OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH SUNDAY WORSHIP

January 5, 2025 Second Sunday of Christmas



Welcome to Our Saviour's



Christ is our peace and breaks down the walls that divide us (Ephesians 2:14). You are welcome at Our Saviour's because of who you are. We are a congregation of longtime churchgoers, newcomers, seekers, seasonal visitors, and returners with diverse backgrounds, life experiences, and beliefs. We follow a familiar Lutheran service with piano, organ, and guest musicians. We celebrate the cultural, ethnic, and racial diversity of the

Tucson region and seek to be a place of belonging for all. We welcome those who have felt or been excluded from church spaces because of race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, financial status, or any other reason. We like the sound of young people in worship, we value the experience of our elders, and all ages between. Our communion table is Christ's table, and all people are welcome, no exceptions. Your presence here builds up the body of Christ.

Prayer Requests: The Family of Kathleen Bents, Jewel, Tracy; Marty; Maija, and those at home.

Our Extended Friends & Family: Friends and Family of Doris Ballmer (Patty Sirls' aunt); Richard (neighbor); The Banker Family (cousin of Mary Pflibsen); John (friend of Pastor Glenn's); Beverly (sister-in-law of Martha Neff Stum and Mary Neff); Josh, Melissa, and Mary Ann (friends of Chris and Theda Doak); Megan (niece of Chris and Theda Doak); Sally (friend of Kathy DeVinney); Tom (brother-in-law of Ted Adams); Abel (great grandson of Laverne Walsh); Maureen (mother of Adam Delaossa); Jeanne (friend of Schatzi Taylor); Ann (mother of Asher Havenhill); Michael Bales (brother of Alan Bales); Grant and Shirley (brother and sister-in-law of Theda Doak.

Names will remain on the list for three weeks, unless requested for longer.

Newcomers and Visitors + Newcomers and Visitors + We're glad you're here. Please fill out the green slip in the pew rack and place in the offering plate. You're welcome to share in Holy Communion. Families - we have a small play area up front.

Nametags + Nametags help us get to know and remember each other. Please let the ushers know if you need one made for you.

Expansive Language + As Lutherans, we teach that "God calls all creation into being and gives people language as a way of responding to God and forming community" (Principles for Worship, Principle L-1). In worship at Our Saviour's, we seek to use expansive language for God and people, sometimes changing or offering alternatives to the printed text.

Current Liturgy Music + *liturgy* is the flow of our worship service - working together as people to praise God. Currently our liturgy music is from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (Holy Communion Setting 10).

TODAY'S SUNDAY Forum: January 5:

God is Flipping the Script on the Church - Professor Craig Nessan Wartburg Theological Seminary (ELCA)

Prof. Nessan returns to OSLC with a prophetic view of the future of the church. Prof. Nessan states: "Whether we like it or not, God has flipped the script on what it means to be church. In the inherited 'attraction model' of church, the primary agents of ministry have been the clergy through the programs of the institution they lead. The goal has been to attract members to join the congregation, financially support the institution, and be active in the organization's scheduled events. This model of church has disintegrated in our lifetime. At the end of Christendom, the church is in crisis. While nostalgia for that era continues, there is no going back." Join us for a stimulating discussion!

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ELW is Evangelical Lutheran Worship, our red hymn book located in the pew rack in front of you.

The songs are in the back half of the book, with the song number at the top of the page.

*An asterisk indicates the congregation should stand in body and/or spirit. Congregation's speaking and singing parts are in bold font.

WELCOME

PRELUDE - Sheep Will Safely Graze by Bach/Petri

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + One God, whose steadfast love is everlasting **Amen.**

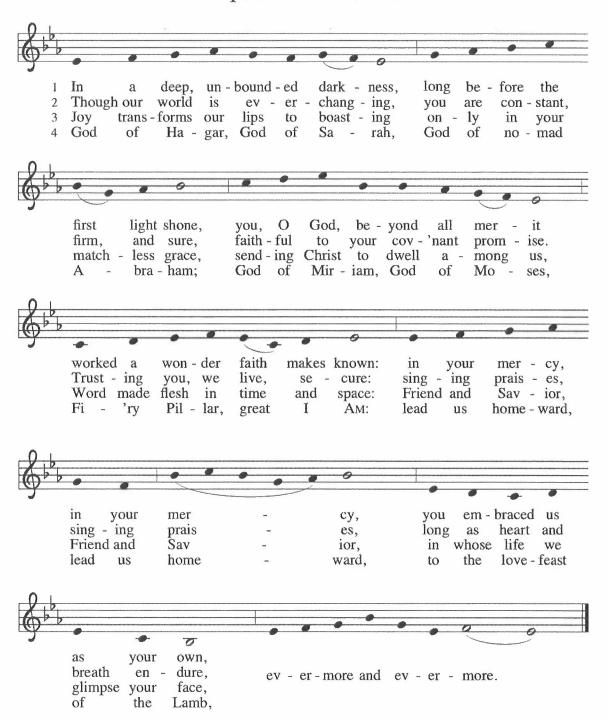
Let us confess our sin in the presence of God, and one another, and all of creation.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God-with-us. we confess that we have turned away those seeking shelter, claiming there is no room when we have plenty. We have made power and wealth our idols. while you show us true glory: a baby in a manger. We have overlooked the shepherds, expecting good news in prettier packaging. Too often, we have valued violence instead of your peace. Turn us from our ways to your ways. Grant us the grace to begin again. Free us from all that keeps us bound, and forgive our sin, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

*GATHERING HYMN ACS#1093 In a Deep, Unbounded Darkness

In a Deep, Unbounded Darkness



Text: Anonymous, China; tr. Francis P. Jones, 1890–1975; adapt. Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953 Music: DIVINUM MYSTERIUM, Plainsong mode V, 13th cent.
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*GREETING

The grace of Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:7-14

For thus says the Lord:
Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,
and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;
proclaim, give praise, and say,
"Save, O Lord, your people,
the remnant of Israel."

See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,

among them the blind and the lame,

those with child and those in labor together; a great company, they shall return here.

a great company, they shall return here.
With weeping they shall come,
and with consolations I will lead them back;
I will let them walk by brooks of water,

in a straight path where they shall not stumble, for I have become a father to Israel.

and Ephraim is my firstborn.

Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him and will keep him as a shepherd does a flock." For the Lord has ransomed Jacob and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again.

Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy;
I will comfort them and give them gladness for sorrow. I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the Lord.

Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.

Psalm 147:12-20

Read in parts. The congregation part is in bold.

Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem; praise your God, O Zion, who has strengthened the bars of your gates and has blessed your children within you.

God has established peace on your borders and satisfies you with the finest wheat. **God sends out a command to the earth, a word that runs very swiftly.**

God gives snow like wool, scattering frost like ashes.

God scatters hail like bread crumbs. Who can stand against God's cold?

The LORD sends forth the word and melts them; the wind blows, and the waters flow.

God declares the word to Jacob, statutes and judgments to Israel.

The LORD has not done so to any other nation; they do not know God's judgments. Hallelujah!

SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:3-14

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined

according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



*GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to John. Glory to you, O Lord.

John 1:1-18

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it.

There was a man sent from God whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' ") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is the only Son, himself God, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ. **Praise to you, O Christ. SERMON**

Silence for Reflection

HYMN OF THE DAY - ELW#295 - Of the Father's Love Begotten (next page)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The assisting minister leads the prayers. ...God in your mercy, receive our prayer.

.....O God, trusting your grace made known to all, through the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

*EXCHANGE OF PEACE

OFFERING - Here I Am to Worship with O Worship the King, Arr. Carol Tornquist

*OFFERING PRAYER

God of heaven and earth, from the beginning, you have called forth life, in which you take delight. The trees, the fields, and the seas sing for joy. Bless now these gifts, received from your bounty, that we may join the chorus of creation to tell of your salvation from day to day.

Amen.

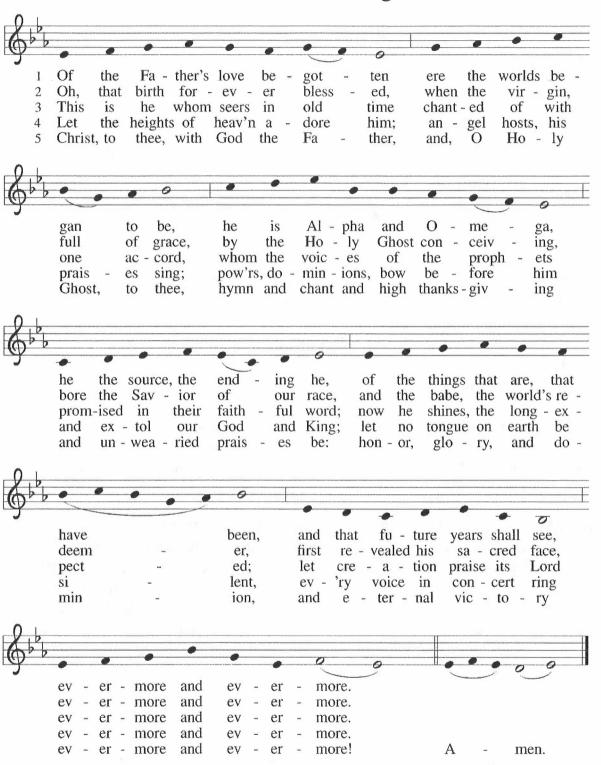
*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 our thanks and praise.

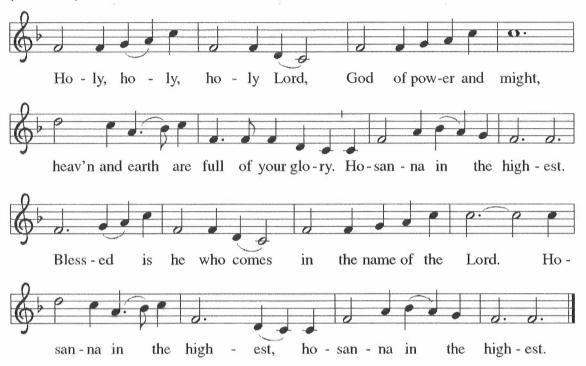
Of the Father's Love Begotten



Text: Marcus Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, 348–413; tr. composite Music: DIVINUM MYSTERIUM, plainsong mode V, 13th cent.

It is indeed right to give our thanks and praise in all ways and all places... we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



...Trusting in the mercy and compassion of God who is with us as Parent and Creator, let us pray as Jesus did:

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.

COMMUNION

Jesus welcomes you as you are to the table. Become what you receive.

This is Christ's table. You and all are welcome here, without exception. Please follow the ushers' direction, filling in the communion rail starting on the right side. You may stand or kneel. If you prefer a blessing, cross your hands over your heart. Gluten free wafers are available. The wine is red; the grape juice is clear. Please let an usher know if you would like communion brought to your pew.

COMMUNION MUSIC

Lamb of God



ELW #487 What Feast of Love

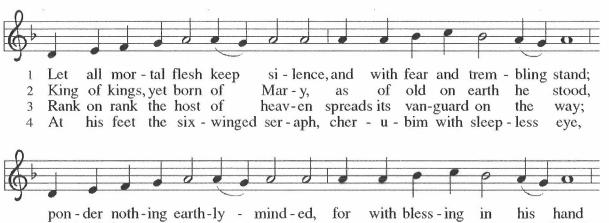


Text: Delores Dufner, osb, b. 1939

Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent. Text © 1993 Delores Dufner OSB. Published by OCP Publications. All rights reserved.

ELW #490 Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence



Lord of lords in hu - man ves - ture, in the bod - y and the blood, as the Light of light, de - scend-ing from the realms of end - less day, veil their fac - es to the pres-ence, as with cease-less voice they cry:



Christ our God to earth de-scend - ing comes full hom-age to de - mand. he will give to all the faith - ful his own self for heav'n-ly food. comes, the pow'rs of hell to van - quish, as the dark-ness clears a - way. "Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!"

Text: Liturgy of St. James; tr. Gerard Moultrie, 1829–1885, alt. Music: PICARDY, French folk tune, 17th cent.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

SENDING PRAYER (spoken together)

Generous God,

we thank you for the gift of life, for the bread of salvation.

We thank you for coming among us, for leading us into peace.

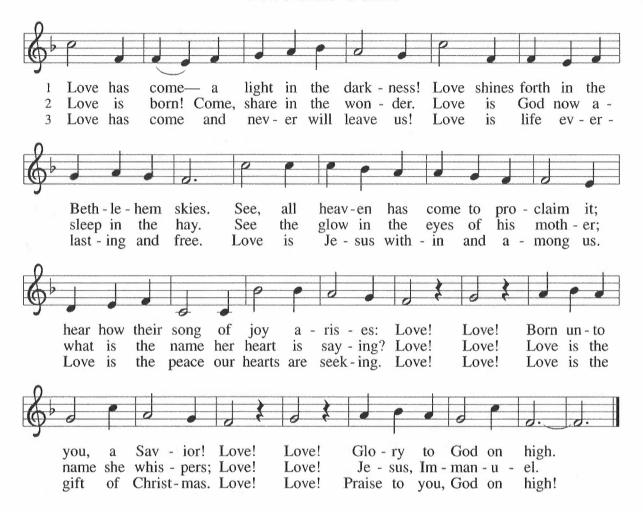
We thank you for showering us with mercy, for sending us into the world. Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us as we feed the hungry in your name. Amen.

SENDING ANNOUNCEMENTS

*BLESSING

SENDING HYMN - ELW#292 Love Has Come

Love Has Come



Text: Ken Bible, b. 1950

Music: UN FLAMBEAU, F. Seguin, Recueil de noëls composés en langue provençale, 1856

Text © 1996 Integrity's Hosanna! Music (ASCAP), c/o Integrity Media, Inc., 1000 Cody Road, Mobile, AL 36695.

*DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.

Thanks be to God!

You are welcome to leave at any time following the dismissal. Many at Our Saviour's remain to listen to the postlude - please feel comfortable leaving or staying as you wish. You are invited to join for coffee and conversation following worship.

POSTLUDE He Hideth My Soul, Arr. Mark Hayes

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UPCOMING JANUARY SUNDAY FORUMS

January 12: Church Council Presentation:
Changes to the Constitution and Other Procedures

January 19: Celebrating the Life of Bayard Rustin

In marking Martin Luther King Jr. Day on January 20, we will honor the life of a key leader in the civil rights movements of the 1960s. Bayard Rustin is credited with teaching Dr. King the practical strategies of non-violence during the Montgomery Bus Boycott. In 1963 he organized the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom in which a quarter of a million people rallied to demand an end to segregation, to establish fair wages and economic justice, and to secure voting rights, education, and long overdue civil rights protections for all Americans. As a gay man, however, Rustin experienced discrimination within these political movements. His writings in *Time on Two Crosses* provide insights on how he was able to successfully navigate the social mores of race and sexuality in order to pursue his commitment to justice and equality.

January 26: Praying the Psalms: "Orientation, Disorientation and New Orientation"

Every Sunday we read a Psalm as part of our worship service, but have you used them in your prayer life? Walter Brueggemann, Professor of Old Testament at Columbia Theological Seminary, suggests that "in season and out of season, generation after generation, faithful women and men turn to the Psalms as a most helpful resource for conversation with God about things that matter most." As we begin 2025, praying the Psalms can become a new spiritual practice for you along the path of your discipleship.

Come and See We will begin again on Thursday January 9. We are starting in the book of 1 Corinthians. This is an excellent time to jump into a new series with us. Please join us on Thursdays at noon.

Centering Prayer

Meets weekly from 12-1 on Tuesdays in Koch Chapel. We begin at 12:15 with simple instruction, then 20 minutes of Centering (silent) prayer. Then we spend about 20 minutes engaging with the upcoming Gospel text using a practice called *lectio divina*. No preparation or experience necessary.

Caring Ministry

This growing ministry is a group of people who visit, call, and send card to our members and friends at home. Talk with Bonnie Phelps if you are interested in getting involved.

Quilting Group

Meets monthly on the third Tuesday of each month in the Activity Building. You can also pick up fabric and stitch at home. Contact Kathie Miller.

Knit and Crochet Group

This group makes prayer shawls, as well as hats and lap blankets for migrants and others. Anyone interested in joining please text Donna Lounsbury, 520-400-2514

Chancel Choir

Rehearses weekly on Thursdays at 6:30 PM in the Activity Building. All singers welcome. Loving and supportive community - no prior choral experience required. Contact Dr. Gréta Pásztor at gpasztor@lutherantucson.org.

Bell Choir

Rehearses weekly on Mondays at 6:30 PM in the Sanctuary. Happy group that enjoys creating joyous, uplifting music. Learners welcome. Contact Kathie Miller (kmmmiller@hotmail.com) or any other Ringers.

Spanish Class

¿Aprender español? Or do you want to learn? Join this free one-hour drop-in class for all levels. Tuesdays at 6:30 in the Activity Building. Taught by Pastor Mateo and Annette Chavez. Email amchavez111@gmail.com to register.

Other Ways to Grow Your Faith:

Weekly events led by community and Our Saviour's members - open to anyone. All events in Activity Building.

Mindfulness Meditation (Mondays, 1:30 - 2:30 PM); Men's Bible Study (Tuesdays, 7:00 AM); Lay Shared Bible Study (Wednesdays, 10:30 AM. Contact Lauretta Olson at landjo@cox.net).

THOSE SERVING SUNDAY 1/5/2025

Presiding Minister Rev. Glenn Schrader

Preaching Minister Rev. Dr. Craig Nessan

Assisting Minister

John Indermark Rev. Amalia Vagts

Communion Assistants Bonnie Phelps and

Patty Sirls

Acolyte Claudia Saphir

Music Gréta Pásztor

Cantor Iennifer Strand

Usher Pam Hardman and **Judy Indermark**

Greeter Gloria Schmidt

Coffee Host Fred and Donna Hudson

Treats Nancy Rude

Tech Team Pflibsen/Bustamante

Scripture Background John Indermark

THOSE SERVING SUNDAY 1/12/2025 **Presiding Minister** Rev. Amalia Vagts

Olga Ryan

Assisting Minister

Communion Assistants

Bonnie Phelps and

Mary Pflibsen

Acolyte Olga Ryan Music Gréta Pásztor

Cantor Nilu Dorshner

Usher Angie Grandison and

Hildi Williams

Greeter Fred and Donna Hudson

Coffee Host Kris Sanchez

Treats ?

Tech Team Pflibsen/Bustamante

Scripture Background John Indermark

Online Offering

We have partnered with the ELCA and Tithely to offer secure online giving. Scan the image below using your smart phone to make your offering. Or, contact the church office to set up regular online giving.



Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

1200 N. Campbell Ave. Tucson, Arizôna 85719

Phone: (520) 327-6521 Website: lutherantucson.org **E-Mail**: oslc@lutherantucson.org

Sunday Worship Times

9:00 - Sanctuary Coffee following 10:30 Sunday Forum

Office Hours **Monday - Thursday** 8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Ministry Team

Rev. Amalia Vagts (ex 1004) Lead Pastor pastoramalia@lutherantucson.org

Rev. Glenn Schrader Associate Pastor for Discipleship pastorglenn@lutherantucson.org

Michele Ruttinger Parish Administrator parishadministrator@lutherantucson.org

> Iohn Perez Campus Caretaker

Dr. Gréta Pásztor Music Ministry Director gpasztor@lutherantucson.org

Aysen Milliogullari Assistant Music Director amilliogullari@lutherantucson.org

Lutheran Campus Ministry

Rev. Rebecca Boardman Pastor.lcmuofa@gmail.com www.lcmuofa.org 520-771-9742 (LCM Office)

Wendi Van Beek Community Engagement wendi.lcmuofa@gmail.com