

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent**  
**Sunday, Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017**  
**10 a.m.**



Thank you to all who decorated  
our worship space to make it beautiful  
for the Christmas services.

The poinsettias on the altar are offered  
by Kylie and Cameron Niman  
in memory of their grandmother, Ethel Niman.

**Leading Today:**  
Cantor – Julia Wirth  
Reader – Joanna Malina  
Assistant – Randy Rodgers

**Piano/Organ/Choir Director:** David Santry  
**Church Secretary:** Debra Boyd-Chisholm

**Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church**

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## Introduction to Taizé

The Taizé prayer service puts an emphasis on the value of silence. In Taizé, France, the bells ring three times a day to call everyone to pause and gather at the church for prayer. In the middle of each common prayer there is a long period of silence, a unique moment for meeting with God. The songs are of a repetitive style. According to the founder, Brother Roger, it is in the repeating that the Spirit will well up inside us; the music embracing us into God's presence; the simplicity of melodies connecting with our innermost selves.

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### WELCOME

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**VIDEO MESSAGE:** *“Just This, Just Now”* (Bishop Eaton, ELCA)

**CANDLE LIGHTING:** *Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah* (verses 1-4, ELW 240)

**GATHERING SONG:** *Come and Fill Our Hearts* (ELW 528)

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

**Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that would obstruct your mercy, that willingly we may bear your redeeming love to all the world, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**PSALM: Psalm 89:1-5** (with Alleluia response, insert #74)

**<sup>1</sup>Your love, O LORD, forever will I sing;  
from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.**

**ALLELULIA RESPONSE, Insert #74**

**<sup>2</sup>For I am persuaded that your steadfast love is established forever; you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.**

**ALLELULIA RESPONSE, Insert #74**

**<sup>3</sup>“I have made a covenant with my chosen one;  
I have sworn an oath to David my servant:**

**ALLELULIA RESPONSE, Insert #74**

**<sup>4</sup>“I will establish your line forever, and preserve your throne for  
all generations.’ ”**

**ALLELULIA RESPONSE, Insert #74**

**<sup>5</sup>The heavens praise your wonders, O LORD,  
and to your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones;**

**ALLELULIA RESPONSE, Insert #74**

**SONG: *Jésus le Christ* (Insert #9)**

**GOSPEL: Luke 1:26-38**

The holy gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>26</sup>In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, <sup>27</sup>to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. <sup>28</sup>And he came to her and said, “Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.” <sup>29</sup>But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup>The angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup>And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. <sup>32</sup>He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. <sup>33</sup>He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.” <sup>34</sup>Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I am a virgin?” <sup>35</sup>The angel said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. <sup>36</sup>And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. <sup>37</sup>For nothing will be impossible with God.” <sup>38</sup>Then Mary said, “Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.” Then the angel departed from her.

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

**SONG: *O Lord Hear my Prayer* (ELW 751)**

**SILENCE FOR REFLECTION**

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION** (*Spoken with Kyrie response, insert #87*)

**LORD'S PRAYER: *Our Father* (insert #145)**

**COMMUNION**

**COMMUNION SONGS:**

*Let All Who Are Thirsty Come* (Insert #67)  
*Eat This Bread* (ELW 472)

**SONG: *Behüte Mich Gott* (ELW 137)**

**SONG: *Wait for the Lord* (ELW 262)**

**SONG: *Jesus Remember Me* (ELW 616)**

**BLESSING**

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*All who desire communion with Jesus and approach the sacrament with faith, are welcome at the Lord's Table. While both the common cup and individual glasses are offered, we encourage the use of the common cup to emphasize the unity we share in the Body of Christ, the church (please indicate your preference to the servers). A non-alcohol option is available in the tray. You may also partake of bread only, or come to the table for a blessing only.*



Operation Big Turkey could use more volunteers today. Please visit [www.operationbigturkey.org](http://www.operationbigturkey.org) for more info.