

November 30, 2025

1st Sunday in Advent

PRELUDE/BELLS

GATHERING/ANNOUNCEMENTS

*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you **And also with you**

Let us greet one another in the spirit of God's special peace.

***Gathering Song** *My Lord, What a Morning* (ELW #438)



*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

We have seen the valley. We have seen a sky without stars. We have seen the longest night, and still we believe. We believe in a with-us God. We believe in the hope of tomorrow. We believe that good news is louder than fear. We believe this good news is for all people. So even when our knees shake, even when our voice trembles, even when fear is all around us, we will hold onto that good news. We will reach for each other. We will look for God in our midst. We will sing songs of joy. We will proclaim: Unto us, love is born. We have seen the longest night, and we have seen unimaginable love. So still, we believe. Amen.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

On Sundays and Mondays,
On good days and bad days,
early in the morning and very late at night,
here in this room, and out in the world,
God, we long for you to break in.

Meet us in this space.

Surprise us with your presence.

Fill this room with your good news.

With hope, we sing, we worship, we pray. Amen!

CANDLE LIGHTING

In a world full of fear, where do you see hope?

We see hope when we look to the next generation. We feel hopeful when we gather together. We know hope, deep in our bones, when we dream of a better world.

You are right. Even in a fearful world, hope is all around us. Today we light the candle of hope as a reminder of this good news. May this flicker of light help us remember that we have reason to hope.

PRAYER OF DAY

Let us pray... **with-us-God, in the time of Moses, you spoke through water in the desert and a pillar of smoke. In the time of the judges, you spoke through the prophets. In the time of Herod, you spoke through angel choruses and unlikely miracles. In every time you have been speaking. So today, in our time, we ask that you would speak again. Break through the chatter and the distraction of our weary minds and speak to us once more. With hope we pray, Amen.**

WORD

FIRST READING: Lamentations 3:55-57

⁵⁵ I called on your name, O LORD, from the depths of the pit; ⁵⁶ you heard my plea, "Do not close your ear to my cry for help, but give me relief!"

⁵⁷ You came near when I called on you; you said, "Do not fear!"

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

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN - as the children come forward the congregation sings Jesus Loves Me (ELW #595) (V. 1)

***GOSPEL: Luke 1:5-13**

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

⁵ In the days of King Herod of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly order of Abijah. His wife was descended from the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. ⁶ Both of them were righteous before God, living blamelessly according to all the commandments and regulations of the Lord. ⁷ But they had no children because Elizabeth was barren, and both were getting on in years. ⁸ Once when he was serving as priest before God during his section's turn of duty, ⁹ he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to enter the sanctuary of the Lord to offer incense. ¹⁰ Now at the time of the incense offering, the whole assembly

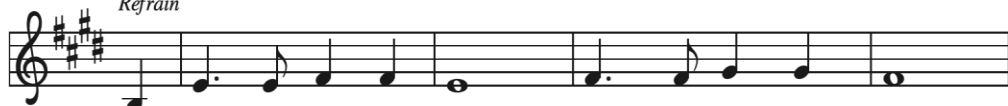
of the people was praying outside. ¹¹ Then there appeared to him an angel of the Lord, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. ¹² When Zechariah saw him, he was terrified, and fear overwhelmed him. ¹³ But the angel said to him, “Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will name him John.

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

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: *By Grace We Have Been Saved* (ACS #1006)

Refrain



By grace we have been saved— saved by grace through faith,



not be-cause of what we do; it is the gift of God.



1 On the days when you are weak,	on the
2 Rest your bod - y, rest your mind,	in the
3 You don't need to be a - fraid.	You will



days when you are strong,	rich or	poor,
still - ness you will find	you're a	love - ly,
nev - er be a - lone.	There is	mer - cy,



young or	old,	just	lis - ten	to	the	song.
pre - cious	child,	part	of the	great	de -	sign.
there is	hope,	and	love will	take	you	home.

Refrain

***APOSTLES CREED** (*ELW p. 189*)

I believe in God, the Father
almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's
only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy
Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was
buried;
he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand
of the Father,
and he will come to judge the
living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen

MEAL

OFFERING SONG *Let the Vineyards be Fruitful* (*ELW p. 184*)

OFFERING

***WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

***GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Let us pray... Loving God, pour out your Spirit on this Table. Pour out
you Spirit on this ordinary bread. Pour out your Spirit on this ordinary
juice. For the thing we fear the most is distance from you, so draw
near to us here. Saturate this room with your Spirit and this Table with
your love. And as you do, we will join our voices and pray the words
your son taught us to pray.

***LORD'S PRAYER** (*ELW p. 191*)

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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

COMMUNION SONG: *Show Up* (Advent theme song) Lyrics and music by Britt Kusserow

Verse 1:

Sun setting early, get out the
candles

So much revealed in a spark

What do you picture in these
growing shadows?

What do you fear in the dark?

Verse 2:

Thoughts run like branches,
losing their leaves

Worries that loved ones will fall

Questioning safety as the rules
change around me

Knowing that safe isn't all

Refrain:

I believe that a God, born into
empire

Carries the message that hope
is enough

A little brave candle against
growing shadows

Fearful or not, we show up

We show up

Verse 3:

You who are tired, you who are
worn

Weary and slow on your feet

Know that your actions will
carry beyond you

Know you are more than belief

Verse 4:

Fear can be message, fear can
be gift

If met with a curious heart

Be not afraid of the fear that's
beside you

Let it be known who you are

Refrain:

I believe that a God, born into
empire

Carries the message that hope
is enough

A little brave candle against
growing shadows

Fearful or not, we show up

We show up

Refrain:

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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray... **Loving God, In a world racked with fear, you gather us together. You set the table. You meet us here. You nourish our bodies as you nourish our spirits. You remind us that this is a joyful feast, and that fear cannot win every time. So with renewed courage, with renewed hope, with renewed conviction, send us out into the world. Help us to feed others as you have fed us. With gratitude we pray. Amen.**

SENDING

BENEDICTION:

In a fearful world, may you look for God's spirit. May you reach for each other's hands. May you choose courage whenever you can. And in all things, may you remember that good news is louder than fear. In the name of the one who calls, the one who sends, and the one who journeys with – go in peace and be not afraid. **Amen.**

***SENDING SONG** *Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers (ELW #244)*

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

BELLS/POSTLUDE

JOYFULLY SERVING

Fisher Lutheran Church Office phone number: 218-891-4632

Pastor: Gretchen Enoch 812-639-7816

Parish Secretary: Jami Olson (Email the office at

office@fisherbygland.org, or If you need an immediate response contact Pastor Gretchen.)

Organist: Jane Traub

FLC Usher: Chad Knutson

FLC Reader: Patti Malme

FLC Communion Helper: Patti Malme

FLC Coffee Servers: Ken & Mary Miller

In the Time of Herod

I didn't live during Herod's time—that brutal, murderous king, God save his soul.

But even hundreds of years later, I know the prayers of his people.

I know the prayers of the mothers and the children under his rule.

I know the prayers of the young men under his angry arm.

I know their prayers, because anyone who has ever lived in this soft world for more than two days

knows how to pray for a miracle.

We rub our hands together.

We fold weary shoulders in,

a cage of bone to protect our bleeding hearts.

We sing, we shall overcome and bind my wandering heart to thee.

We walk across bridges and in front of powerful buildings.

We cover our cars in stickers that scream, we will not give up!

We allow a hungry cry to slip from our lips,

giving our lament a life of its own (with room to dance!).

And when all of that is said and done, we whisper to our creator,

God, break through the yelling and the fear. Break through the violence and the oppression.

Get past the Herods of this world, and come be here.

Like every bleeding heart before, we pray for a miracle.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Wed. Dec. 3rd, 6:00-7:15 PM Confirmation (grade 8 @ FLC)
- Thur. Dec. 4th, 6:00 Read the Bible Through the Year at FLC. This is the last day of class for the year. If you are able to make it, please let Pastor know, so she can plan accordingly.
- Sun. Dec. 7th, 9:00 AM Worship at Bygland
10:00 Sunday School
11:00 PM Worship at Fisher/Noisy Offering



Bygland Lutheran Church

“Christmas in the Country”

LUTEFISK AND MEATBALL DINNER

BAZAAR AND BAKE SALE

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2025

Located 8 miles south of
East Grand Forks on Highway 220

Menu includes lutefisk, meatballs
and all the trimmings!

Serving from
11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

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