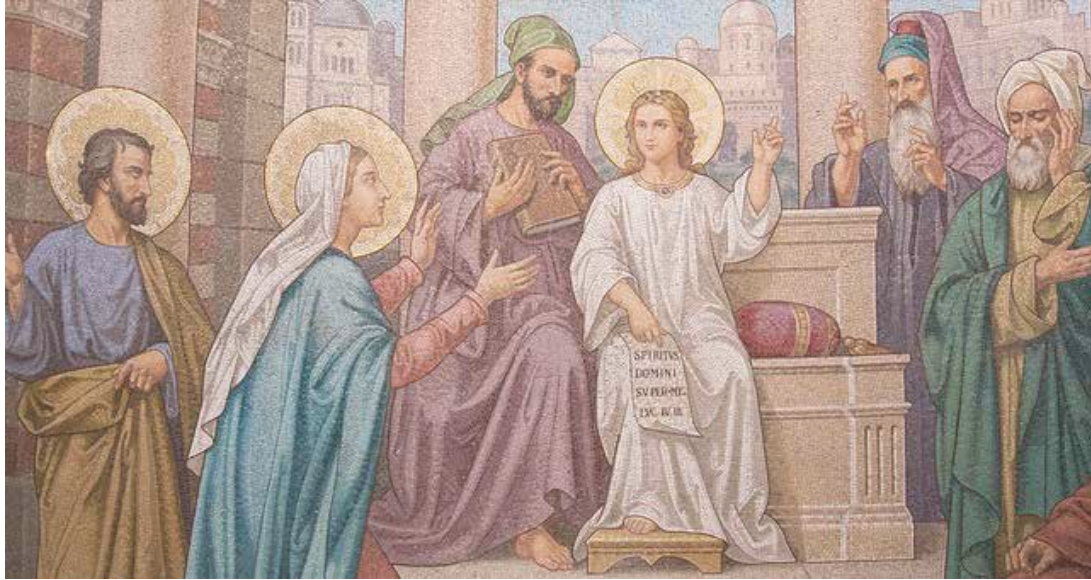


Second Sunday after Christmas
January 4, 2026 (Setting 3)

God has given Jesus to you, but have you ever lost Him? Sometimes it happens suddenly when a crisis or a tragedy strikes. We thought that He was by our side, but then we ask, "Where was He when I needed Him the most?" He never left us. We lost Him. Or, sometimes it happens gradually. Jesus drifts away "unnoticed" when we are distracted by our own needs or the pressures of life until something makes us realize that He is missing and we stop to say, "Where is He?" If Mary and Joseph can lose Jesus, so can we!

Jesus has never been lost. We have! He was exactly where He was supposed to be – in the temple doing His Father's work. Twenty-plus years later, His disciples thought that He was lost when He died on Calvary. But He wasn't lost. He was exactly where He needed to be on the cross dying for the sins of the world; and in the tomb sanctifying the graves of believers; then raised from the dead to bring life to all those who believe in Him! Our Heavenly Father agonizes when His children go missing. When we were lost in sin and death, it was Jesus who came to find, rescue and save us!

—Pastor Scott Snow



Welcome
We are thankful you have joined us today!

Hymn Now, Sing We, Now Rejoice | **386**

Entrance Psalm [Psalm 119:97-104]

Oh how I love your law! It is my meditation all the day.

Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies, for it is ever with me.

I have more understanding than all my teachers,
for your testimonies are my meditation.

I understand more than the aged, for I keep your precepts.

I hold back my feet from every evil way,
in order to keep your word.

**I do not turn aside from your just decrees,
for you have taught me.**

How sweet are your words to my taste,
sweeter than honey to my mouth!

**Through your precepts I get understanding;
therefore I hate every false way.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

I have more understanding than all my teachers,
for your testimonies are my meditation.

Please stand.

Confession & Absolution

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** [Matt 28:19b; 18:20]

Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. Our help is in the name of the Lord, [Hebrews 10:22]

who made heaven and earth. [Psalm 124:8]

I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
and You forgave the iniquity of my sin. [Psalm 32:5]

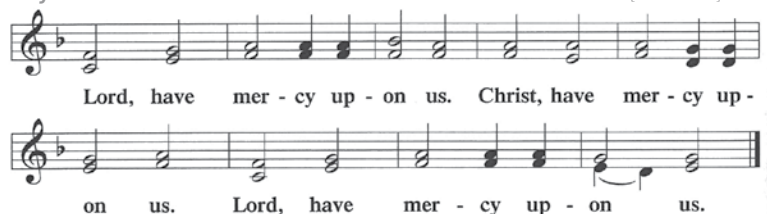
Quiet time for self-examination and confession

O almighty God, merciful Father, **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto you all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

[John 20:19-23]

Kyrie

[Mark 10:47]



Gloria

[Luke 2:14; John 1:29]

Glory be to God on high: and on earth peace, good - will toward
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.
O Lord God, heav'n - ly King, God the Fa - ther Al - mighty.
O Lord, the only - begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us.
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up -
on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.
Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you. **And with thy spirit.**

Let us pray... *[silence for individual prayer]* Almighty God, You have poured into our hearts the true Light of Your incarnate Word. Grant that this Light may shine forth in our lives; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

Readings from God's Word

The Old Testament Reading is from First Kings:

The king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the great high place. Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, "Ask what I

shall give you." And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant David my father, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you. And you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne this day. And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of David my father, although I am but a little child. I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of your people whom you have chosen, a great people, too many to be numbered or counted for multitude. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil, for who is able to govern this your great people?"

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. And God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, behold, I now do according to your word. Behold, I give you a wise and discerning mind, so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you. I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that no other king shall compare with you, all your days. And if you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days."

And Solomon awoke, and behold, it was a dream. Then he came to Jerusalem and stood before the ark of the covenant of the Lord, and offered up burnt offerings and peace offerings, and made a feast for all his servants. [1 Kings 3:4-15]

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

The Epistle Reading is from Ephesians:

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ I as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory. [Ephesians 1:3-14]

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand to greet the Holy Gospel singing:

Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke:



The child [Jesus] grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom. And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, but supposing him to be in the group they went a day's journey, but then they began to search for him among their relatives and acquaintances, and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. And when his parents saw him, they were astonished. And his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress." And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them. And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart.

And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man. [Luke 2:40-52]

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Our Confession of Faith

Please stand to confess the Nicene Creed printed on the inside back cover of the hymnal.

Please sit.

Children's Message

[Mark 10:14-16; Matt 19:14; Luke 18:16-17]

The children are invited forward for a message led by Pastor Erkkinen.

Hymn Within the Father's House | 410

Sermon

Gathering of the Offering

In Person | Mail to Church | Bank Bill Pay

Offertory Hymn

[Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19]



Prayer of the Church

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

...let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

Those for whom we pray are listed on the Life at Faith insert. Please stand.

Sacrament of the Altar

[2 Timothy 4:22; Colossians 3:1; Psalm 136]

The Lord be with you. **And with thy spirit.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

It is meet and right so to do.

It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify your glorious name, evermore praising you and singing:

Holy, Holy, Holy

[Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9]



The Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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.** [Matt 6:9-13]

The Words of Our Lord

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat: this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

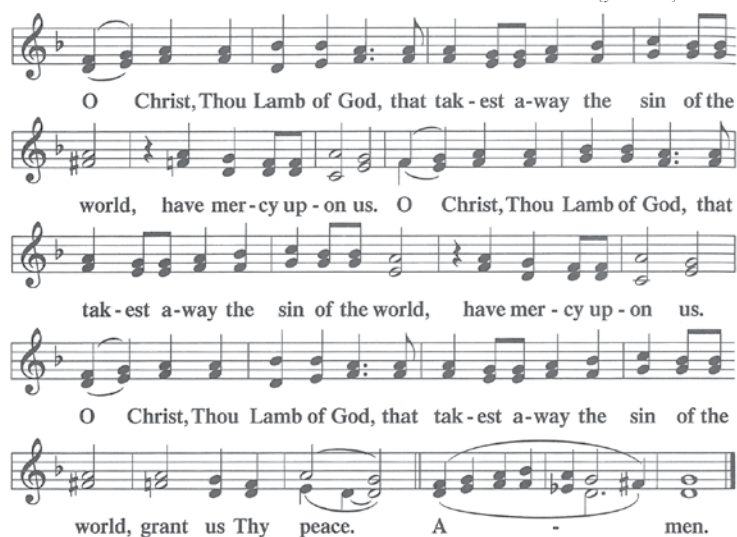
In the same way also he took the cup after supper, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

[Mt 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Cor 11:23-25]

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **Amen.** [John 20:19]

Lamb of God

[John 1:29]



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up-on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up-on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Please be seated and come forward at the direction of the ushers.

Distribution of Holy Communion/Hymns

The Lord's Supper is a meal for disciples of Jesus who have been baptized and taught (as our Lord says in Matthew 28). Those who have confessed their sins, acknowledge Jesus as their Savior from sin, believe that with the bread and the wine Christ truly gives us His body and blood for the forgiveness of sins, desire to commit themselves to Him in loving obedience, and share the faith confessed at this altar, are welcome to participate. If you have any doubts or questions about the gift of the Lord's Supper, we ask that you consult with the pastor or an elder. Children are invited to come to the altar with their parents to receive a blessing.

Hymns Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing | **686**
 Lord of All Hopefulness | **738**
 God Loves Me Dearly | **392**

When all have communed, please stand.

Post Communion Song



Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the sal-va-tion which You have pre-pared in the sight of ev-'ry peo-ple: A light to reveal You to the na-tions and the glo-ry of Your peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it; as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A-men.

Post Communion Prayer

O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
and His mercy endureth forever.

Let us pray...one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Salutation and Benedicamus

[1 Timothy 4:22]

The Lord be with you. **And with thy spirit.**

Bless we the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Benediction

[Numbers 6:24-26]

The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make His face shine upon you
 and be gracious unto you.
 The Lord lift up His countenance upon you
 and give you + peace. **Amen, amen, amen.**

Hymn

Go Tell It on the Mountain | 388

Passing of the Lord's peace

Postlude

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Faith Lutheran Church, Preschool & Extended Childcare

A Member Congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

The purpose of this congregation shall be to serve its members and community and to spread the Kingdom of God by preaching the Word of God, by the administration of the Sacraments and by the religious instruction of youth and adults, according to the confessional standard of the Lutheran Church, and to foster Christian fellowship and charity. It shall also be the purpose and the responsibility of this congregation to provide a Christian and parochial education for its children to the best of its ability.

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**If you would like a
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 contact the church office*

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