is
not offended by me.”**

(Matthew 11:6 ESV)

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Wylie, TX 75098

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Welcome to the Divine Service where the risen Christ comes into our midst to bring us the peace of His cross and empty tomb. We pray that the Lord would grant us His Holy Spirit that His Word would bear the fruits of faith in Christ and works of love toward our neighbor.

The Lord's Supper is a confession that we are united in holding to all the doctrines of God's Word. Those who do not know and hold to the doctrinal commitment of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod are requested to attend the Adult Instruction Class for membership before communing at Faith Lutheran Church.

John the Baptizer Prepares the Way for the Lord

The voice of the Baptizer cried out in the wilderness: "*Prepare the way of the Lord . . .*" (Isa. 40:1). John called the people to be made ready for the Messiah's coming through repentance, for "*all flesh is grass*" (Isa. 40:6). Now He asks from prison, "*Are you the one who is to come . . .?*" (Matt. 11:2). Jesus' works bear witness that He is. The sick are made well; the dead are raised, and the poor have the Gospel preached to them. Their iniquity is pardoned; they have received from the Lord's hand double forgiveness for all their sins. The "*stewards of the mysteries of God*" (1 Cor. 4:1) still deliver Christ's overflowing forgiveness to the poor in spirit, comforting God's people with the word of the Gospel which stands forever. This Gospel produces rejoicing among all those who believe.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please remember to silence your cell phones during the Divine Service.)

Flowers on the altar today are given to the glory of God by Jeff and Patti Ellis in thanksgiving for Jeff's birthday.

Today is Mite Sunday. Small coins don't buy much these days, but they do when they are used by the Lutheran Women's Missionary League to help spread the Gospel and even provide for some physical needs for hundreds of thousands across the world!

Children's Christmas Service – Please join us Wednesday, December 18 at 7:00 p.m. as the youth of our congregation present the story of our Savior's birth through readings and hymnody. A potluck supper at 6:00 p.m. will precede the service.

Please consider signing up to purchase a poinsettia from the Women of Wylie. These beautiful plants will be used to adorn the sanctuary this Christmas and then are yours to take with you to beautify your home. Each plant is \$14.00. *The deadline for purchase is today, December 15.* Please look for the signup sheet in the narthex. Any questions may be directed to Sandra Traugott.

The Altar Guild signup sheet for 2025 is available in the narthex. Volunteers will be trained for this valuable service to the congregation. Please contact Gail Sellers for more information.

Truth, goodness and beauty... Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week's topics include: The Movie "Gladiator II," The Hymn "May God Bestow on Us His Grace," Roman Catholicism & Indulgences, Mary Visits Elizabeth, The Testimony of John the Baptist and more. You can listen on-demand at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app, Amazon Alexa, Google Home, Apple HomePod, TuneIn or a podcast provider.

Please note the new 2025 Flower Chart which is now available on the bulletin board in the Narthex. Everyone is encouraged to reserve a spot for celebrating baptismal birthdays, wedding anniversaries, birthdays, or

other significant dates by beautifying the altar on those special dates. This is a wonderful way to acknowledge the special people and events in your life while at the same time beautifying the Lord's house. At this time, the flowers are still only \$25.00 for one vase (or \$50.00 if no one else signs up for that Sunday). If you have any questions about providing flowers, you may email the church office or contact Sandra Traugott. (Church: faithlutheranwylie@gmail.com)

If you have a prayer request, please contact Pastor Ulmer or send an email to faithlutheranwylie@gmail.com.

OUR LIFE AS CHRISTIAN STEWARDS

Luke 3:4 – “As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet, “The voice of one crying in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.’” God makes long-range plans: Isaiah lived more than seven hundred years before St. John the Baptist preached by the Jordan River. Obviously, God sees farther into the future than we do! That's yet another reason to trust Him when it comes to how He tells us to live our lives: He knows what's coming and we don't.

UPCOMING WEEK'S EVENTS

SUNDAY 12/15/24	<i>The Third Sunday in Advent (Gaudete)</i> 9:30 AM – Divine Service 11:15 AM – Sunday School Hour
TUESDAY	4:00 PM – Adult Catechesis
WEDNESDAY	6:00 PM – Light Potluck Dinner 7:00 PM – Midweek Advent 3 – Children's Program
THURSDAY	10:30 AM – Men's Bible Study
FRIDAY	9:30 AM – Matins 10:15 AM – Confession and Absolution
SUNDAY 12/22/24	<i>The Fourth Sunday in Advent (Rorate Coreli)</i> 9:30 AM – Divine Service 11:15 AM – Sunday School Hour

PRAYERS

- Those in our congregation who are homebound: Judy Michels, Melanie Obenhaus, Vicky Cantrell, Dony Reaves, Connie Kimber, Tula Sheehan.
- Birthdays celebrated this week: Jeff Ellis, Brian Hendon.
- Baptismal birthdays celebrated this week: Brian Hendon.
- Wedding anniversaries celebrated this week: Bill and Amanda Curry, Greg and Ann Sims.
- Tom Johnson's family and friends as they mourn his death this past week, that they may be comforted by God's grace in Christ Jesus.
- Pastor Heath as he deliberates the call to serve as Associate Pastor to Faith Plano.
- Robin Hauth's sister, Jill as she recovers from eye surgery.
- Ninette DeYoung, Brad Perry's mom, as she recovers from surgery.
- Mark and Sandra Traugott in thanksgiving for healing.
- Emma Casanova, Brianna Mallon, and Renae Womack for protection of mother and child in pregnancy (Psalm 139:13).
- Rachel Preuss (wife of Rev. Samuel Preuss), who has just been diagnosed with breast cancer and is pregnant with their sixth child.
- Those struggling with ongoing health issues:
Dony Reaves, Chris Purcell, Connie Kimber, Ken Lawrence, Tula Sheehan, Christina Null, Devin Jackson, Doug Drawe, Gary Sakko, Deanna, Dana Evans, Rush, Greg McClure, Tim Sheehan, Gaye, Sharon, Georgette Walter, Dan Kostoff.
- Those struggling with other ongoing needs:
Frank and Antonia, Matt, Michael.

