



*John, Apostle and Evangelist*

**Sunday, December 27, 2009**



**First Lutheran Church**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

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The Rev. Steven Woyen  
Ruth Patrick  
Tim Whitman  
Chris Wood

*Pastor*  
*Organist*  
*Choir Director*  
*Office Secretary*

**INTRODUCTION**



*The appointed texts for St. John's day enunciate the intentions of the first letter of John: to declare "what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen ... what we have looked at and touched ... concerning the word of life." The apostle John was an intimate of the Christ of Christmas, the Word made flesh, the Word of life. John's gospel invites us to enter into the Christ-life. In the proclamation of this Word and in the holy meal we are invited to look at and touch what those who first followed Jesus had seen: Jesus.*

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**GATHERING**

*The Holy Spirit gathers the people of God.*

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The GATHERING MUSIC

The WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The GATHERING HYMN

**“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”**

**ELW 288**

The GREETING

*The sign of the Cross is made by all in remembrance of Holy Baptism.*

*In the Name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit.*

**Amen**

*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.**

The PRAYER OF THE DAY

*Let us pray...*

*Shed upon your Church, O Lord, the brightness of your light...the Prayer concludes  
one God, forever and ever.*

**Amen.**

*The assembly is seated*

**WORD**

*God speaks to us in Scripture reading, preaching, and song*

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The FIRST READING

Genesis 1:1–5, 26–31

*In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, <sup>2</sup>the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. <sup>3</sup>Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. <sup>4</sup>And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup>God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.*

<sup>26</sup>Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth."

<sup>27</sup>So God created humankind in his image,  
in the image of God he created them;  
male and female he created them.

<sup>28</sup>God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth." <sup>29</sup>God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. <sup>30</sup>And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. <sup>31</sup>God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

*The reading concludes*

The Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**



- <sup>12</sup>How shall I re-<sup>1</sup> pay the LORD  
for all the good things God has<sup>1</sup> done for me?
- <sup>13</sup>**I will lift the cup<sup>1</sup> of salvation  
and call on the name<sup>1</sup> of the LORD.**
- <sup>14</sup>I will fulfill my vows<sup>1</sup> to the LORD  
in the presence of<sup>1</sup> all God's people.
- <sup>15</sup>**Precious in your<sup>1</sup> sight, O LORD,  
is the death<sup>1</sup> of your servants. Refrain**
- <sup>16</sup>O LORD, truly I<sup>1</sup> am your servant;  
I am your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed me<sup>1</sup> from my  
bonds.
- <sup>17</sup>**I will offer you the sacrifice<sup>1</sup> of thanksgiving  
and call upon the name<sup>1</sup> of the LORD.**
- <sup>18</sup>I will fulfill my vows<sup>1</sup> to the LORD  
in the presence of<sup>1</sup> all God's people,
- <sup>19</sup>**in the courts of<sup>1</sup> the LORD's house,  
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.<sup>1</sup> Hallelujah! Refrain**

## The SECOND READING

1 John 1:1—2:2

**Chapter 1**

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life — <sup>2</sup>this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us — <sup>3</sup>we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ.

<sup>4</sup>We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

<sup>5</sup>This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. <sup>6</sup>If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; <sup>7</sup>but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. <sup>8</sup>If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup>If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. <sup>10</sup>If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

**Chapter 2**

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; <sup>2</sup>and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

*The reading concludes*

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

*The assembly stands*

The HOLY GOSPEL

John 21:20-25

The Holy Gospel according to John, the twenty-first chapter  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>20</sup>Peter turned and saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following them; he was the one who had reclined next to Jesus at the supper and had said, "Lord, who is it that is going to betray you?" <sup>21</sup>When Peter saw him, he said to Jesus, "Lord, what about him?" <sup>22</sup>Jesus said to him, "If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you? Follow me!" <sup>23</sup>So the rumor spread in the community that this disciple would not die. Yet Jesus did not say to him that he would not die, but, "If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you?"

<sup>24</sup>This is the disciple who is testifying to these things and has written them, and we know that his testimony is true. <sup>25</sup>But there are also many other things that Jesus did; if every one of them were written down, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.

*The Gospel concludes*

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

*The assembly is seated.*

The CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

The SERMON

*Silence for reflection*

*The assembly stands to proclaim the Word of God in song.*

The HYMN OF THE DAY

**"By all your Saints"**

*(Verses 1, 5, Last)*

**ELW 421**

The CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
    he came down from heaven;  
    by the power of the Holy Spirit  
        he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
    he suffered death and was buried.  
    On the third day he rose again  
        in accordance with the Scriptures;  
    he ascended into heaven  
        and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
    and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
    and the life of the world to come. Amen**

The PRAYERS & PEACE

Blessed by the light of Christ incarnate, let us pray for the church, those in need,  
and all of God's creation

*After each portion*

Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

*The prayers conclude*

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your  
mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

Senior Choir: "Gloria! To God Sing Gloria!"

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## What Child Is This



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?  
 2 Why lies he in such mean es-tate where ox and ass are feed-ing?  
 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas-ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep-ing?  
 Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead-ing.  
 The King of kings sal - va-tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an - gels sing;  
 Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;  
 Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;

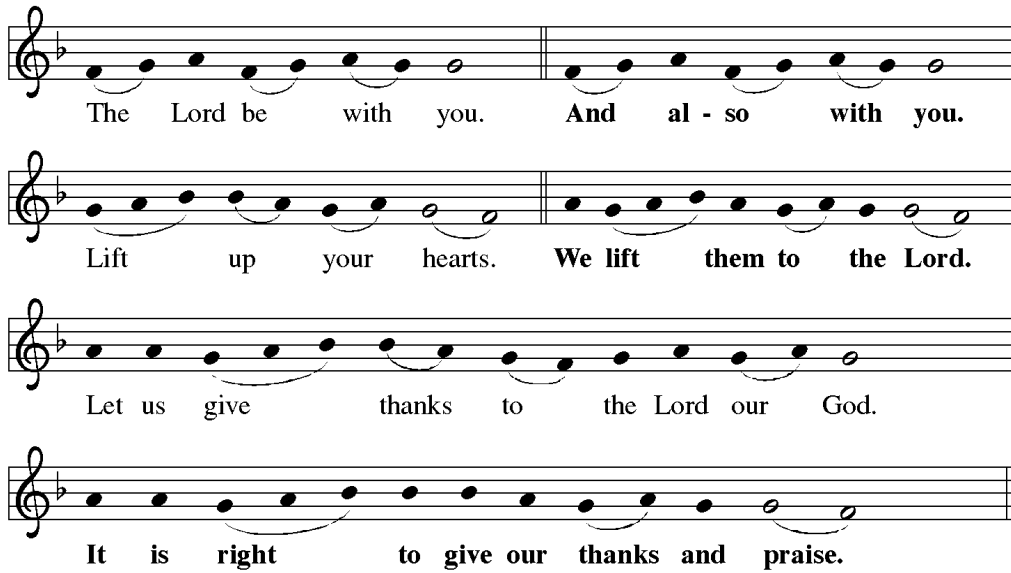


haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!  
 hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!  
 joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898

Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

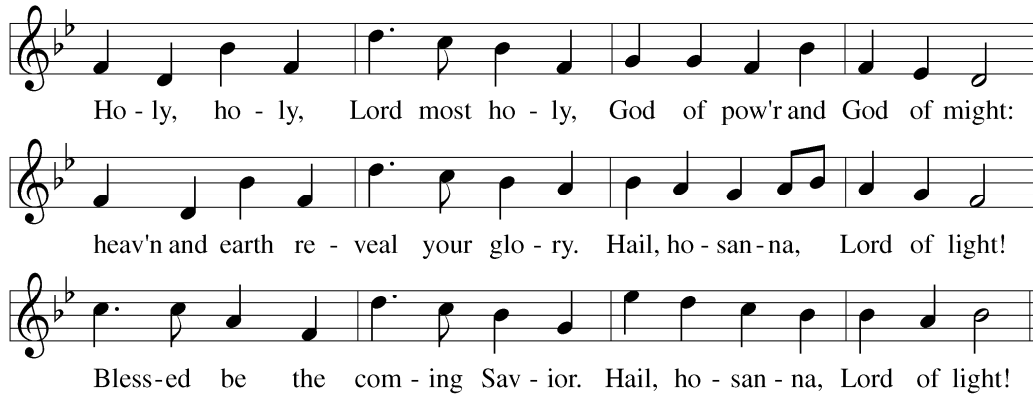
## The GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

It is indeed right our duty and our joy...*the Preface continues*...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## The SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord most ho - ly, God of pow'r and God of might:  
heav'n and earth re - veal your glo - ry. Hail, ho - san - na, Lord of light!  
Bless - ed be the com - ing Sav - ior. Hail, ho - san - na, Lord of light!

## The THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE (V)

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,  
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,  
who preached good news to the poor,  
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

*The prayer continues, concluding...*  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be all honor and glory, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

## The LORD'S PRAYER

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**

#### The BREAKING OF THE BREAD

This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Happy are we who are called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

*The assembly is seated*

#### The DISTRIBUTION

*Believing in the Real Presence of Christ, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America practices Eucharistic Hospitality. Admission to the Sacrament is by invitation of the Lord, presented through the Church to those who are baptized. **The Sacrament is distributed by coming up the center aisle and returning along the side aisle** Those who do not wish to receive the Sacrament may approach with their arms crossed to receive a blessing.*

#### MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION

**“It came upon the midnight clear”**

**ELW 282**

**“The Bells of Christmas”**

**ELW 298**

*The assembly stands.*

#### The POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his grace.

**Amen**

Let us pray... Radiant God,  
with our eyes we have seen your salvation,  
and in the Eucharist 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 Lord.

**Amen.**

#### SENDING

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#### The BLESSING

Almighty God, the Father, the + Son,

and the Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

The SENDING HYMN

**“Go tell it on the mountain”**

**ELW 290**

The SENDING

Go in peace. Share the Good News.

**Thanks be to God.**

The SENDING MUSIC

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**Acknowledgements**

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## WORSHIP LEADERS

Assisting Minister

*Sam D. Seward*

Lector

*Ken Myers*

Acolyte:

*Samantha Bryan*

Ushers:

*Floyd Everhart, Jeff Duff, Heather Duff*

Altar Guild:

*Jane McGrath, Carol Schott, Debra Himes*

**PRAYER CONCERNS**—Judy Himes, Doris Keener, Harold Burkett, and all nursing home residents.

The **Altar Flowers** are given by Gary & Dale Ann Conner in honor of grandson Zane's 4th birthday.

The **Eternal Candle** is given by Don & Linda Weber in memory of Linda's parents.

**Church Council** – There are still openings for Church Council. Please contact Pastor Steven or Dennis Jensen.

**Children's Church** – There will be **no Children's Church until January**.



*The Epiphany of Our Lord*

Did you know the Church doesn't celebrate the arrival of the Wise Men until January 6? January 6 is the Twelfth Day of Christmas and it's a day to celebrate the revelation of Christ to the Gentiles—the visit of the Wise Men, the Baptism of Jesus, and the first miracle of turning water into wine. A joint Holy Communion will be held on Epiphany, **Wednesday, January 6, 7pm at Beach City**. Begin 2010 by being a faithful disciple in the life of our congregation communities and attend worship.

**REPORTS FOR CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** – Any committee reports to be presented during the Congregational Meeting on Jan. 24th **must be submitted to the Church Office no later than Jan. 5th**. You may submit handwritten reports or e-mail them to the Church office.

To the Voting Members of the First Evangelical Lutheran Church:

In accordance with C10.03 of the Constitution of The First Evangelical Lutheran Church, I hereby call and give notice of the **Annual Meeting of the Congregation** to be held in the Sanctuary, and will commence immediately following worship on the **24th day of January, 2010**.

According to C8.02c of the Church Constitution:

*Voting members are confirmed members. Such confirmed members, during the current or preceding calendar year, shall have communed in this congregation and shall have made a contribution of record to this congregation.*

Copies of the Annual Report of the Congregation will be made available in the Narthex or the Church Office beginning **Sunday, January 10, 2010**.

Yours in Christ,

Carol Lautenschleger  
Secretary of the Congregation Council

## **MEN'S BIBLE STUDY**

A Men's Bible Study specially tailored from the Tony Dungy book *Quiet Strength* will begin on **Saturday, January 16, 8am at Rosalie's**.

Each of the six weeks of Bible study is crafted especially for men, and provides biblical answers, relationship-building discussion questions, and character-building insights from the life of Tony Dungy.

There is a suggested donation of \$10 for the cost of the book.

## **SOCIAL MISSIONS**

**January 2010– we will continue to collect items for the UMC Carpenter's Pantry thru Sunday, January 31<sup>st</sup>.**

Cash donations are needed but we are also collecting the following:

Gallon Ziploc Food Storage Bags

Disposable Diapers

Sanitary Napkins or Tampons

Cleaning Supplies

Bath Soap & Shampoo

Laundry Detergent and Dish Soap

Toilet Paper, Tissues and Paper Towels

Toothpaste and Toothbrushes

Deodorant (Men & Women)

THIS WEEK AT FIRST LUTHERAN (Week of 12/27—1/3/10)

Sunday	<b><u>John, Apostle and Evangelist</u></b> 9 AM—Beach City Holy Communion 10:15 AM—Beach City Christian Education  9:15 AM—Strasburg Christian Education 10:30 AM—Strasburg Holy Communion <b>NO</b> Catechism
Monday	<b><u>The Holy Innocents, Martyrs</u></b>
Tuesday	No Scheduled Activities
Wednesday	<b>NO</b> <i>The Book of Concord</i> (Beach City)
Thursday	<b>NO</b> <i>The Book of Concord</i> (Strasburg)
Friday	<b><u>The Name of Jesus</u></b> (New Year's Day)
Saturday	No Scheduled Activities
Sunday	<b><u>The Second Sunday of Christmas</u></b> 9 AM—Beach City Holy Communion 10:15 AM—Beach City Christian Education  9:15 AM—Strasburg Christian Education 10:30 AM—Strasburg Holy Communion 11:30 AM—Catechism

*All ministry is open to disciples in both Strasburg and Beach City congregations. The names "Strasburg" or "Beach City" denotes location*