

# *Lessons & Carols*

WHEN LOVE CAME DOWN TO EARTH



**Sunday, December 14, 2025**

## Welcome to First Lutheran Church!

Today, as since 1892, we welcome members and guests to glorify God and exalt his name.

### NEW HERE? HAVE A QUESTION?

Visit the Welcome Center in the Gathering Place, just north of the Sanctuary. First-time visitors receive a special gift.

### HOLY COMMUNION

We celebrate Holy Communion at every worship service; all who believe in Jesus as Lord and Savior are welcome at his table. To receive a blessing instead, simply cross your arms over your chest. Our children celebrate First Communion in Grade 3. Earlier participation in communion is at the discretion of parents or guardians.

### NEED HEARING ASSISTANCE?

Assistive Listening Devices are available and may be used with headphones or with a neck loop for T-Coil-equipped hearing aids. Please leave the devices in the Sanctuary after the service.

### CHILD CARE

All ages are welcome in worship; our professionally-staffed child care center is, however, an option for young children during services. The center is near the elevator on the main level.

### A PLACE FOR LIFELONG LEARNING

Our **Sunday School** program meets at 9:30 a.m. downstairs in Fellowship Hall. Children may be dropped off as early as 9:15 a.m. Adults are invited to join our quarterly Adult Education classes.

### JOIN US FOR COFFEE

Following the worship service, please join us in the Gathering Place for coffee, treats, and fellowship.

### CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

Our newest service takes place at 10:15 a.m. in the Worship Center on the second level – a distinctively Lutheran approach to contemporary worship. During the sermon, **First Kids** is offered in the Fireside Room for children aged Preschool through Grade 2.

### ONLINE WORSHIP: YOUTUBE

Never miss a service on our YouTube channel! Search for First Lutheran Colorado Springs and click SUBSCRIBE to be notified when we upload or stream new videos.

### DOWNLOAD OUR APP

With the First Lutheran app, you can watch online services and live streams, manage your giving, update your contact information, sign up for events, and more. Navigate to your app store and download Church by MinistryOne. Search for FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH or use our ZIP code, 80907.

# Lessons & Carols 2025: When Love Came Down to Earth

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2025

PRELUDE: *Carol of the Bells* (Carillon Ringers)

WELCOME AND PRAYER

PROLOGUE: *The First Noel* (Carillon Ringers)

ANTHEM: *A Great Light*

The people walking in darkness shall see a great light!  
The people living in darkness, on them a light will shine!  
And the glory of God shall be shown,  
the will of God made known.

The people walking in darkness shall see a great light!

For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given,  
and the government shall be on his shoulders,  
and the government shall be on his shoulders;  
he shall be called Wonderful Counselor,  
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and the Prince of Peace.

Come, thou long-expected Jesus,  
born to set thy people free;  
from our fears and sins release us –  
let us find our rest in thee.

Israel's strength and consolation,  
hope of all the earth thou art;  
dear Desire of ev'ry nation,  
Joy of ev'ry longing heart.

The people walking in darkness shall see a great light!

CAROL: *Comfort, Comfort Now My People*  
Please stand as you are able and join in singing!



1. "Com - fort, com - fort now my peo - ple; tell of peace!"  
2. For the her - ald's voice is cry - ing in the des -  
3. Straight shall be what long was crook - ed, and the rough -

So says our God. Com - fort those who sit in dark - ness  
ert far and near, call - ing us to true re - pen - tance,  
er plac - es plain. Let your hearts be true and hum - ble,

mourn - ing un - der sor - row's load. To God's peo - ple now pro - claim  
since the reign of God is here. Oh, that warn - ing cry o - bey!  
as be - fits God's ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry of the Lord

that God's par - don waits for them! Tell them that their war is o - ver;  
Now pre - pare for God a way. Val - leys, rise to greet the Sav - ior;  
now on earth is shed a - broad, and all flesh shall see the to - ken

God will reign in peace for - ev - er.  
hills, bow down in hum - ble fa - vor.  
that God's word is nev - er bro - ken.

READING: Isaiah 9:6, 7

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,

Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

ANTHEM: *Come, Messiah!*

O come, Divine Messiah,  
the world in silence waits the day  
when hope shall sing its triumph,  
and sorrows flee away.

O come, Desire of Nations,  
whom priest and prophet long foretold,  
and break the chains that bind us,  
redeem your long-lost fold.

*Come, Messiah! Dispel our night with the dawn of grace.  
Come, Messiah! We long to see your face –  
Come, Messiah, come!*

O come, dear Child of promise,  
for lowly shall your cradle be;  
though clothed in human likeness,  
we shall the Godhead see!

*Come, Messiah! ...*

ANTHEM: O Beauteous Heavenly Light  
Break forth, O beauteous heav'nly light  
and usher in the morning.  
O shepherds, shrink not with affright,  
but hear the angel's warning.  
This Child, now weak in infancy,  
our confidence and joy shall be;  
the pow'r of Satan breaking,  
our peace eternal making.

*Continued on the next page.*

Gloria, gloria, gloria, gloria  
in excelsis Deo.\*

Gloria, gloria, gloria, gloria  
in excelsis Deo.

\* *Glory to God in the highest!*

Break forth, O beauteous heav'nly light,  
to herald our salvation.

He stoops to earth, the God of might,  
our hope and expectation.

He comes in human flesh to dwell,  
our God with us, Immanuel;  
the night of darkness ending,  
our fallen race befriending.

Gloria! Gloria!

Break forth, O beauteous heav'nly light,  
O heav'nly light.

READING: Luke 1:67 – 75

Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied, saying, “Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has visited and redeemed his people and has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David, as he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets from of old, that we should be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us; to show the mercy promised to our fathers and to remember his holy covenant, the oath that he swore to our father Abraham, to grant us that we, being delivered from the hand of our enemies, might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.”

ANTHEM: *'Tis a Wonderful Thing*

*Born, born, born is the King.*

*Let heaven and nature join and sing.*

*Glory, hallelujah, 'tis a wonderful thing.*

*Born, born, born is the King.*

Let heaven and nature join and sing.  
Glory, hallelujah, 'tis a wonderful thing.  
Born, born, born is the King.

Mary and Joseph heard the angel say:  
“You’re gonna have a baby,  
it’ll happen this way.  
God’ll be the Father,  
no matter what they say.  
Just believe and name him Jesus,  
gotta trust and obey.”

Born, born, born is the King ...

Shepherds in the night watching over their sheep  
thought they were in  
for a good night’s sleep.  
When out of the blue, of the desert night,  
came a host of mighty angels,  
they were singing in flight.

Born, born, born is the King ...

An angel told the shepherds there was nothing to fear.  
In fact, they told the shepherds  
there was good news to hear.  
A Savior has been born this very night.  
Now go on, get into town,  
you’ve never seen such a sight!

Born, born, born is the King ...

Born, born, born is the King ...  
Glory, hallelujah, 'tis a wonderful thing;  
glory, hallelujah, 'tis a wonderful thing!



READING: Isaiah 55:1 – 3a, 6, 7

Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live ... Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

CAROL: *What Child Is This?*

*The music to the hymn may be found on the next page. Please stand as you are able and join in singing!*

SOLO: *Underneath the Shining Star* (sung by Katie Granados)

Underneath the shining star, all stories are laid down to rest.

Come and find the Father's joy, a baby boy, his very best.

His story, his glory – much greater than any other!

Underneath the shining star, you traveled far to see the King.

Here is heaven's Chosen One, the only Son – the angels sing

his story, his glory – much greater than any other!

He has come: your wandering is over!

He is here: don't look any further –

a friend of the King, that is what you are –

underneath the star.

READING: Philippians 2:6 – 11

Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.





1. What child is this, who laid to rest on Ma - ry's lap is  
2. Why lies he in such mean es - tate, where ox and ass are  
3. So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, pea - sant, king, to



sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet, while  
feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear, for sin - ners here the  
own him; the King of kings sal - va - tion brings: let



shep - herds watch are keep - ing? This, this is Christ the King, whom  
si - lent Word is plead - ing. Nails, spear shall pierce him thru, the  
lov - ing hearts en - throne him. Raise, raise the song on high, the



shep - herds guard and an - gels sing: haste, haste to  
cross be borne for me, for you: hail, hail the  
vir - gin sings her lul - la - by; joy, joy for



bring him laud, the babe, the son of Ma - ry.  
Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Ma - ry.  
Christ is born, the babe, the son of Ma - ry.

ANTHEM: I Wonder as I Wander  
I wonder as I wander out under the sky,  
how Jesus the Savior did come for to die  
for poor o'n'ry\* people like you and like I;  
I wonder as I wander out under the sky.

When Mary birthed Jesus, 'twas in a cow's stall,  
with wise men and farmers and shepherds and all.  
But high from God's heaven a star's light did fall,  
the promise of ages it then did recall.

If Jesus had wanted for any wee thing,  
a star in the sky or a bird on the wing,  
or all of God's angels in heav'n to sing,  
he surely could have it,  
'cause he was the King.

I wonder as I wander out under the sky ...

I wonder as I wander out under the sky.

\* Ordinary

DUET: Jesus, Your Name (sung by Becca Winn and Katie Granados)  
Jesus, your name, Prince of Peace,  
quiets my soul, treasures the least.  
In perfect rest, you will keep  
all whose hope is in You  
Jesus, your name can silence the storms,  
the strivings that trouble our world.  
Jesus, your name reveals you as Lord;  
O! powerful name.

Jesus, your name, Counselor,  
Wonderful Way, life's Comforter,  
Spirit of truth defending me,  
though in me was the blame!

Jesus, your name has stood in my place  
and freed me from hopeless shame;  
Jesus, your name now fathers me –  
With joy, I bear his name.

Jesus, your name, Mighty God,  
all-powerful One ruling in love.  
There is a King upon the throne  
Earth cannot overthrow.

Jesus, your name, great banner of hope,  
steadies the knees of the weak;  
Jesus, the name all nations will praise –  
O! glorious name.

ANTHEM: *Before the Marvel of This Night*  
Before the marvel of this night  
adoring, fold your wings and bow,  
then tear the sky apart with light  
and with your news the world endow.  
Proclaim the birth of Christ and peace,  
that fear and death and sorrow cease:  
Sing peace, sing peace, sing gift of peace,  
sing peace, sing gift of peace!

Awake the sleeping world with song,  
this is the day the Lord has made.  
Assemble here, celestial throng,  
in royal splendor come arrayed.  
Give earth a glimpse of heav'nly bliss,  
a teasing taste of what they miss:  
Sing bliss, sing bliss, sing endless bliss,  
sing bliss, sing endless bliss.

*Continued on the next page.*

The love that we have always known,  
our constant joy and endless light,  
now to the loveless world be shown,  
now break upon its deathly night.  
Into one song compress the love,  
that rules our universe above:  
Sing love, sing love, sing God is love,  
Sing love, sing God is love!

READING: 1 John 3:1a; Ephesians 1:3b – 10

See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are! He 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 as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

TRIO: *When Love Came Down to Earth*

(sung by Becca Winn, Breanna Whiting, and Katie Granados)

When love came down to earth  
and made his home with men,  
the hopeless found a hope,  
the sinner found a friend.  
Not to the powerful  
but to the poor he came,  
and humble, hungry hearts  
were satisfied again.

What joy, what peace, has come to us –  
what hope, what help, what love!

When ev'ry unclean thought  
and ev'ry sinful deed  
was scourged upon his back  
and hammered through his feet,  
the innocent is cursed,  
the guilty are released;  
the punishment of God  
on God has bought me peace!

What joy, what peace ...

Come, lay your heavy load  
down at the Master's feet;  
your shame will be removed,  
your joy will be complete.  
Come, crucify your pride  
and enter as a child,  
for those who bow down low  
he'll lift up to his side.

What joy, what peace ...

CAROL: *In the Bleak Midwinter*  
The music to the hymn may be found on the next page.  
Please stand as you are able and join in singing!

HANDBELL ANTHEM: *Hark! the Herald Angels Sing*

1. In the bleak mid - win - ter, frost - y wind made moan,  
 2. Heav - en can - not hold him, nor earth sus - tain;  
 3. What can I give him, poor as I am?

earth stood hard as i - ron, wa - ter like a stone;  
 heav'n and earth shall flee a - way when he comes to reign;  
 If I were a shep - herd I would bring a lamb;

snow had fall - en, snow on snow, snow on snow,  
 in the bleak mid - win - ter a sta - ble place suf - ficed  
 if I were a wise - man I would do my part;

in the bleak mid - win - ter, long a - go.  
 the Lord God al - might - y, Je - sus Christ.  
 yet what I can I give him: give my heart.

## READING

ANTHEM: *All Is Well*

All is well, all is well. Angels and men rejoice!

For tonight darkness fell into the dawn of love's light.

Sing alle, sing alleluia!

All is well all is well. Let there be peace on earth.

Christ is come; go and tell that he is in the manger.

Sing alle, sing alleluia!

All is well. all is well. Lift up your voice and sing.

Born is now Immanuel. Born is our Lord and Savior.

Sing alleluia! Sing alleluia! All is well.

## CLOSING REMARKS

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

### BENEDICTION

ANTHEM: *Child of Peace, Child of Hope*

Child of peace, Child of hope,  
to light our weary way.

Perfect love, the Son of God,  
came to earth today.

For the old, the young, the lost,  
not merely for a few.

Joy to ev'ry longing heart,  
he was born for you.

Child of peace, Child of hope,  
Incarnate Deity.

A simple throne in Bethlehem,  
so far from Calvary.

Tiny stranger wrapped in light,  
cleanse us, make us new.

Majesty, bound up in love,  
he was born for you.

The Father's heart, so merciful,  
forgives us, sets us free,  
through Jesus Christ, his only Son,  
for all eternity!

*Continued on the next page.*



Child of peace, Child of hope,  
clothed in righteousness.  
Trust in his redeeming love,  
and he will give you rest.  
Worship him as King of Kings,  
in spirit and in truth.  
Blameless sacrifice for sin,  
he was born for you.

Make him Lord, your King of Kings,  
kneel in gratitude, in gratitude.  
Quietly, invite him in.  
He was born for you.

## YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ENJOY OUR TRADITIONAL PIE FEST IN THE GATHERING PLACE!

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# FIRST LUTHERAN CHOIR

Lannette Abbey	Trudy Hill	Danielle Sena
Beth Allen	Peggy Hinrichs	Liz Shoemaker
Jim Baker	Shirley Jones	Dennis Shoemaker
Susanne Baker	Mary Kerwin	Leighton Sybrant
Joan Bennett	Annette Kester	Erin Tate
Jill Gjertson Brown	Jeff Kidder	Grant Vaughn
Nichole Brtek	Joan Kuehn	Willamina Walker
Kathleen Capron	Carolyn Kurtz	Karen Weesner
Sharon Cartwright	Trudy Lans	Becky Wesley
Cara Chafetz	Dar Larson	Breanna Whiting*
Gini Dugan	Paul Lindsey	Daniel Wicks
Lynn Eggum	Mark Mahler	Dianne Wilkerson
Jackie Foorman	Mindy Mahler	Breanna Ziemer
Cory Gibson	Gwyn Miller	
Katie Granados†	Paula Nickodemus	
Erna Haring	Gary Olson	
Al Hassebrock	Chris Parkhill	
Peter Hauer	Linda Parobek	* Song Leader
Jon Heinecke	Linda Peterson	† Section Leader
Vicki Heinecke	Carol Schlater	

## CARILLON RINGERS

Katie Ackerman  
Grace Bello  
Mary Benson  
Trish Blomquist  
Ingrid Daniels  
Kaelyn Daughetee  
Lance Doran  
Nikki Evans  
Julie Furstenau  
Elizabeth Heiny  
Mark Horst  
Kate McCall  
Carol Olson  
Maari Olson  
Addison Weis

## INSTRUMENTALISTS

Andrea Artley, flute  
Sharon Cartwright, percussion  
Ingrid Daniels, percussion  
Lori Duncan, percussion  
James Guerra, keyboard  
Elisa Wicks, violin  
Eric Wicks, organ and piano

## SOLOISTS

Katie Granados  
Breanna Whiting  
Becca Winn

## READERS

Pastor Travis Norton  
Pastor Michaela Eskew  
Cheryl Mahon

## SOUND, LIGHTS, AND LIVESTREAM

Lori Duncan  
Rob Eggum  
Marcus Kochis  
Dave Rose

## CONDUCTOR

Deacon Joan Kuehn

## PIE FEST COORDINATORS

Pat Friedell and Ron Furstenau

## FROZEN CUSTARD

Mark and Cindy Stanley



## POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

You may purchase a poinsettia plant for \$12 to honor or memorialize a loved one.

All poinsettias will be used to decorate the chancel area for the Christmas Eve services.

You can take your plant home after the last Christmas Eve service.



ORDER BY DECEMBER 17<sup>TH</sup>

We extend a special welcome to all who are new to First Lutheran today! Please text **GUEST** to **719.988.3524** to let us know about yourself.

If you already support First Lutheran, thank you! Gifts of any size make a difference to the ministries and outreach of our congregation. Scan the QR code, text **GIVE** to **719.988.3524**, or place your offering in the plate as it is passed.



# CHRISTMAS EVE AT FIRST

Wednesday, December 24



TRADITIONAL SERVICE

1, 3\*, 5, 7 & 9 P.M.

CONTEMPORARY SERVICE

4 P.M.

\*will be live streamed at [flccs.net](http://flccs.net)

1515 North Cascade Avenue • Colorado Springs, Colorado 80907  
719.632.8836 • [www.flccs.net](http://www.flccs.net)