

Our Savior Lutheran Church



love

Service of the Word and Sacrament

Sunday, 21 December 2025

4th Advent

Worship: 10.00am

THE GATHERING

*Welcome, Announcements, Prayer Requests
Advent Reading and Candle Lighting*

CALL TO WORSHIP

Christ Jesus, set apart for the Gospel of God,
*Which He promised beforehand
through His prophets in the Holy Scriptures,*
He who was descended from David according to the flesh
*He was declared to be Son of God with power according
to the Spirit of Holiness*

And by His Resurrection from the dead, our Lord, Jesus Christ!
*By whom we grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of
Faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of His Name.*

HYMN

"Good Christian Friends Rejoice"

#094

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*Let us pray...Holy and Merciful God, in this Season of Advent, You call us
to prepare the way of the Lord, yet we confess that our own hearts are
often unprepared. You summon us to repentance, yet we cling to familiar
sins. You call us to watchfulness, yet we grow weary, distracted, and
complacent. You speak peace in Christ, yet we nurture resentment, anger,
and fear. You promise that the Judge of all the Earth will do what is right,
yet we trust our own judgment more than Yours. We ask for your
forgiveness, turn us again to the hope of the gospel by Your Spirit - that
we may wait with patience, live with holiness, and walk in the light of
Your coming Kingdom; we ask this through the Power and the Name of
Our Lord Jesus Christ, the One who has come and will come again. AM EN.*

ABSOLUTION/ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the Good News! God forgives all the sins which we confess to Him - by the Name and through the Power - of Jesus; we may now greet with joy the coming to Earth of our Lord Jesus, Who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, One Triune God, now and for ever. **AMEN**

Gloria patri

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost! As it was in the Beginning, is now and ever shall be; world without end! Amen. Amen

Holy Scripture

RESPONSIVE READING - Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

[Oh LORD] show the light of Your countenance!

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, You who lead Joseph like a flock!

You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth

Before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh;

Stir up Your might, and come to save us!

Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

O LORD God of hosts, how long will You be angry
with Your people's prayers?

You have fed them with the bread of tears

And given them tears to drink in full measure.

You make us the scorn of our neighbors;
our enemies laugh among themselves.

Restore us, O God of hosts; let Your face shine, that we may be saved.

Let Your hand be upon the One at Your right hand,
The One Whom You made strong for yourself.

Then we will never turn back from You; give us life,

And we will call on Your Name!

Restore us, O LORD God of hosts;

Let Your face shine, that we may be saved!

READING FROM THE PROPHETS -Isaiah 7:10-16

Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, "Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as Heaven." But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test." Then Isaiah said, "Hear then, O House of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with Child and shall bear a Son and shall name Him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time He knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.

GOSPEL LESSON - Matthew 1:18-25

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When His mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be pregnant from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to divorce her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the Child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a Son, and you are to name Him Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the Prophet: "Look, the virgin shall

become pregnant and give birth to a Son, and they shall name Him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him *[and]* took *[Mary]* as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a Son; and *[Joseph]* named Him Jesus.

This is the Word of the Lord!
Thanks be to God!

SERMON *“Love is...”* Pastor Larry

CONFESSION OF FAITH

We confess our Faith in the God Who comes to save. We believe in God the Father, the Maker of Heaven and Earth, Who spoke through the Prophets and Who, in mercy, promised the coming of His Messiah. We believe in Jesus Christ, the Eternal Son of God, Who came once in humility to redeem the world, born of Mary, fully God and fully Human. He lived among us, proclaimed the Kingdom, died for our sins, and rose victorious over death. We believe He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and we await His coming with hope and expectation. We believe in the Holy Spirit, who calls us to repentance, awakens Faith through the living Word, gathers the Church, and prepares our hearts in this Advent season to welcome Christ with Faith, Courage, and Joy. We confess one Holy, Universal Christian Church, founded on the Apostles and Prophets, called to proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord until He comes again. AMEN.

OFFERING, DOXOLOGY, PRAYER

SPECIAL MUSIC *“Go! Tell It...”* Pastor Larry

The Eucharist

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give Him thanks and praise...

Let us raise to Him in great joy and love singing:

Joy to the World! The Lord has Come!

Let Earth receive her King.

Let every heart prepare Him room

- and - Heaven and Nature sing!

- and - Heaven and Nature sing!

- and - Heaven and Nature sing!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and 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. AMEN.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION, COMMUNION, PRAYER

BENEDICTION & SENDING
Go in Peace and Serve the Lord!
Thanks be to God!



LET THERE BE PEACE ON EARTH
*Let there be peace on Earth and let it begin with me;
Let there be peace on Earth, Peace that was meant to be;
With God as our Father, brothers all are we;
Let me walk with my brothers in perfect harmony!*
*Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now;
With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow;
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally
Let there be peace on Earth and let it begin with me!*

Weekly Activities

Wednesdays:	Drop In to visit Pastor 10am-2pm
Thursdays:	Bible Study at 10am {on <i>hiatus</i> until 2026}
Wednesday, 24 December	Candle Light Service , 6.30pm

Pastor Larry is ALWAYS available by appointment...
941-763-9975 Pastor Larry Cell

CHURCH COUNCIL
[meets every 2nd Sunday]

President	Dot Smith
Vice President	Jeanne Keyser
Treasurer	Dean Carson
Secretary	Andrea Yerger
Council Member	Bob Burchard; Bubbles Burress Ellie Selk; Pat Spence; Fran Thibideau

SERVING TODAY

Reader	Dean Carson
Offering	Bob Burchard
Communion	Fran Thibideau, Dot Smith

REMINDER:
For “Jesus Loves You Ministry”:
All of December we will be collecting BALLCAPS AND HATS - anything CAMO