Our Savior Lutheran December 12, 2021 Page 1 14344 Jamison Way, (941) 249-5108





WELCOME TO OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN! Thank you for joining us as we worship our Risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! We are happy you are here! As a kindness to one another, *please* place your cell phones on mute for the time we are together in worship. If you are a visitor, let us know you are here!

IN OUR PRAYERS: Please use a prayer request card if you have a specific prayer request this morning. It is our joy and our privilege to share in these petitions to Almighty God. If you have them ready before the service, hand them to Pastor when you have them completed, otherwise give them to the ushers at the time the offering is collected.

THE MEANING OF THE TWO PICTURES IN THE BULLETIN: The two pictures at the top of the bulletin are the church's logo and the LCMC logo. The church's logo is the descent of the Holy Spirit into 'Our Savior' at the time of His Baptism.

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SERVICE: We will be celebrating the birth of our Lord at 6PM on Friday December 24. Please join us for a night of song and inspiriation.

We Serve Today: TBA

Reader: Pastor Steve Offering: Ron Tessmer Communion: Peggie Sue Dygert, Dottie Smith Greeter: Jeff Cisco

SERVICE OF THE WORD - 3rd SUNDAY ADVENT SUNDAY OF JOY - GAUDET SUNDAY

GATHERING AND MEDITATION TIME: Pre-Service Music, Welcome, and Announcements **CONFESSIONAL PRAYER** - congregational responses in **BOLD**

Pastor: Lord, we approach your altar with with love for You and our concern for the price you paid for us on the cross. We realize the difficulties that we face, and we confess the poor job we have done with our response to your sacrifice. For that, dear Lord, we make our confession to you this day.

1 John 1:8-9

Most merciful God, we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by the things we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen ABSOLUTION:

<u>Pastor</u>: As a result of the love of God, the work of Jesus on His cross, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, and by the authority of Jesus Christ, forgive you all your sins in the name of the, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. In the name of Jesus we pray. **Alleluia and Amen**.

ENTRANCE HYMN: 33 The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns THE PRAYER OF THE DAY (Unison):

Our Savior Lutheran December 12, 2021 Page 2 14344 Jamison Way, (941) 249-5108

P: Let us pray:

Almighty God, through John the Baptist, the forerunner of Christ, you once proclaimed salvation; now grant that we may know this salvation and serve you in holiness, righteousness, and joy all the days of our lives. Alleluia

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our hearts, so that we may know the hope to which God has called us through Jesus Christ Our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, Alleluia and Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Zephaniah 3:14-20

Israel's Joy and Restoration

14 Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion;

shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart,

O daughter of Jerusalem!

15 The LORD has taken away the judgments against you;

he has cleared away your enemies.

The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst;

you shall never again fear evil.

16 On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:

"Fear not, O Zion;

let not your hands grow weak.

17 The LORD your God is in your midst,

a mighty one who will save;

he will rejoice over you with gladness;

he will quiet you by his love;

he will exult over you with loud singing.

18 I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival, so that you will no longer suffer reproach.[a]

19 Behold, at that time I will deal

with all your oppressors.

And I will save the lame

and gather the outcast,

and I will change their shame into praise

and renown in all the earth.

20 At that time I will bring you in,

Our Savior Lutheran December 12, 2021 Page 3 14344 Jamison Way, (941) 249-5108

at the time when I gather you together; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes," says the LORD.

PSALM: Psalm 85 (ESV) (Recited whole verse by whole verse – Congregation in **Bold**)

To the choirmaster. A Psalm of the Sons of Korah.

85 LORD, you were favorable to your land; you restored the fortunes of Jacob.

2 You forgave the iniquity of your people; you covered all their sin.

3 You withdrew all your wrath;

you turned from your hot anger.

4 Restore us again, O God of our salvation, and put away your indignation toward us!

5 Will you be angry with us forever?

Will you prolong your anger to all generations?

6 Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you?

7 Show us your steadfast love, O LORD, and grant us your salvation.

8 Let me hear what God the LORD will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints; but let them not turn back to folly.

9 Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him, that glory may dwell in our land.

10 Steadfast love and faithfulness meet; righteousness and peace kiss each other.

11 Faithfulness springs up from the ground, and righteousness looks down from the sky.

12 Yes, the LORD will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.

13 Righteousness will go before him

and make his footsteps a way.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be; world without end.

Our Savior Lutheran December 12, 2021 Page 4 14344 Jamison Way, (941) 249-5108

Amen

EPISTLE LESSON: Philippians 4:4-7 (ESV)

4 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. 5 Let your reasonableness[a] be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; 6 do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. 7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Please rise for the singing of the Alleluia. John 6:6-8

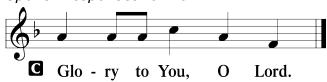




THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 7:18-28 (ESV)

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 7th Chapter.

Spoken responses for now.



This is the Gospel of our Lord.

Spoken for now.



SERMON: 'I Choose Joy!' Dedicated to Betty O'Brien - Pastor Steve Dygert + STS

Grace, mercy, and peace to you from God our Father, and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. *Ephesians* 1:2

C: Amen

SERMON HYMN: 39 Joy to the World

OUR CONFESSION OF FAITH: The Apostles Creed (C)

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Our Savior Lutheran December 12, 2021 Page 5 14344 Jamison Way, (941) 249-5108

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 into hell. 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.

Rite of Friendship:

- P. The Peace of the Lord Be With You Always.
- C. And Also With You.
- P. We now have the opportunity to share back with the Lord a little of the bounty He has shared with us.

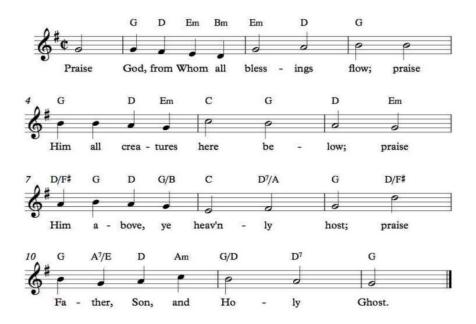
OFFERTORY HYMN: Psalm 51:10-12



THE OFFERING: Offertory -

As the offering is brought forward, we will sing the Doxology.

Our Savior Lutheran December 12, 2021 Page 6 14344 Jamison Way, (941) 249-5108



Doxology, written in England for Protestant Churches in 1674.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Merciful Father,

C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us-our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you. 2nd Timothy 4:22

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts. Colossians 3:1

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. Psalm 136

C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise

P: It is indeed good, 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.

Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the Messiah, the very Lamb of God, 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 all the hosts of Heaven, we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name and sing our joyful hymn of praise:

SANCTUS:

Our Savior Lutheran December 12, 2021 Page 7 14344 Jamison Way, (941) 249-5108

1 Holy, Holy, Holy vs 1, Revelation 4:8

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God, Almighty
Early in the morning, our song shall rise to Thee
Holy, Holy, Holy, merciful and mighty
God in three persons, blessed Trinity

PRAYERS OF PRAISE: Let us Pray: (Prayer Response) Lord in your Mercy: Hear our prayer.

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.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and forever. Amen

PREPARATION OF THE TABLE:

WORDS OF INSTITUTION: Matt. 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1st Corinthians 11:23-25

On the night he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ, took bread, and after giving thanks, He broke it, and gave it to the disciples and said; "Take and eat; this is My body, given for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of Me."

In the same manner, after supper He took the cup, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to the them saying, "Drink ye all of it; this cup is the new testament in My blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of of Me."

As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. 1st Corinthians 11:26

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER:

Christ has died, Christ has risen, Christ will come again.

THE DISTRIBUTION, THE COMMUNION BLESSING:

SENDING HYMN: 36 On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry

THE AARONIC BENEDICTION: FINAL ANNOUNCEMENTS,

LET THERE BE PEACE ON EARTH

Let there be peace on earth
And let it begin with me
Let there be peace on earth
The peace that was meant to be
With God as our father
Brothers all are we
Let me walk with my brother
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

Our Savior Lutheran December 12, 2021 Page 8 14344 Jamison Way, (941) 249-5108

THE DISMISSAL:

P. Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

C. Thanks be to God

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Pastor Steve Dygert

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