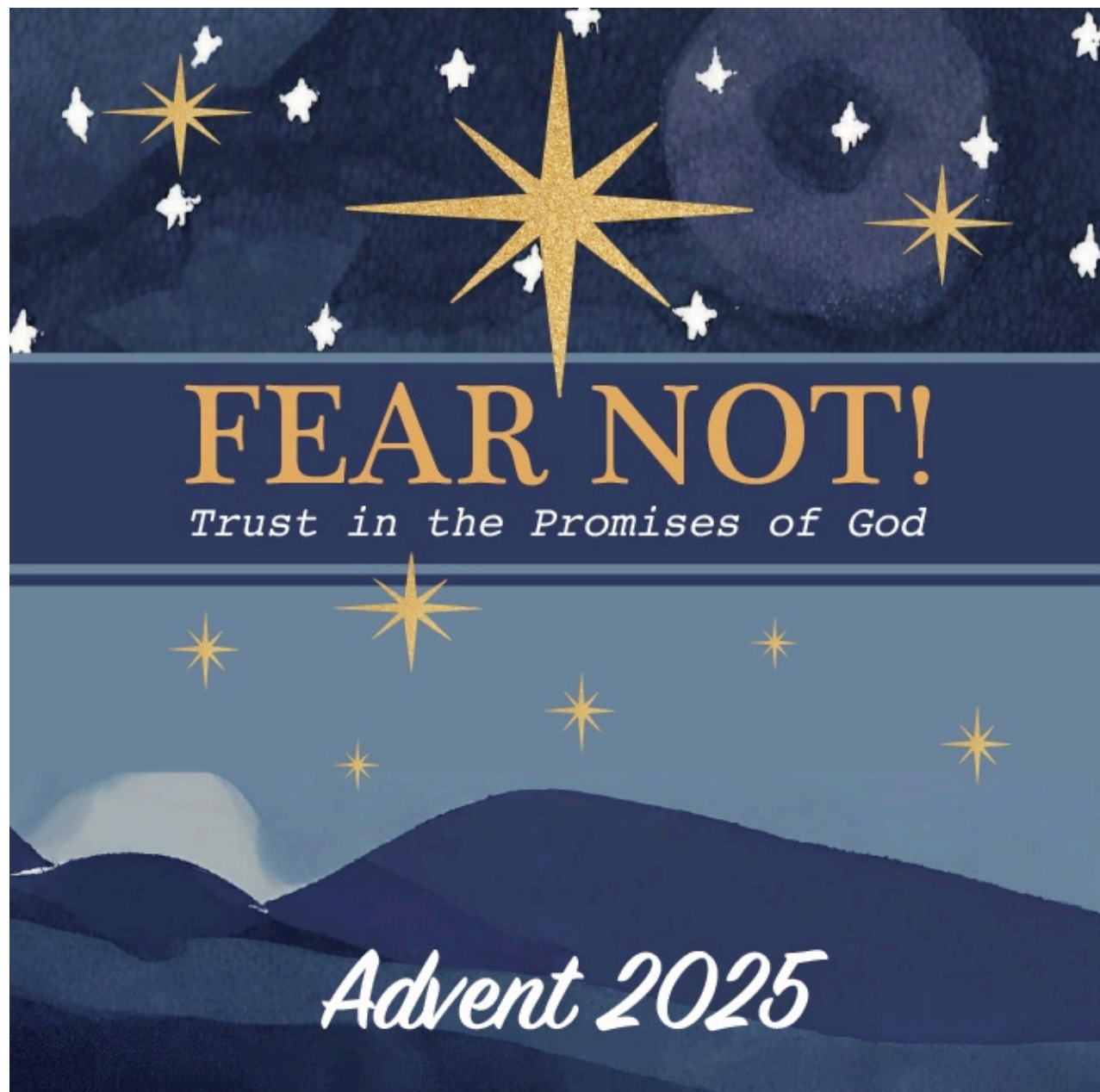




Our Saviour
Lutheran Church

Order of Worship
November 30, 2025
First Sunday in Advent



PRELUDE – Now Thank We All – *Sigfrid Karg-Elert*

SPECIAL MUSIC – “Who Will Speak” – *Marty Haugen*
OSLC Choir

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, (+) one God,
whose home is heaven and earth,
whose salvation is sure.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God
and of one another.

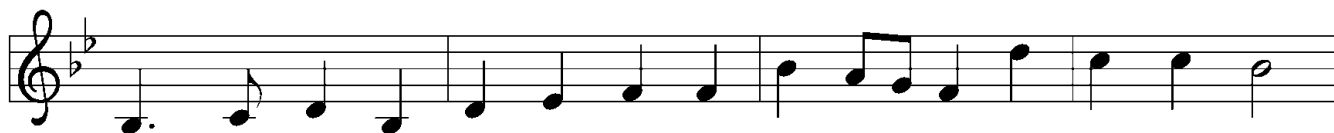
Long-expected Messiah,
**we confess that we look to ourselves
for the peace and security only you can provide.
We become impatient while waiting
and weary of keeping awake. Free us from self-reliance,
and teach us to live in harmony with our neighbors.
Increase our trust in God’s timing,
and awaken us to your advent among us,
that we may abound in the hope you have promised.**
Amen.

God judges us not as we deserve, but according to Christ’s righteousness.
(+) You are freed and forgiven, saved by grace.

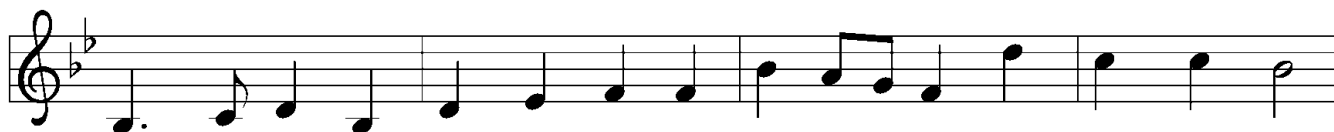
Amen.

ENTRANCE HYMN – Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty – ELW 533 v. 1, 4

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty



- 1 O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty, Zi - on, let me en - ter there,
- 2 Gra - cious God, I come be - fore thee; come thou al - so un - to me;
- 3 Here thy praise is glad - ly chant-ed, here thy seed is du - ly sown;
- 4 Thou my faith in - crease and quick-en, let me keep thy gift di - vine;
- 5 Speak, O God, and I will hear thee, let thy will be done in - deed;



where my soul in joy - ful du - ty waits for God who an - swers prayer.
where we find thee and a - dore thee, there a heav'n on earth must be.
let my soul, where it is plant-ed, bring forth pre - cious sheaves a - lone,
how - so - e'er temp - ta - tions thick-en, may thy word still o'er me shine
may I un - dis - turbed draw near thee while thou dost thy peo - ple feed.



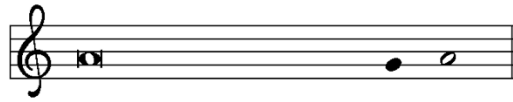
Oh, how bless-ed is this place, filled with so - lace, light, and grace!
To my heart, oh, en - ter thou, let it be thy tem - ple now!
so that all I hear may be fruit - ful un - to life in me.
as my guid-ing star through life, as my com-fort in all strife.
Here of life the foun - tain flows; here is balm for all our woes.

GREETING

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: **And also with you.**

KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



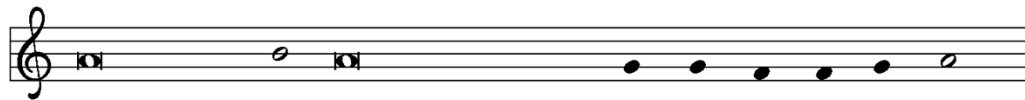
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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 wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mer - cy.



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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

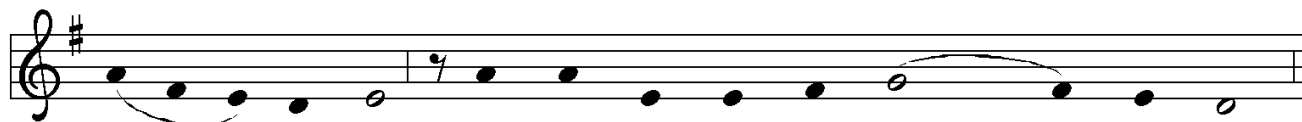
Amen.

ADVENT CANDLELIGHTING – O Come, O Come, Emmanuel – ELW 257 v.1

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things
3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on
4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;
Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law
tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joice! Re-joice!
in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.
and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 2:1-5

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come
the mountain of the Lord's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains
and shall be raised above the hills;
all the nations shall stream to it.
Many peoples shall come and say,
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,
to the house of the God of Jacob,
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths."
For out of Zion shall go forth instruction
and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.
He shall judge between the nations
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into plowshares
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation;
neither shall they learn war any more.
O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the Lord!

Here ends the reading. Word of God, word of life.

All: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 122 (*Read responsively by half verse.*)

I was glad when they said to me,
"Let us go to the house of the Lord!"

Our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem.

Jerusalem—built as a city
that is bound firmly together.

To it the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord,
**as was decreed for Israel, to give thanks to
the name of the Lord.**

For there the thrones for judgment were set up,
the thrones of the house of David.

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:
"May they prosper who love you.

Peace be within your walls
and security within your towers."

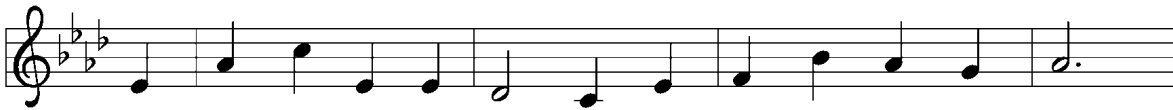
For the sake of my relatives and friends
I will say, "Peace be within you."

For the sake of the house of the Lord our God,
I will seek your good.

THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION – Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers – ELW #244 v.1

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers



- 1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;
- 2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain pro - claim the bride - groom near;
- 3 The saints, who here in pa - tience their cross and suf - f'ings bore,
- 4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



the eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.
go forth as he ap - proach - es with al - le - lu - ias clear.
shall live and reign for - ev - er when sor - row is no more.
a - rise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this be - night - ed sphere.



The bride - groom is a - ris - ing and soon is draw - ing nigh.
The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; the gates wide o - pen stand.
A - round the throne of glo - ry the Lamb they shall be - hold;
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see



Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; at mid - night comes the cry.
A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; the bride - groom is at hand.
in tri - umph cast be - fore him their di - a - dems of gold.
the day of earth's re - demp - tion that sets your peo - ple free!

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the first chapter.
All: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

THE GOSPEL READING: Luke 1:5-25

In the days of King Herod of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly order of Abijah. His wife was descended from the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. Both of them were righteous before God, living blamelessly according to all the commandments and regulations of the Lord. But they had no children because Elizabeth was barren, and both were getting on in years.

Once when he was serving as priest before God during his section's turn of duty, he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to enter the sanctuary of the Lord to offer incense. Now at the time of the incense offering, the whole assembly of the people was praying outside. Then there appeared to him an angel of the Lord, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. When Zechariah saw him, he was terrified, and fear overwhelmed him. But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will name him John. You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He must never drink wine or strong drink; even before his birth he will be filled with the Holy Spirit. He will turn many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. With the spirit and power of Elijah he will go before him, to turn the hearts of parents to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord." Zechariah said to the angel, "How can I know that this will happen? For I am an old man, and my wife is getting on in years." The angel replied, "I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. But now, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time, you will become mute, unable to speak, until the day these things occur."

Meanwhile the people were waiting for Zechariah and wondering at his delay in the sanctuary. When he did come out, he was unable to speak to them, and they realized that he had seen a vision in the sanctuary. He kept motioning to them and remained unable to speak. When his time of service was ended, he returned to his home.

After those days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she remained in seclusion. She said, "This is what the Lord has done for me in this time, when he looked favorably on me and took away the disgrace I have endured among my people."

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.
All: **Praise to you, O Christ!**

THE SERMON – FEAR NOT: Zechariah – *Chaplain Matt Dobyys*

HYMN OF THE DAY – Blessed Be the God of Israel – ELW #250

Blessed Be the God of Israel



1 Blessed be the God of Is - ra - el who comes to set us free
2 With prom-ised mer - cy will God still the cov - e - nant re - call,
3 My child, as proph-et of the Lord you will pre-pare the way,



and rais - es up new hope for us: a Branch from Da-vid's tree.
the oath once sworn to A - bra-ham, from foes to save us all;
to tell God's peo - ple they are saved from sin's e - ter - nal sway.



So have the proph-ets long de-clared that with a might-y arm
that we might wor - ship with-out fear and of - fer lives of praise,
Then shall God's mer - cy from on high shine forth and nev - er cease



God would turn back our en - e - mies and all who wish us harm.
in ho - li - ness and righ - teous-ness to serve God all our days.
to drive a - way the gloom of death and lead us in - to peace.

THE APOSTLES' 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.

THE PRAYERS

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

Pastor: Lord, in your mercy,

All: **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

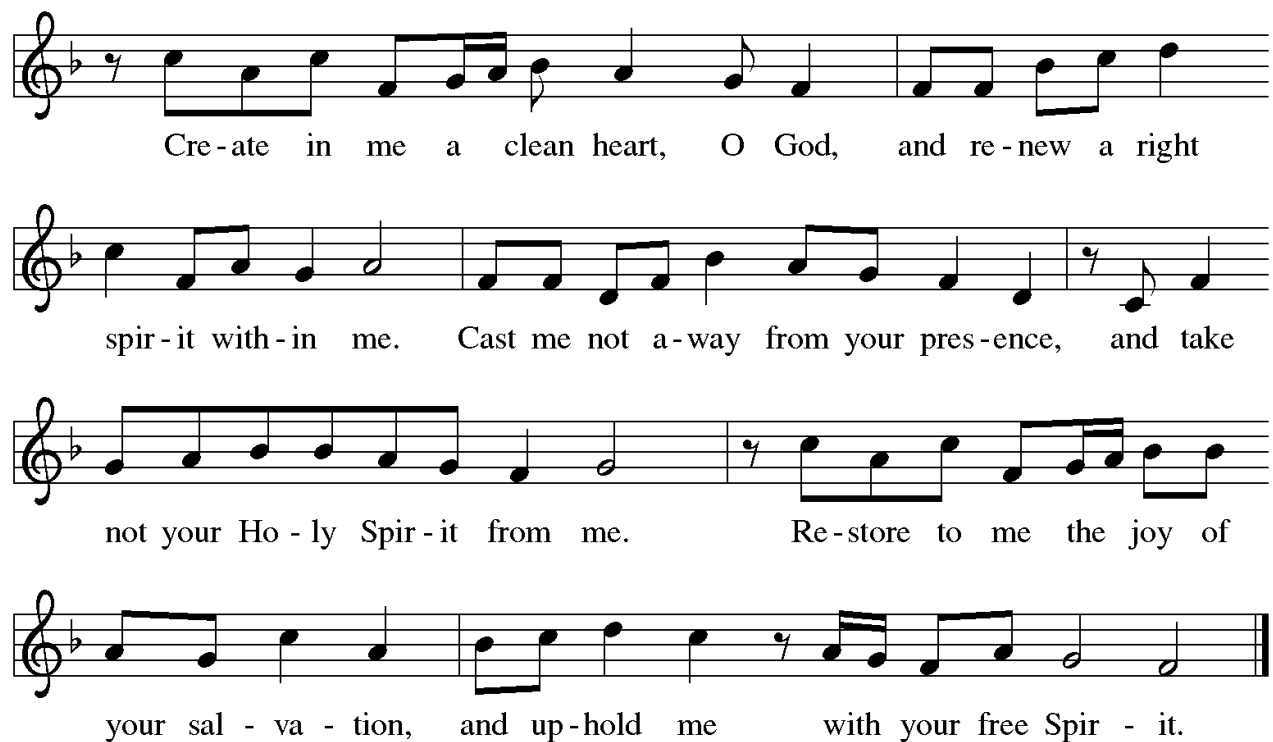
PEACE

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: **And also with you.**

OFFERING MUSIC – Our Mountain Home So Dear – *Evan Stephens,*
arr. Roy M. Darley

OFFERING CANTICLE

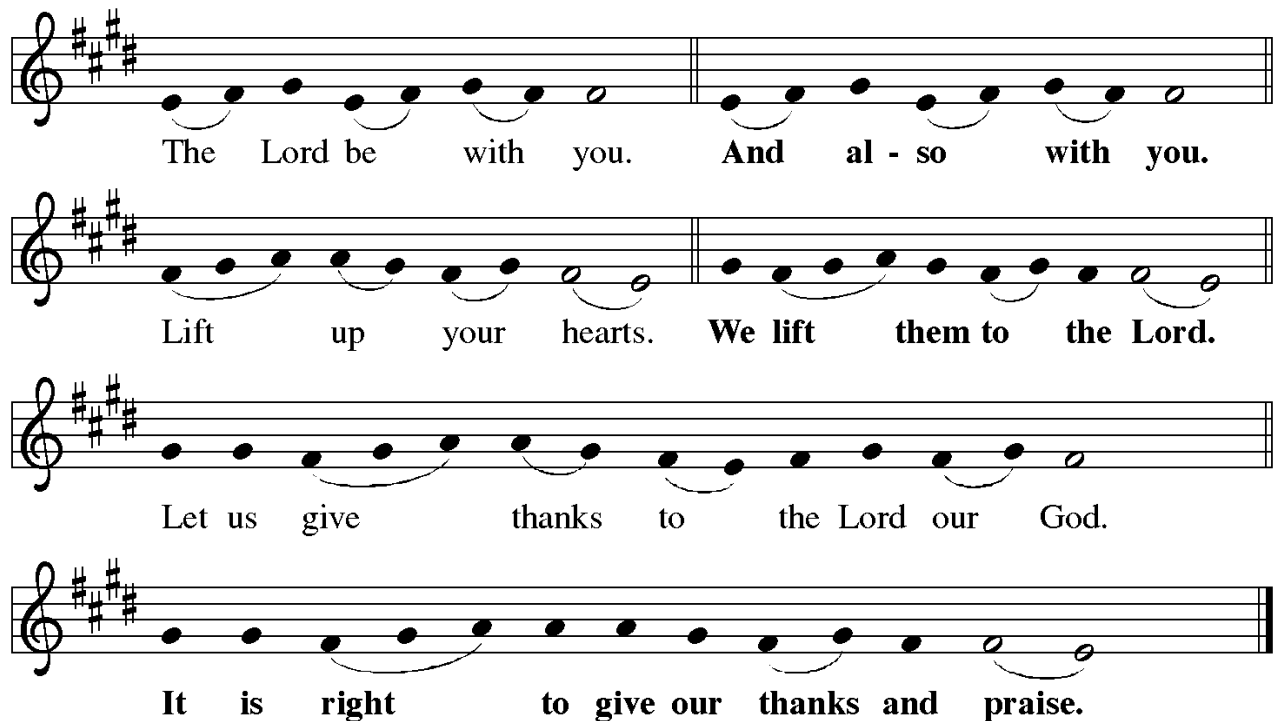


Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. 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.

DIALOGUE



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

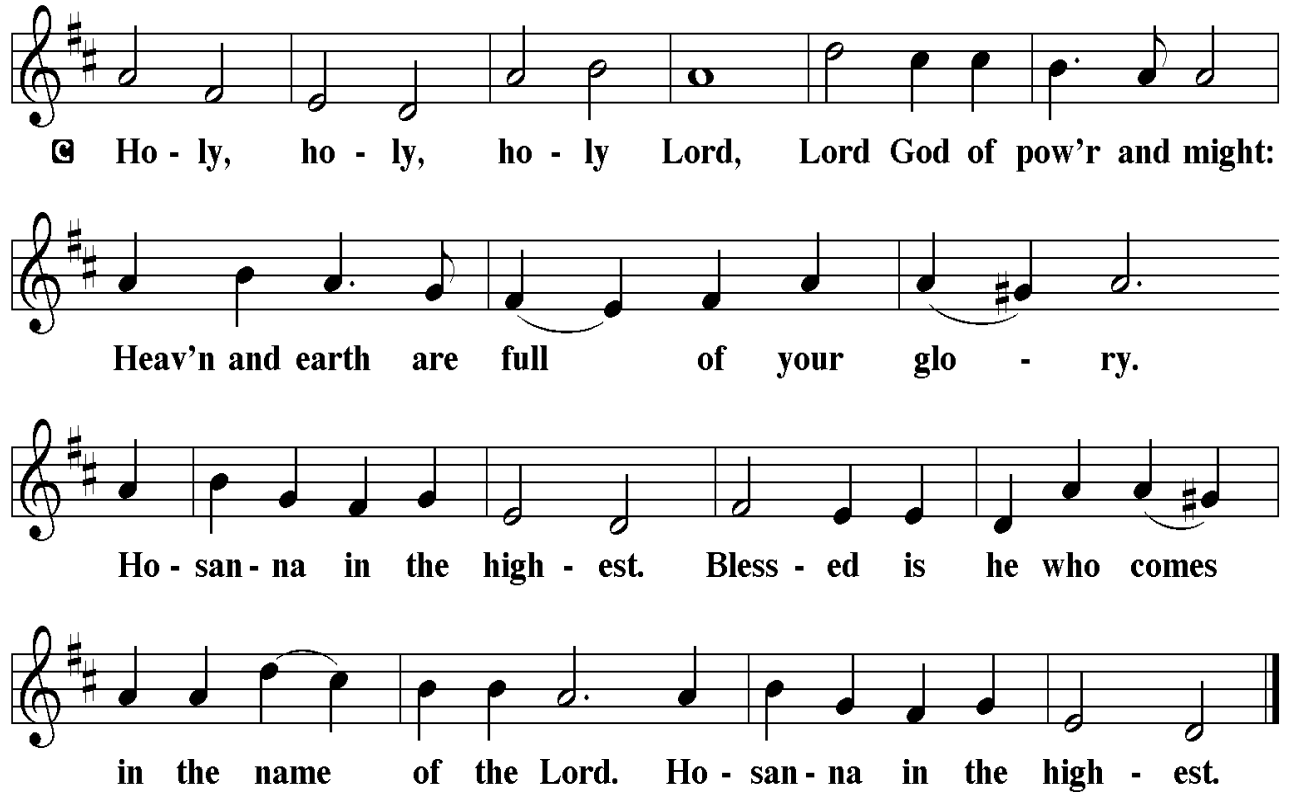
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

THE PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

THE SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Here is life. God is with us.
Come, receive what God has promised.

HOLY COMMUNION

We believe and teach that the Real Presence of Christ is present in, under and through the bread and wine as means of grace, offering forgiveness of sins and new life to believers in Christ. Baptized followers of Jesus are welcome to partake of the sacrament regardless of denominational affiliation. Small children and unbaptized adults are invited to come forward to receive a blessing. We ask older children and adults seeking the blessing to cross hands to shoulders to indicate a desire for blessing.

COMMUNION HYMN



☞ 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, grant us peace.

COMMUNION MUSIC – How Great the Wisdom and the Love – *Thomas McIntyre, arr. Roy M. Darley*

POST-COMMUNION

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

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

May God who comes among us,
Father, (+) Son, and Holy Spirit,
grant you patience in waiting, peace in the darkness,
and good news to share today and always.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN – Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus – ELW #254

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus



1 Come, thou long-ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;
2 Born thy peo-ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king;



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king-dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art,
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir-it rule in all our hearts a - lone;



dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long-ing heart.
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Keep awake.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers for this week are being donated by Terry and Amy Hill in honor of Ed and Alicia Hill's 20th wedding anniversary.

PREPARE THE WAY WITH WEDNESDAY EVENING ADVENT WORSHIP!

Special Wednesday evening Advent services begin this week on December 3 at 6pm. Join with others to prepare your hearts for the joy that is to come as we welcome the Christ Child. Take part in food and fellowship as dinner is served at 5:15 pm. The Advent services will take the place of the weekly Bible study on December 3, 10, and 17 and will last approximately 45 minutes.

CHRISTMAS AND YEAR-ROUND GIVING

In case you missed the opportunity to turn in your 2026 Giving Intent card last Sunday, more cards are available at the Welcome Desk. Simply pick one up, fill it out, and deposit it in the box on the counter. Help us properly prepare to continue spreading God's message to the world.

Also, we want to remember our pastor and staff at Christmas time. Specially marked envelopes are included in your giving packets; if you give online, additional gifts may be marked for Pastor and Staff and dropped in the offering plate or mailed to the church. Gifts should arrive before December 31 to be counted in this calendar year.

FUN ON FRIDAY CELEBRATES THE SEASON!

OSLC members are invited to celebrate the season with Fun on Friday, December 12 at 11am. The group will gather at the home of Peter and Sandy Johnson, 32 Talamore Drive, Southern Pines. Bring an appetizer to share and a wrapped gift for a Christmas game (worth \$10). Please sign up at the Welcome Center.

A NEW FACE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE

The Congregation Council has approved the hiring of Suzanne Donovan to provide services as Administrative Coordinator. She will begin work at the Church on December 1 and will have office hours Monday, Wednesday, and Friday each week. Suzanne will join us for worship and introduction on Sunday, December 7th. We look forward to Suzanne's assistance in keeping church programming, communication, and organization running smoothly in this new year to come.

MATTHEW 25 RECEIVES GRANT

Congratulations to the team of Matthew 25 volunteers on receiving a \$2,000 grant from Food Lion Feeds! This grant will help the team continue to feed the food insecure as the prices of food continue to rise. Thank you to Amy Hill who authored the grant application.

OSLC BOOK CLUB

Join the conversation as we discuss *Small Things Like These*, by Claire Keegan, on December 10. Meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month at 4pm.

HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE

OSLC is supporting the Holiday Food Drive of the Sandhills Coalition as it works to serve the food insecure within our area. From boxes of stuffing to cans of cranberry sauce, items to create holiday meals are being collected through December 17. Lists of special items needed are available in the front hallway where food may also be dropped off. Share your holiday spirit with those who need help

HOLIDAY BAKING MADE EASY!

Do your holiday baking with us! Order forms are available for six varieties of cookies by the dozen, fudge, and ready-to-bake scones. Place your order by today for December 7 delivery. All proceeds support our OSLC summer youth programs.

MATTHEW 25/PRESCHOOL FUNDRAISER

Matthew 25 and our very own Preschool will host an evening full of food and entertainment on December 14 starting at 5:30pm in Fellowship Hall. The dinner and children's program will have a few openings for OSLC members, and the proceeds of this free-will offering meal will be split between Matthew 25 and the preschool. Please prayerfully consider attending or making a donation. There will be a signup sheet at the Welcome Center, and if you have any questions, please see Debbie Robertson or call 815-355-2798.

HELP WARM HEARTS THIS CHRISTMAS!

Please help decorate the Mittens and Undies Christmas Tree with hats, gloves, scarves, socks and undies for girls and boys of all ages as well as hats, gloves, scarves and socks for women. Your gifts will be given to the children and mothers in Family Promise and Friend to Friend. We will be decorating the tree from Sunday, December 7, through Sunday, December 21. Thank you for your generosity.

CONNECTORS YOUNG ADULT GROUP

Connectors, the OSLC gathering for young adults, will meet on December 3 at 6pm at Brixx Pizza. Come have some pizza and connect with others! Please RSVP to Emma Smith by email (eesmithghs@gmail.com) if you are able to make it so we can get a table reserved for the group.

JOIN US FOR RESTORATION - WEDNESDAYS AT NOON

Restoration is an Our Saviour small group that meets Wednesdays at noon at the church.

OUR SAVIOUR PRAYER LIST

Please send your prayer requests to the OSLC prayer team at prayer@oursaviournonline.org or visit the prayer page on our website. [Note: Prayer requests will stay active for 2 weeks unless renewed.]

This week, we are in prayer for:

Katie Geanes, the family of Aileen Garland, Tiffaney Flack, Valerie Murphy, Ed Carey, Jeff Masar, and Richard Barnes.

MATTHEW 25 SCHEDULE

Sunday

12/7 Mussetter
12/14 Tucek
12/21 Carter
12/28 Benson

Friday

12/5 Claytons
12/12 Tucek
12/19 Ramirez
12/26 Lussier

Drivers

12/2 Jim Peeples
12/9 Gary Robertson
12/16 Gary Tucek
12/23 No M25 deliveries

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

Pastor Frank Waugh, Officiating Minister
Linda Strohmenger, Organist
Peter Johnson, Lay Reader

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Monday, December 1

4:30 pm—Matthew 25

Tuesday, December 2

9 am—Matthew 25

Wednesday, December 3

9 am—Preschool Chapel

Noon—Restoration: Adult Small Group/Practicing the Way

5:15 pm—Wednesday Evening Dinner

6 pm—Advent Service

6:45 pm—Handbell Rehearsal

ATTENDANCE FOR NOVEMBER

Nov. 2: 147

Nov. 9: 122

Nov. 16: 125

Nov. 23: 135

CONTACT US:

Our Saviour Lutheran Church

1517 Luther Way, Southern Pines, NC 28387, (910) 692-2662

Pastor Frank Waugh

pastorfrank@oursaviouronline.org, (910) 638-0113

Accounting Specialist (accounting, finance)

office@oursaviouronline.org

Welcome Center (room reservations, general questions)

welcome@oursaviouronline.org

Digital Ministry Coordinator (email, marketing, announcements, calendar, website) *digital@oursaviouronline.org*

All Are Welcome!

Our Saviour Lutheran Church



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