

Our Savior Lutheran Church December 20, 2020 Page 1
14344 Jamison Way, (941) 249-5108



WELCOME TO OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN! Thank you for joining us as we worship of 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.

JESUS LOVES YOU MINISTRIES: Tuesday of this week is sandwich day! Ask Geri McGary for details.

We Serve Today: TBA

Reader:

Offering:

Communion:

Greeter:

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SERVICE OF THE WORD – Fourth Sunday in Advent – Love 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

Pastor: 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: 551 Joyful Joyful we Adore Thee

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY (Unison):

Stir up your power, O Lord, and come among us with great might; and because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your love, bountiful grace, and mercy speedily help and deliver us, Alleluia.

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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: 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16 (ESV)

The LORD's Covenant with David

7 Now when the king lived in his house and the LORD had given him rest from all his surrounding enemies, 2 the king said to Nathan the prophet, "See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a tent." 3 And Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that is in your heart, for the LORD is with you."

4 But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan, 5 "Go and tell my servant David, 'Thus says the LORD: Would you build me a house to dwell in? 6 I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent for my dwelling. 7 In all places where I have moved with all the people of Israel, did I speak a word with any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?"'

8 Now, therefore, thus you shall say to my servant David, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel. 9 And I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you. And I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. 10 And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more. And violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly, 11 from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel. And I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house.

16 And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever."

PSALM: Psalm 89:1-5 (ESV) *(Recited whole verse by whole verse – Congregation in **Bold**)*

1 I will sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, forever;
with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to all generations.

**2 For I said, "Steadfast love will be built up forever;
in the heavens you will establish your faithfulness."**

3 You have said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one;
I have sworn to David my servant:

**4 'I will establish your offspring forever,
and build your throne for all generations.'" *Selah***

5 Let the heavens praise your wonders, O LORD,

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your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones!

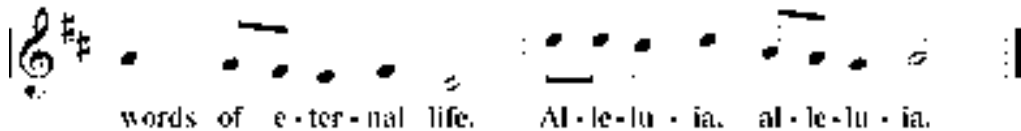
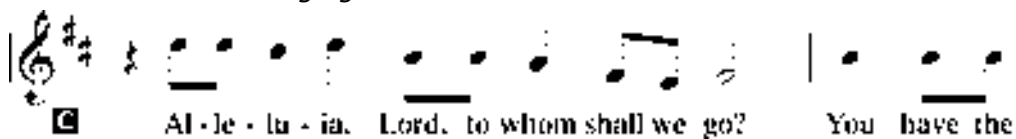
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be; world without end. Amen

EPISTLE LESSON: Romans 16:25-27 (ESV)

Doxology

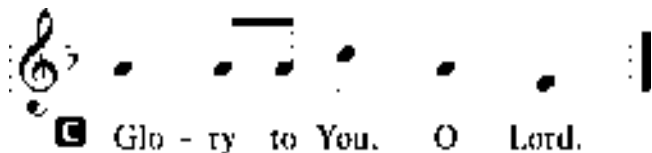
25 Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages 26 but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith— 27 to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen.

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



THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 1:26-38 (ESV)

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 1st Chapter.



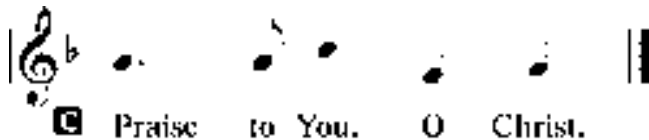
26 In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, **27** to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. **28** And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" **29** But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. **30** And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. **31** And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. **32** He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, **33** and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

34 And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

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35 And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. **36** And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. **37** For nothing will be impossible with God." **38** And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

This is the Gospel of our Lord.



SERMON 'But the Greatest of these is Love!' - 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: 370 Blest Be the Tie That Binds

OUR CONFESSION OF FAITH: The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds; [God of God], Light of Light, very God of very God; begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made. "Who, for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;

He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with glory, to judge the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

"And I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and Giver of Life; who proceeds from the Father [and the Son]; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen."

Rite of Friendship:

P. The Peace of the Lord Be With You Always.

C. **And Also With You.**

P. Please share the peace of the Lord with those around you.

During Covid, share the peace by remaining in your chairs and waving at those around you.

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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*



Cre - ate in me a clean heart. O God, and re -
 new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
 way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Hu - ly Spir - it
 from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
 tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

THE OFFERING: Offertory – In the Bleak Midwinter – Dean Carson

As the offering is brought forward, we will sing the Doxology, written in England for Protestant Churches in 1674.



Praise God, from Whom all bless - ings flow; praise
 Him all crea - tures here be - low; praise
 Him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host; praise
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

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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. *Psalms 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, 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 arch angels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS:

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."

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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*

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER:

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

THE DISTRIBUTION, THE COMMUNION BLESSING

SENDING HYMN: 369 The Church's One Foundation

THE AARONIC BENEDICTION:

CHRISTMAS CAROLS: 54 It Came upon the Midnight Clear,
45 Oh, Come All Ye Faithful

THE DISMISSAL

P. Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

C. **Thanks be to God**

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