



December 7th, 2025
The Second Sunday of Advent

Our Savior's Lutheran Church



Our Savior's Lutheran Church

*A congregation of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*

Welcome to Worship!

We're glad that you are here
as part of worship!

**Our Savior's Lutheran Church
welcomes all!**

We gather for worship called by
God's Spirit from many places of
compass and heart. We bring stories of
where God has met and sustained us
along the way. We bring questions and
yearnings to see God's presence more
fully in our world. We are brought



together by a God
who knows us as
Creator, and who
gathers us as only a
Good Shepherd
can—to lead us into
what it means to be
God's people here
in this place.

As God's people, we
are continually

learning what it means to be truly
encouraging and supportive to all. We
are committed to care for, to love, to
understand, and to listen to each other,
regardless of ethnicity, age, sexual
orientation, gender identity, physical
or mental ability, social or economic
status. To all we extend a heartfelt
invitation to join us on this journey, as
partners in the full life and ministry of
Christ the Servant.

The Bible reminds us to “*remember
the Sabbath day*”. We remember that
“*This is the Lord's day*”, and as we
gather to worship the God who
deserves our praise, the Lord will do
for us what the Lord does: feed us,
forgive us, help and heal us. Rejoice at
all the wonderful things God is doing.

We hope that you will feel at home!

We hope you feel Christ's welcome
in our service, and hope to see you
again soon.

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Introduction

At the heart of our Advent preparation stands John the Baptist, who calls us to repent and make a new beginning. As the darkness increases we turn toward the approaching light of Christ. For Christians he is the root of Jesse, the righteous judge who welcomes all, especially the poor and meek of the earth. We wait with hope for that day when the wolf will dwell with the lamb, and there will be no more hurt or destruction. From the Lord's table we are sent in the spirit of John the Baptist to proclaim that in Christ the kingdom of God has come near.

PRELUDE, WORDS TO THE DAY, FINAL PRELUDE

*** CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
the Lord of Israel who comes to set us free,
the mighty Savior who comes to show mercy,
the Dawn from on high who guides us into peace.

G Amen.

P Let us come before God in confession. (*pause for reflection....*)

P To you, O God,

G we lift up our souls.

You know us through and through; we confess our sins to you.

Remember not our sins;

remember us with your steadfast love.

**Show us your ways; teach us your paths; and lead us in justice and truth,
for the sake of your goodness in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

P Children of God, come with joy
and draw water from the well of salvation.

Remember the gift of baptism:

your sin is washed away in the name of ☩ Jesus;

you belong to Christ;

you are anointed to serve.

Stand up and raise your heads!

The reign of God is near.

G Amen.

*** Stand as you are able.**

*** GATHERING HYMN**

Hark, the Glad Sound

ELW # 239

1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior
2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's
3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of peace, your wel - come

prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -
bond - age held. The gates of brass be -
soul to cure, and with the trea - sures
shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal

pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.
fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.
of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.
arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

***GREETING**

- P** Sisters and brothers in Christ, beloved children of God:
grace, mercy, and peace be with you all.
- G** And also with you.

* KYRIE

ELW Setting 3

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

* HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain
 This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb
 who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

Refrain
 This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and
 strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain
 This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of
 God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,
 glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Refrain
 This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was
 slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Final refrain
 This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.
 Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

* PRAYER AT THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

P Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe.

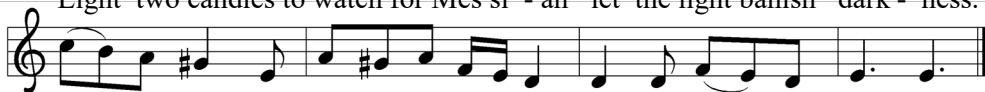
You call all nations to walk in your light and to seek your ways of justice and peace,
for the night is past, and the dawn of your coming is near.

C Bless us as we light the second candle of this wreath.

Rouse us from sleep, that we may be ready to greet our Lord when he comes
and welcome him into our hearts and homes,
for he is our light and our salvation. Blessed be God forever.



Light two candles to watch for Mes si - ah let the light banish dark - ness.



He shall feed the flock like a shep-herd, gent - ly lead them home - ward.

CHOIR ANTHEM: "Creation Will Be At Peace" by Anna Laura Page

Choir: To the Glory of God Alone **C** Thanks be to God.

FIRST READING: ISAIAH 11: 1-10

Isaiah describes the coming of a future, ideal ruler who will renew David's royal line (the stump of Jesse). Gifted by the spirit of God, this ruler will reign with perfect justice. Enmity and danger will be restored to harmony and peaceful coexistence.

- ¹ A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
- ² The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.
- ³ His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see
or decide by what his ears hear,

- ⁴ but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor
and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth;

he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

⁵ Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

⁶ The wolf shall live with the lamb;
the leopard shall lie down with the kid;
the calf and the lion will feed together,
and a little child shall lead them.

⁷ The cow and the bear shall graze;
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

⁸ The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

⁹ They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain,
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD
as the waters cover the sea.

¹⁰ On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the
nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

A Word of God, word of life.

Q Thanks be to God.

PSALM 72:1-7, 18-19

¹ Give the king your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to the king's son;

² **that he may rule your people righteously
and the poor with justice;**

³ that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people,
and the hills, in righteousness.

⁴ **Let him defend the needy among the people,
rescue the poor, and crush the oppressor.**

⁵ May he live as long as the sun and moon endure,
from one generation to another.

⁶ **Let him come down like rain upon the mown field,
like showers that water the earth.**

⁷ In his time may the righteous flourish;
and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
¹⁸ **Blessed are you, LORD God, the God of Israel;
you alone do wondrous deeds!**
¹⁹ And blessed be your glorious name forever,
and may all the earth be filled with your glory. Amen. Amen.

SECOND READING: ROMANS 15: 4-13

God's promise to include Gentiles within the circle of God's blessed people has been fulfilled in Jesus Christ. Christians live out their unity by welcoming and encouraging each other just as Christ has welcomed them into God's family.

⁴ Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. ⁵ May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, ⁶ so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁷ Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. ⁸ For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the ancestors ⁹ and that the gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

“Therefore I will confess you among the gentiles
and sing praises to your name”;

¹⁰ and again he says, “Rejoice, O gentiles, with his people”;

¹¹ and again,

“Praise the Lord, all you gentiles,
and let all the peoples praise him”;

¹² and again Isaiah says,

“The root of Jesse shall come,
the one who rises to rule the gentiles;
in him the gentiles shall hope.”

¹³ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

A Word of God, word of life. **G** Thanks be to God.



***GOSPEL: MATTHEW 3:1-12**

☞ Glory to you, O Lord.

Just before Jesus begins his public ministry, John the Baptist appears, calling people to mend their ways and speaking of a powerful one who is to come.

¹ In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ² “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” ³ This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord;

make his paths straight.’ ”

⁴ Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵ Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region around the Jordan were going out to him, ⁶ and they were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁷ But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? ⁸ Therefore, bear fruit worthy of repentance, ⁹ and do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor,’ for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ¹⁰ Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹ “I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹² His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

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

SERMON

* HYMN OF THE DAY

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

ELW #249



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an - nounc - es
 2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; make straight the
 3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our ref - uge
 4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, and make us
 5 All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,
 way for God with - in, and let us all our
 and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we
 rise to fall no more; oh, let your face up -
 has our free - dom won, whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
 hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.
 waste a - way like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
 on us shine and fill the world with love di - vine.
 we a - dore, and Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er - more.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. composite

Music: PUER NOBIS, European tune, adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621

*CREED



**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.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

- P** In our waiting and watching, we come to you in prayer, O God, trusting your promise to renew the church, the nations, and the whole creation.



- P** God of all, your children everywhere cry out for mercy. Awaken the global church to the urgent needs of our time. Break down barriers of culture and custom and unite people of all faiths in your redemptive and healing work.
God, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

- A** With wisdom and understanding, inspire the faithful around the world. Unite hearts and minds in work to address poverty, access to housing, and equity among peoples.
God of grace,

Hear our prayer.

- P** With counsel and might, move us to care for creation. As we dream of the day when all creatures will flourish alongside one another, guide us in ways humanity and all creation will mutually thrive. God of grace,

Payer refrain . . .

- P** With righteousness and faithfulness, encourage nations to live in harmony with one another. We pray for international student and teacher exchanges, for our

partner churches, and for the shared mission of Lutheran World Relief and Lutheran Disaster Response. God of grace,

Hear our prayer.

- A** With steadfastness and encouragement, strengthen those who have lost hope in the face of grief, depression, or disease. Renew the spirits of those recovering from surgery and medical procedures. God of grace,

Hear our prayer.

- P** With welcome and hospitality, embolden us in our shared ministry to overcome all that divides. In acts of repentance, reconciliation, and reparation, may we serve in the way of Christ. God of grace,

Payer refrain . . .

- P** With joy and peace, we remember our ancestors in the faith (*especially Ambrose, Bishop of Milan, whom we commemorate today*). Fill us with the hope of the Holy Spirit now and into the ages of ages. God of grace,

Hear our prayer.

- P** Draw near to us, O God, as we commend

all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy
through Jesus Christ, Emmanuel.

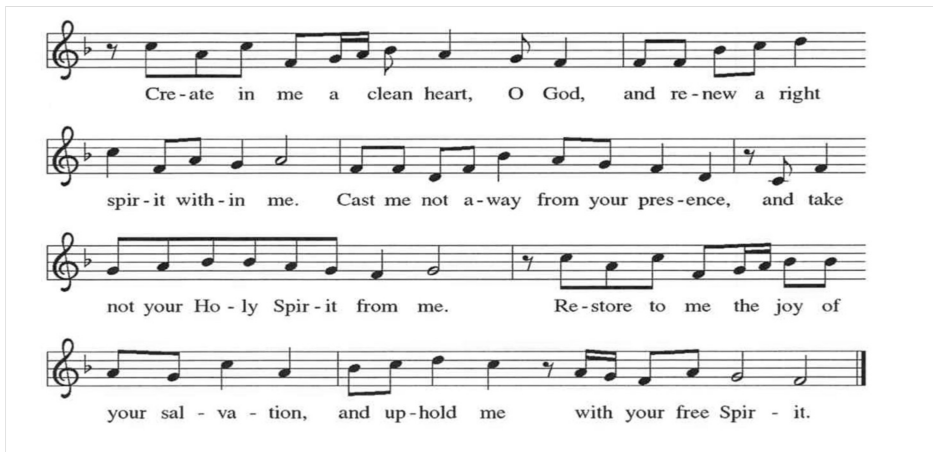
☞ And also with you.

☞ Amen.

*The sharing of God's peace with
each other.*

☞ The peace of Christ Jesus be with you
always.

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY



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 your pres - ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

*OFFERING PRAYER

☞ Nourishing God,
you are water in the wilderness and streams in the desert.
Through this meal, satisfy our parched places,
that we may rejoice and be for the world
signs of your kingdom come. **Amen.**

* 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 our thanks and praise.

* WORDS OF INSTITUTION

- P** In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his
disciples, saying: take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
- Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink,
saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

* LORD'S PRAYER

- C** 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.

LAMB OF GOD

ELW Setting 3

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you
and keep you in his grace.

• POST COMMUNION PRAYER

☞ God our host,
at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness.
Send us forth, eager to share the feast,
welcome the stranger,
and bear good fruit in the name of Jesus.
Amen.

* BLESSING AND SENDING

☞ God all mighty, God most merciful ✠ bless you, keep you,
and give you peace

☞ *Amen, Amen, Amen (sung)*

* SENDING HYMN *There's a Voice in the Wilderness*

ELW # 255

* DISMISSAL

☞ Go in peace. Encourage one another in Christ.

☞ Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Gatherings this Week:

Sunday, Dec. 7	9:00	Choir Practice
	10:00	Worship—The Second Sunday of Advent Altar Guild Meeting After Service
Mon, Dec. 8th	9:15	Offering Counters
	1:00	Human Concerns
	7:00	Property & Finance
Wed, Dec. 10th	7:30	Men's Square—Text Study
Dec. 11th	9:30	Quilters & Knitters
Sunday, Dec. 14th	10:00	Worship

Altar Guild Opportunity

Thank you Jodie Tooley
for leading worship today.
We appreciate you very much.

New Altar Guild members are needed. They prepare the altar for worship and communion. Some of our senior members are no longer able to do this ministry. Members serve for one month out of the year. They prepare the communion vessels and assist with communion on Sunday.

Traditionally, women of the congregation perform this job, but men are welcome. Please call Carol Anderson (406-761-3290) or Bonnie at the church office (406-727-4304) if you would be interested in helping with this ministry.

SERVING DECEMBER 7

Usher: Emil Vanni
Greeter: Amy Ford
Reader: Kathy Maynard
Altar Guild: Guild Members
Fellowship: Fellowship Committee
Offer. Coll.: Luana Brown
Counters: Bob Dickenson, Juanita Hogenson
Pianist/Organist: Michelle Payton
Cantor: Ellen Forslund
Preaching: Jodie Tooley, LMA

SERVING DECEMBER 14TH

Usher: Jerry Ramstead
Greeter: Kerrie Ramstead
Reader: Volunteer or Pastor
Altar Guild: Guild Members
Fellowship: Fellowship Committee
Offer. Coll.: Luana Brown
Counters: Bob Dickenson, Juanita Hogenson
Pianist/Organist: Michelle Payton
Cantor: Ellen Forslund
Preaching: Jim Carlson, LMA