

# FAITH IN THE WORD

Faith Lutheran Church, Wylie Texas - *Many members. One body united in Christ.*

For the week of The Festival of The Holy Innocents

December 28 – January 3 AD 2026

**T**his Sunday we had the joy of hearing again from Pr. Steele and his wife Robyn who are serving as missionaries in the Philippines. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to remember God's great mercy in causing the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ to be preached to all nations. In the Third Article of the Apostles' Creed we confess faith in the holy Christian Church. The Holy Spirit creates this Church by the preaching of the one Gospel of Jesus Christ. There are not different Gospels for different people in different places. All people regardless of ethnicity, gender, income, or age need the same forgiveness of our Lord Jesus Christ. And what a rich blessing of God to know that though we are separated by language from other Christians around the world, we are still the one body of Christ, bound together by our common salvation and our common confession. All glory be to God our Father who has caused the good news of Jesus Christ to be proclaimed to us and to all nations. And may we be stirred up to support that preaching so that together with one voice, God's people can sing His praises now and for all eternity.

## ***Catechism***

*As the head of the family should teach it in a simple way to the household. Pray and confess out loud as much from the order of meditation and prayer as you are able, or as your family size and ages dictate. Learn by heart the verse, catechism, and hymn of the week.*

## **The Apostles' Creed: The Third Article**

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

*What does this mean?* I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian Church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers. On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ.

This is most certainly true.

## THE ORDER OF MEDITATION AND PRAYER

### INVOCATION

In the Name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

### APOSTLES' CREED

**1 John 2:17** – *And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.*

### Psalm 80

### HYMN OF THE MONTH

**"The Night Will Soon Be Ending" (LSB 337)**

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF THE FESTIVAL OF HOLY INNOCENTS

① SUNDAY	MATTHEW 2:13-23	GALATIANS 4:4-7
② MONDAY	GENESIS 46:1-7	1 PETER 4:12-19
③ TUESDAY	1 KINGS 8:6-13	ROMANS 12:1-5
④ WEDNESDAY	LUKE 12:35-40	ROMANS 8:31b-39
⑤ THURSDAY	LUKE 2:21	GALATIANS 3:23-29
⑥ FRIDAY	LUKE 2:25-32	ISAIAH 55:1-13
⑦ SATURDAY	1 KINGS 3:4-15	EPHESIANS 1:3-14

## PRAYERS

### COLLECT FOR THE WEEK

Almighty God, the martyred innocents of Bethlehem showed forth Your praise not by speaking but by dying. Put to death in us all that is in conflict with Your will that our lives may bear witness to the faith we profess with our lips; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

### DAILY THEMES FOR PRAYER

**SUNDAY:** *The joy of the resurrection among us; true and godly worship throughout the world; and for the faithful preaching and hearing of God's Word; for our congregation's faithfulness to the Word of God.*

**MONDAY:** *Faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; our calling and daily work; the unemployed; the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; government; peace; for the leaders of our congregation.*

**TUESDAY:** *Deliverance against temptation; the addicted and despairing; the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with besetting sins.*

**WEDNESDAY:** *For marriage and family, that all may live together under the grace of Christ according to the Word of God; parents who must rear their children alone; for godly schools, our church schools, and seminaries.*

**THURSDAY:** *For the Church and her pastors; for missionaries; for fruitful and salutary use of the blessed sacrament of the Lord's Body and Blood; for our congregation, our pastor and his family.*

**FRIDAY:** *For the preaching of the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ and for its spread throughout the whole world, especially in our community; and for the persecuted.*

**SATURDAY:** *For faithfulness to the end; the physically and mentally sick and those who are dying; the revival of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; for receptive hearts for worship and study on the Lord's Day.*

## IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

- For all who serve in public safety as police officers, firefighters, and paramedics, that God would protect them, give them courage in danger, and grant them wisdom as they perform their duties, especially Josh Needman, Joshan Savage (police officers), Joe Krizan (firefighter and paramedic), and Elisabeth Handgraaf, Jonah Underwood (paramedics).
- Birthdays celebrated this week: Amanda Rose (30), Mary Jo Daughtrey (31)
- Baptismal birthdays celebrated this week: Lance Dorrell (Jan 1).
- Wedding anniversaries celebrated this week: Mike and Christina Null (30).
- Criss Purcell, who will begin chemotherapy this week.
- Melanie Obenhaus, who was hospitalized this past for several infections.
- Grace Hendrickson, Avery Redfearn for protection of mother and child in pregnancy.
- Doug Drawe, Dana Evans, Rachel Preuss, Kristina Wishmeyer, Lindsay Penrose, JE Purcell, Sarah Wickam, Randy Cooper, Leigh R., Mark, Edith Wright, Gene Lane, Dony Reaves, Robin Wildauer, Mary Jo Daughtrey, William Best, Kyle, Judy Michels, Charley Wildauer.
- Those experiencing other challenges: Greg Sims, Andrew Fischer, Trace.



## THE LORD'S PRAYER

## LUTHER'S MORNING OR EVENING PRAYER

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## LOOKING FORWARD TO NEXT WEEK

### **The Second Sunday after Christmas – January 4, 2026**

**Catechesis:** The Apostles' Creed – The Second Article

**Hymns:** 401, 385, 760, 383, 624, 750, 716

**Readings:** Genesis 46:1-7; 1 Peter 4:12-19; Matthew 2:13-23

