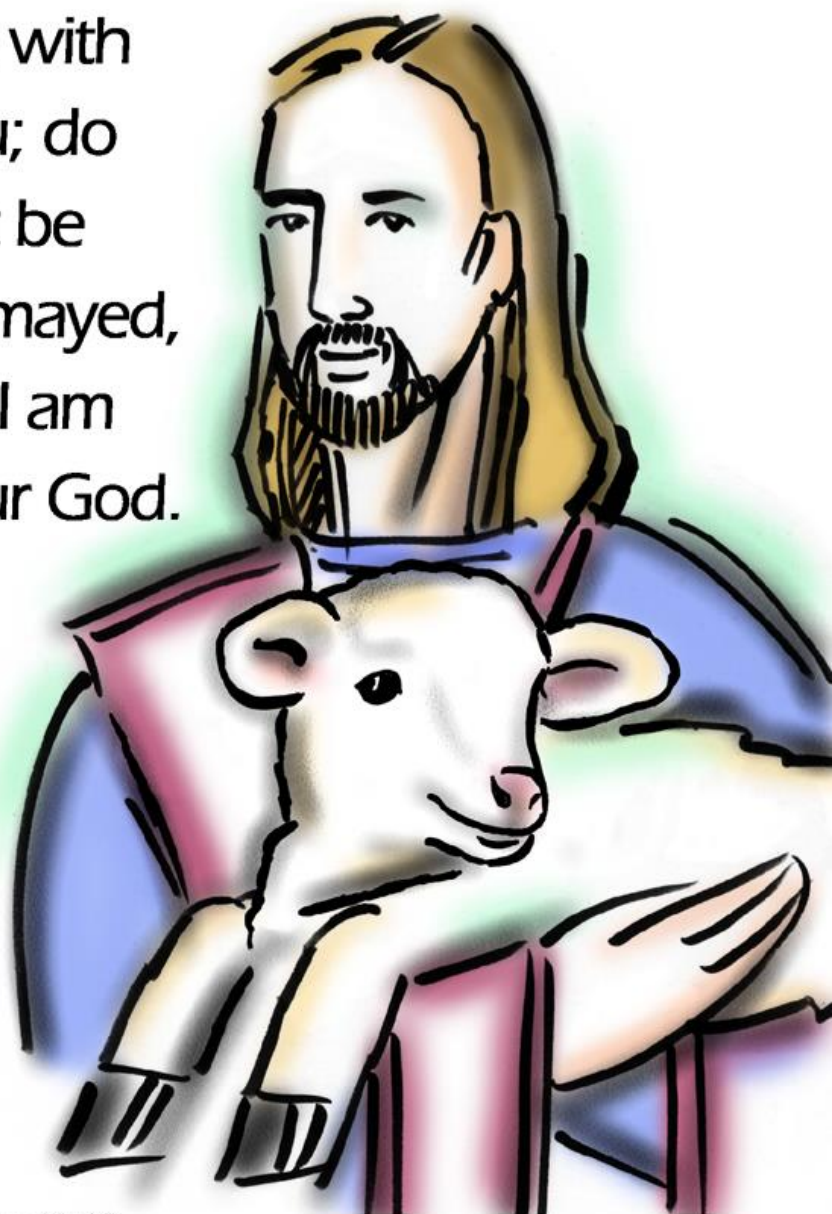


So do not  
fear, for I  
am with  
you; do  
not be  
dismayed,  
for I am  
your God.



Isaiah 41:10



## Welcome to worship at Spirit of Christ!

*If you are worshipping inside, please choose chairs that work for the number of people in your family.*

*If you are worshipping outside, you're welcome to sit wherever you are comfortable inside or outside of your car. Tune your vehicle radio to 96.5 FM to hear the service.*

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December 19, 2021

*Fourth Sunday in Advent*

## **Fear Not!** Choir-led Worship

### Welcome

*God with Us*

*Video*

### Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

*Lighting of the Advent wreath.*

### **O Come, O Come, Emmanuel**

*Congregation*

**1** O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear. *Refrain*

*ref Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel!*

**6** O come, Thou Dayspring from on high,  
And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
And death's dark shadows put to flight. *Refrain*

**7** O come, Desire of nations, bind  
In one the hearts of all mankind;  
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,  
And be Thyself our King of Peace. *Refrain*

**Confession and Absolution**

- P** In his letter to the Philippians, St. Paul calls on the community to live in trust instead of fear.
- C** “Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.”
- P** Because our old nature wants to be in charge of life, it is incapable of living in that kind of trust in God.
- C** Like Adam and Eve in the garden, we believe that God is keeping what is truly good from us and that relying on him will leave us with less than we want and need.
- P** In Baptism, God has restored a relationship of trust by putting to death that old nature and recreating us to rely on God for all our good. We pray that God will do that same work in us today and every day. Heavenly Father,
- C** Crucify our self-reliance, our anxiety, and our fear. Raise us to newness of life in which we look to you to provide for us in every circumstance. Settle us in your love and your care.

*We take time in silence to confess our personal and communal sin before God, confident that we will receive forgiveness.*

- P** The work that God the Holy Spirit began in your baptism will continue. As St. Paul promises, “The God of peace will be with you,” and he will not only forgive but also transform. In the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Be confident that no circumstance you face is greater than he can work through. “And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”
- C** Amen! Thanks be to God!

***O Come, All Ye Faithful***

*Congregation LSB 379 v1-3*

- 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*

*ref* O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord!

2 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*

### *Do Not Be Afraid*

*John 16:33*

“I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.”

### *Fear Not*

*Choir*

### Homily

### Presentation of the Offering

#### Preface

*spoken*

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.
- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give him thanks and praise

### Sanctus

*LSB 161*

- C** Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow’r and might:  
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.  
Hosanna. Hosanna.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

### The Words of Our Lord

#### Agnus Dei

*LSB 163*

- C** Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

## **Distribution**

*We believe that as we partake of the bread and wine in Holy Communion, Jesus the Messiah is feeding us with his own true body and blood. In eating his body and drinking his blood we receive the promise that our sins are forgiven, and that we will therefore live eternally with God. We also believe that this eating and drinking is a confession of our faith.*

*If you have been baptized into the Christian faith and if you share our understanding of Christ's Real Presence in this meal, you are welcome to receive Christ's body and blood for your benefit.*

*Unto Us*

*Choir*

## **Silent Night**

*LSB 363*

- 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.**
- 2 Silent night, holy night!  
Shepherds quake at the sight;  
Glories stream from heaven afar,  
Heav'nly hosts sing, Alleluia!  
Christ, the Savior, is born!  
Christ, the Savior, is born!**
- 3 Silent night, holy night!  
Son of God, love's pure light  
Radiant beams from Thy holy face  
With the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth,  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.**

## **O Little Town of Bethlehem**

*LSB 361*

- 1 O little town of Bethlehem,  
How still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
The silent stars go by;  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth  
The everlasting light.  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
Are met in thee tonight.**
- 2 For Christ is born of Mary,  
And, gathered all above  
While mortals sleep, the angels keep**

Their watch of wond'ring love.  
O morning stars, together  
    Proclaim the holy birth,  
And praises sing to God the king  
    And peace to all the earth!

3   How silently, how silently  
    The wondrous gift is giv'n!  
So God imparts to human hearts  
    The blessings of his heav'n.  
No ear may hear his coming;  
    But in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will receive him, still  
    The dear Christ enters in.

4   O holy Child of Bethlehem,  
    Descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin, and enter in,  
    Be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels  
    The great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us,  
    Our Lord Immanuel!

*What Child Is This*

LSB 370

1   What child is this, who, laid to rest,  
    On Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet  
    While shepherds watch are keeping?  
This, this is Christ the king,  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
    Haste, haste to bring him laud,  
    The babe, the son of Mary!

2   Why lies he in such mean estate  
    Where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here  
    The silent Word is pleading.  
Nails, spear shall pierce him through,  
The cross be borne for me, for you;  
    Hail, hail the Word made flesh,  
    The babe, the son of Mary!

3   So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;  
    Come, peasant, king, to own him.  
The King of kings salvation brings;  
    Let loving hearts enthrone him.

Raise, raise the song on high,  
The virgin sings her lullaby;  
Joy, joy, for Christ is born,  
The babe, the son of Mary!

## Reading

### *The Little Drummer Boy*

*Choir*

### *Hark the Herald*

*LSB 380*

1 Hark! The herald angels sing,  
“Glory to the newborn King;  
Peace on earth and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled!”  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,  
Join the triumph of the skies;  
With the angelic host proclaim,  
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!” *Refrain*

*ref Hark! The herald angels sing,  
“Glory to the newborn King!”*

2 Christ, by highest heav’n adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
Late in time behold him come,  
Offspring of a virgin’s womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,  
Hail the incarnate Deity!  
Pleased as Man with man to dwell,  
Jesus, our Immanuel! *Refrain*

3 Hail, the heav’n-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings,  
Ris’n with healing in his wings.  
Mild He lays his glory by,  
Born that man no more may die,  
Born to raise the sons of earth,  
Born to give them second birth. *Refrain*

### *The Glorias of Christmas*

*Choir*

### *Angels from the Realms of Glory*

*LSB 367*

1 Angels from the realms of glory,  
Wing your flight o’er all the earth;

Ye who sang creation's story,  
Now proclaim Messiah's birth. *Refrain*

*ref* Come and worship, come and worship;  
Worship Christ, the newborn King.

2 Shepherds in the field abiding,  
Watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with us is now residing,  
Yonder shines the Infant Light. *Refrain*

3 Sages, leave your contemplations,  
Brighter visions beam afar;  
Seek the great Desire of nations,  
Ye have seen His natal star. *Refrain*

4 Saints before the altar bending,  
Watching long in hope and fear,  
Suddenly the Lord, descending,  
In His temple shall appear. *Refrain*

△ 5 All creation, join in praising  
God the Father, Spirit, Son,  
Evermore your voices raising  
To the eternal Three in One. *Refrain*

*Go Tell it on the Mountain*

LSB 388

*ref* 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*

*Emmanuel*

Video

**Benediction**

*LSB 166*

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and  $\text{✠}$  give you peace.
- C** Amen.

**Announcements & Sending**

**Singers**

Kevin Zimmerman  
Jodi Rose  
Sheryl Johnson  
Toni Peterson  
Robert Pajak  
Phil Marquardt  
Sue Anderson  
Todd Anderson  
Natalie Hofman  
Gretchen Lynn  
Susan James  
Renee Chambard  
Wayne Chambard

Karen Callies  
Monica Lux  
Lois Spadgenske

**Ringers**

Nancy Anderson  
Jonelle Welle  
Diane Weinhold  
Pam Birkholz  
Arlene Marti  
Beth Degler  
Kelsey Bellrichard

**Sound**

Clayton Yares

**Music Director**

John Peterson

**Band**

Graydon Peterson  
Joe Strachan  
Emily Borra  
Blake Peterson

**Percussion**

Nathaniel Marquardt  
Lisa Yares

## Serving in Worship This Morning

December 12, 2021

**Pastor:**

Jason Neel

**Elder:**

Jeff Williams

### In our prayers

**Celebrating Anniversaries this week:** Randy and Cheryl Herschman 12/21

#### **This Week at a Glance**

Today	8:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	9:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	10:30 a.m.	Fellowship and Refreshment
Wednesday	11:00 am	Children's Program
	12:00 p.m.	Congregational Prayer
	6:45 p.m.	Advent Mid-Week Worship
Friday	6:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study
	4:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
	9:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
Saturday	9:00 a.m.	Christmas Worship Service
Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	9:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	10:00 a.m.	Bible Study (no Sunday School)

#### **Notes of Information:**

**Children's Christmas Program:** Please join us following fellowship time, for our Children's Christmas Program, "The Rescuer". The program will start at 11 am.

**NACE:** A cash donation during December to NACE will be matched by businesses in the community. You can mail your donation to NACE, PO Box 2, East Bethel.

**Church Library:** The library is available for your use whenever the church is open. The only time it is closed is on Sundays between 10:45 and 11:30 a.m., when the room is used by the Sunday School, and occasionally when a group is meeting there. The fiction and non-fiction sections have been alphabetized and have begun to be checked out. Depending on feedback, the other sections, which have categorical color-coded tape on the spines, may be reorganized, or downsized. As space allows, donations of books may also be accepted. Especially popular, so far, are Christian fiction and non-fiction, such as biographies. Lois Spadgenske encourages your comments and/or questions at 763-757-5377 or [SecondTim.1.5@Gmail.com](mailto:SecondTim.1.5@Gmail.com).

**Trinity First Lutheran School:** *"Equipping Learners, Sharing Hope"*. Did you know that: 50% of Trinity First's students are from immigrant families, 51% don't have a church home, 47% receive special services (Special Ed & Title I), 77% qualify for free and reduced prices meals, and 88% are students of color? Last year enrollment was 116 students, with 4 graduating. Operating income from donations, and the Adopt a Student Scholarship Program totals 87%. Income from tuition and fees is 2%. Spirit of Christ continues to support Trinity First with 2% of our monthly First Fruits Mission offerings. Thank you for your generosity and continued prayers.

**Qualified Charitable Donations (QCD):** Are available for people 70 1/2 years or older. QCD's are donations from IRA's directly to the charity. Spirit of Christ is a qualified charity. The donations are nontaxable, but also not deductible as charitable donations. Check with your financial advisor for information.

**Thrivent Choice Dollars:** So far this year SoC has had \$3259 designated from Thrivent Choice funds. Thank you!

If you are eligible, you can specifically choose an organization, such as Spirit of Christ Lutheran Church. Choice Dollars designated during the calendar year can be directed until March 31 of the following year. To direct those dollars, log onto <http://www.thrivent.com>. Under **What We Offer**, choose the **Generosity** tab. Then choose **Choice Dollars**.

**2022 Calendars and Cards:** SoC youth have 2022 calendars, Christmas cards, greeting cards and note pads for sale. Cards are available in the Narthex after worship.

**Adopt-A-Student:** Spirit of Christ will be helping support a first year Seminarian, through the Adopt-A-Student program, at the Concordia Seminary in St. Louis. We have been assigned newlyweds Jonathan and Stephanie Chapa, who were both raised in central Minnesota. They are both recent graduates of Concordia University in Nebraska, with degrees in education. After a summer of Greek classes, Jonathan has started introductory fall classes, and is involved at his field work church, where Stephanie is working in their Early Childhood Center. Jonathan is also volunteering at Christian Friends of New Americans. Please pray for perseverance and determination for them, and that the Holy Spirit would move and work in the hearts of the adults and children they are serving.

**Stewardship:** is the expression of our desire as Christians to contribute to the mission and ministry of the church. Serving and giving are important parts of our Christian life. We are equipped to give of ourselves through gifts of time, talent, and treasure. St. Paul reminds us, "We are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making His appeal thru us." 2 Corinthians 5:20.

**Grief Share:** Grief Share is a grief recovery support group that has meetings across the country and worldwide. Spirit of Christ began its own Grief Share group that will meet Thursdays from 3-5pm. We are asking \$15 free will donation to

cover the cost of the workbook. Please contact Pam Birkholz at 612-270-1623 with any questions or to reserve your spot.

**NACE:** Do you know someone in need of food? NACE is expanding their Home Delivery Program and would like to help those who may not be able to drive or find a ride to the food shelf. The Delivery Program brings a complete grocery order right to your door, including produce, bakery, meats, dairy, canned goods, and hygiene products. If you or someone you know could benefit from NACE Home Delivery please call Katie @763-434-7685 or e mail at [kritchel@nacefoodshelf.org](mailto:kritchel@nacefoodshelf.org)

The clothing closet is looking for clean fall clothing and back to school clothing. Always needed at the food shelf are the hygiene products and individual items for the weekend packs. Let me know if you have any questions. Joan Mager 763-434-9652.

**Sermons and bulletins posted online:** Audio recordings of worship sermons and digital bulletins are posted weekly at [soclc.org](http://soclc.org). Check them out if you are not able to make it to drive in worship or would like to avoid a paper bulletin!

**Main Street Living:** Main Street Living is a Lutheran Television program that is endorsed by the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. The broadcast has two parts. Remastered episodes of the Emmy award-winning Lutheran Hour Ministries “This is the Life” program was originally aired from the 1950’s to the 1980’s. This program has been re-mastered to the modern format. The Worship Service is produced locally and features a different presenter each week selected from the Pastors in each broadcast area. 9  
+ Sunday Mornings at 9 am.

**Offerings via Give+:** Online giving is easy to do, one-time gifts and recurring donations are accepted. Visit the link at [soclc.org](http://soclc.org) to sign up or learn more.

'The Lutheran Hour' can be heard at 6:00 a.m. Sundays on WCCO radio

<b>December 12, 2021</b>	
Average Offering	\$5651
<i>Average offering needed per week to fulfill work plan</i>	<i>\$5921</i>

**Readings for next week:**

1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26, Colossians 3:12-17, Luke 2:41-52

**Serving in Worship Next Week:  
Advent Service  
December 22, 2021**

**Elder:**  
Terry Elhardt

**Reader:**  
Phil Marquardt

**Christmas Eve Worship  
December 24, 2021**

**Elder:**  
Phil Marquardt – 4p.m.

**Reader:**  
Monica Lux – 4p.m.

**Elder:**  
Jeff Williams

**Christmas Day Worship  
December 25, 2021**

**Elder:**  
Phil Hagel

**Reader:**  
Eli Neel

**Worship Service  
Sunday, December 26, 2021**

**Elder:**  
Justin Miller

**Reader:**  
Peggy Peterson



**Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**

**December 24, 2021**

**4 p.m. and 9 p.m.**

**Christmas Day Worship Service**

**December 25, 2021**

**9 a.m.**

**Worship Service**

**Sunday December 26, 2021**

**9 a.m.**

# *"Fear Not* for I Am with you." Isaiah 41:10

Distress and anxiety are everywhere. Just about everyone has an opinion but very few have clear answers. We tend to rely on our emotions which usually lead to havoc and irrational behavior. Some say we live in dark times, that uncharted waters are being traversed. With little research you will find this is old news.

## 365

Let's change our perspective, our focus. Over 365 times in the Bible are the words inscribed

in the beginning of this writing. "Fear Not..." Yep, that's one for every day of our week. And more often than not it is followed by this promise, **"I Am with you."** That's GOOD NEWS! God has told us to not conform to the pattern of the world, but to be transformed by the renewing of our minds. (Romans 12:2) How is that done? Focus on what we know is true. That we were never in control anyway and the God is and always will be. We are His.

Every spring we see fields prepared, planted, fed, and cultivated. Every summer the crops grow, and every fall they are harvested. Our lives in faith are the same. We are born, baptized, fed, nourished, cultivated for growth, and then harvested. God is doing the work, not us. By being obedient in His Word, in worship of Him, in fellowship with His own, we grow and are cultivated by his Holy Spirit for His glory. We proclaim and live in, by, and through His love. Allow Him to shape and give you growth.

He has promised that He will not forsake us, nor will He ever leave us. So be in His Word, worship, sing, fellowship with one another in His love, and grow for His glory.

His promise for this season....

# *Emmanuel* ●●●● God is with us!

"Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God." Psalm 43:5



**SPIRIT of CHRIST**  
Lutheran Church

2749 NE Bunker Lake Blvd  
Ham Lake, MN 55304  
[www.soclc.org](http://www.soclc.org)

**Our Mission: To live in love for God and one another reaching out to all people,  
proclaiming and sharing the love of Christ.**

Church Office: 763-755-7234

Pastor Jason Neel: [soclcpastor@gmail.com](mailto:soclcpastor@gmail.com)

Ministers: All Members

Music Director John [carsinger@aol.com](mailto:carsinger@aol.com)

Peterson:

Office e-mail: [secretary@soclc.org](mailto:secretary@soclc.org)

Prayer Chain (Sue Hurst): [sd\\_hurst@yahoo.com](mailto:sd_hurst@yahoo.com)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SpiritofChristLutheran.LCMS>