## Our Saviour's Lutheran Church Sunday Worship November 23, 2025 Twenty Fourth Sunday after Pentecost



## **WELCOME**



Your presence builds up the body of Christ. We welcome and affirm God's diversity, including all ethnicities, cultures, races, sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions, abilities, ages, and life experiences. You are invited to full participation in



our congregation because of who you are. We lament and confess how the Christian Church has withheld Christ's love by misusing the power of institution. We commit to advocating for God's justice and mercy for all of creation, including humans. We commit to anti-racism and other ways of ending systems that cause harm. Christ is our peace and breaks down the walls that divide us. Our communion table is Christ's table. You and all people are welcome without exception.

**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 Setting Ten from Evangelical Lutheran Worship.

**Prayer Requests** Mary, Isobel, Schatzi, Jackie, Paul, and those at home and in care facilities.

Our Extended Friends & Family: Pat (mother of Lisa Delaossa); Lia (granddaughter of Angie Grandison), Beverly (Mother of Hildi Williams), David (Son of Geoff and Suzy Swann); Jeanne (Cousin of Alan Bales); Barbara (sister-in-law of Kenith Ijams); Peggy (sister of Bonnie Phelps); Josh, Melissa, Mary Ann, and Libby (friends of Chris and Theda Doak); Megan (niece of Chris and Theda Doak); Sandy and Doug, Sally, Ashley, and Kamri (friends of Kathy DeVinney); Grant and Shirley (brother and sister-in-law of Theda Doak; John (son of Martha Neff Stum and Paul Stum); Sam; Eleanor (mother-in-law of Kris Sanchez; Daniel (neighbor's son of Gloria Schmidt); Rich (cousin- in-law of Jennifer Strand) Misty (friend of Shatzi Taylor)Will (nephew of Chris and Theda Doak)

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

## Save the Date: Rain Garden Work Day

Saturday Morning December 6

Join us as we work on the next phase of our Rain Garden.



## **Giving Thanks**



In this time of generosity, stewardship, and Thanksgiving, we pause to give thanks to God for all we have received. First, the Generosity Team would like to thank the congregation for your wonderful engagement at our Congregational Meal last week! It was good to be together to reflect on our purpose as a congregation of what all agreed was a rather delicious meal of pie and pie.

We have received 39 returned Statements of Intent. Thank you! If you have not yet turned yours in, you can place it in the offering plate today or mail it to the parish office. We are hoping to receive all intents by November 30. On that day, we'll hold a special Giving Thanks Sunday - an opportunity to pause, to reflect, and to give thanks to God.

## November 23, 2025 Twenty Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

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

#### **WELCOME**

**PRELUDE** *The King of Love My Shepherd* setting by Carol Parson.

#### \*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,  $\oplus$  one God, who looks upon us in compassion, forgives our sin, and heals our lives.

#### Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. *Silence is kept for reflection.* 

Have mercy, O God, against you, you alone, we have sinned. In your compassion, cleanse us from our sin and take away our guilt. Create in us a new heart and give us a steadfast spirit. Do not cast us away, but fill us with your Holy Spirit and restore your joy within us. Amen.

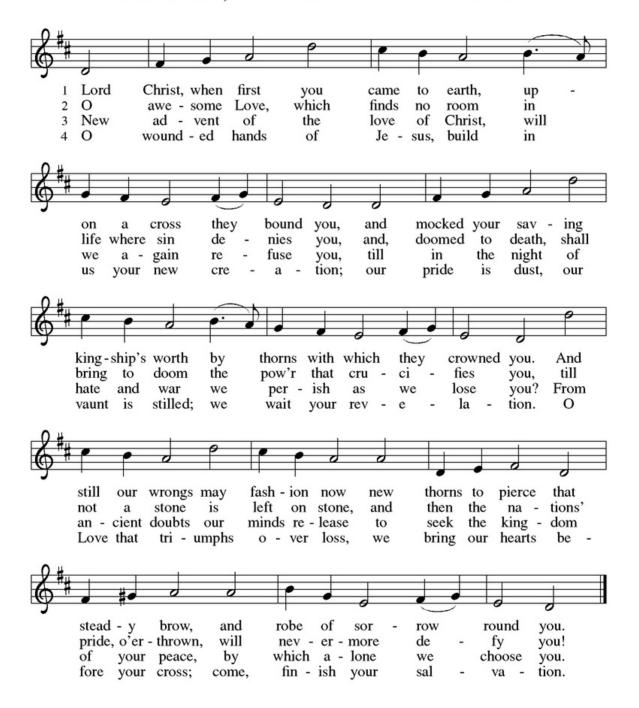
As tender as parent to child, so deep is God's compassion for you. As high as heaven is above earth, so vast is God's love for you. As far as east is from west, so far God removes your sin from you, renewing your life through Jesus Christ.

Blessed be God who crowns us with mercy and love.

Blessed be God forever.

## \*GATHERING HYMN ELW #727 Lord Christ, When First You Came to Earth

## Lord Christ, When First You Came to Earth

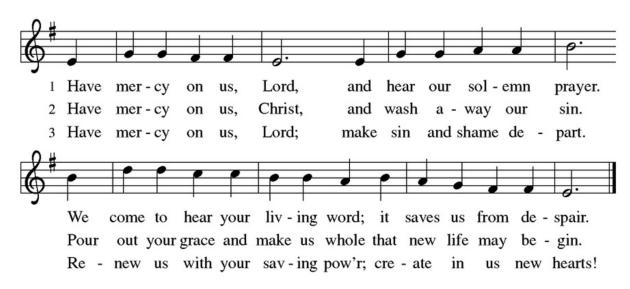


Text: W. Russell Bowie, 1882–1969, alt. Music: MIT FREUDEN ZART, medieval European tune

## \*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.** 

## **KYRIE**



## \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

## FIRST READING Jeremiah 23:1-6

Just before our reading, Jeremiah declares God's judgment on Judah's "shepherds," which refers to their kings. The tragedy is that exile will fall not only on them but on the people including innocents who relied on their governance. Our reading begins with a similar condemnation of leaders whose abuse of power displaces and discourages vulnerable ones. But Jeremiah does not end there. What follows in our reading is the promise of God serving as Israel's shepherd. The scattered will be gathered. The lost will be returned. Fear will be no more..

<sup>1</sup>Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the Lord. <sup>2</sup> Therefore thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the Lord. <sup>3</sup> Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. <sup>4</sup> I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall no longer fear or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the Lord.

<sup>5</sup> The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. <sup>6</sup> In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.



### Psalm 46

<sup>1</sup> God is our ref- | uge and strength, a very present | help in trouble.

 $^2$  Therefore we will not fear, though the  $_{\parallel}$  earth be moved, and though the mountains shake in the depths  $_{\parallel}$  of the sea;

 $^3$  though its waters  $_{\parallel}$  rage and foam, and though the mountains tremble  $_{\parallel}$  with its tumult.

<sup>4</sup> There is a river whose streams make glad the cit-| y of God, the holy habitation of | the Most High.

 $^5$  God is in the midst of the city; it shall  $_{\parallel}$  not be shaken; God shall help it at the  $_{\parallel}$  break of day.

<sup>6</sup> The nations rage, and the | kingdoms shake; God speaks, and the earth | melts away.

<sup>7</sup> The Lord of | hosts is with us; the God of Jacob | is our stronghold.

<sup>8</sup> Come now, regard the works | of the Lord, what desolations God has brought up- | on the earth;

 $^9$  behold the one who makes war to cease in  $_1$  all the world; who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the  $_1$  shields with fire

<sup>10</sup> "Be still, then, and know that | I am God; I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted | in the earth."

 $^{11}$ The Lord of  $_{\parallel}$  hosts is with us; the God of Jacob  $_{\parallel}$  is our stronghold.

#### **SECOND READING** Colossians 1:11-20

More than one preacher has quoted the lyrics of a familiar hymn to underscore a sermon theme. Most scholars believe Paul does just that in our reading. Verses 15-20 are held to be an ancient hymn that celebrates Christ as head not simply of the Church but all creation. The cadence may not be readily evident in translation. But listen for the repeated "Christ is . . . in Christ." And in listening, you may hear echoes of the early church at worship.

<sup>11</sup>May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, so that you may have all endurance and patience, joyfully <sup>12</sup> giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. <sup>13</sup> He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, <sup>14</sup> in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

<sup>15</sup> He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, <sup>16</sup> for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. <sup>17</sup> He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. <sup>18</sup> He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. <sup>19</sup> For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, <sup>20</sup> and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

## \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



## \*Gospel

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

Luke 23:33-43

<sup>33</sup> When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. <sup>34</sup> [[Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."]] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. <sup>35</sup> And the people stood by watching, but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" <sup>36</sup> The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine <sup>37</sup> and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" <sup>38</sup> There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

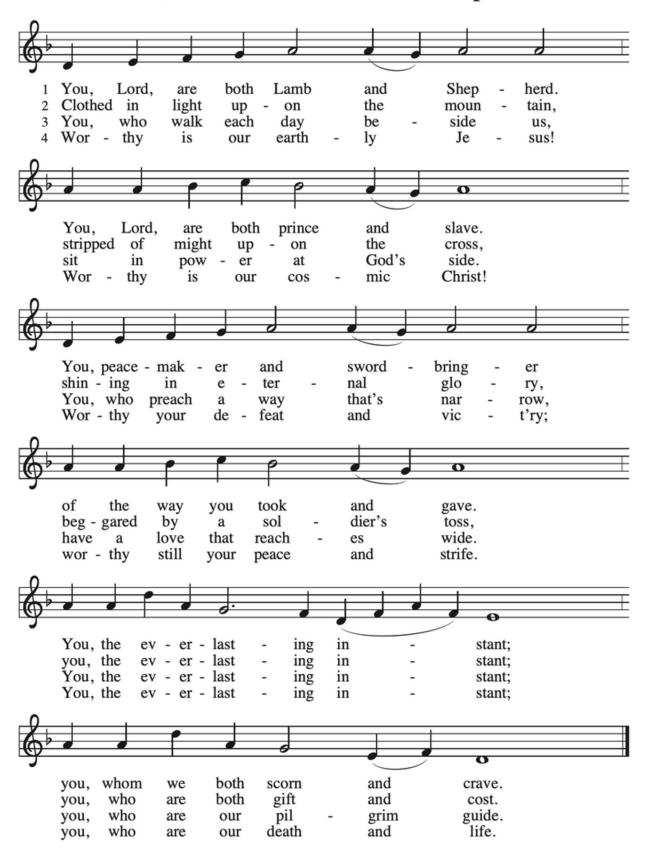
<sup>39</sup> One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" <sup>40</sup> But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? <sup>41</sup> And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." <sup>42</sup> Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come in your kingdom." <sup>43</sup> He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."

The gospel of Jesus Christ. Praise to you, O Christ.

#### **SERMON**

Silence for Reflection

## You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd



Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993

Music: PICARDY, French folk tune, 17th cent.

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#### \*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

...We offer our prayers, O God, trusting in your everlasting grace and mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

### \*EXCHANGE OF PEACE

OFFERING Thanks Be To Thee by G. Handel arr. by Roger Shaw

**Chancel Choir** 

## \*OFFERING PRAYER Let the Vineyards be Fruitful



## \*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

God be with you. **And also with you.**Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**Let us give thanks to God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.** 

Indeed, it is our joy to give thanks...

...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,

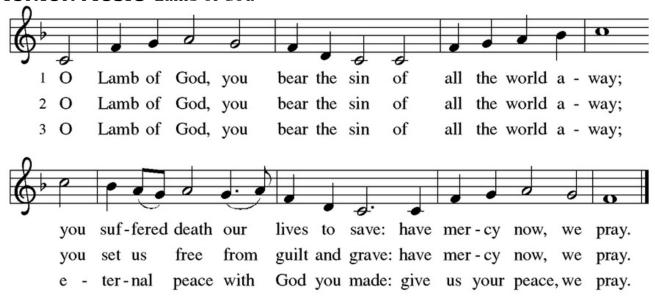
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

#### COMMUNION

Come to this Table of mercy. Become what you receive.

This is Christ's table. You and all are welcome, without exception. If you prefer a blessing only, cross your arms over your heart. Gluten free wafers available by request. The wine is red; grape juice is clear. Please let an usher know if you would like communion brought to your pew.

**COMMUNION MUSIC** Lamb of God



ELW #616 Jesus, Remember Me ELW #552 Blessed Be the God of Israel

#### SENDING PRAYER

We thank you, O God, that you have strengthened our hearts through this feast of life and salvation. Shine the light of Christ on our path, that we may do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you, now and forever. **Amen.** 

## SENDING ANNOUNCEMENTS

## \*BLESSING

## \*SENDING HYMN ELW #789 Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us

Turn to follow the cross as it passes.

## Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us



- Sav-ior like a shep-herd lead us;
- 2 We are yours; in love be friend us,
- 3 You have prom-ised to re ceive us,
- 4 Ear ly let us seek your fa vor,

much we need your ten - der care. be the guard-ian of our way;

poor and sin - ful though we be;

ear - ly let us do your will;



In your pleas-ant pas-tures feed us, keep your flock, from sin de - fend us, you have mer - cy to re - lieve us, bless - ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior,

bless-ed

Je-sus,

for our use your fold pre-pare. seek us when we go a - stray. grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free. with your love our spir - its fill.

still.

you have loved us, love us



Je - sus,



Bless-ed bless-ed Je - sus, you have sought us; Je - sus, we are yours. Bless-ed bless-ed Je - sus, chil - dren when we pray. Je - sus. hear us Bless-ed bless-ed Je - sus, Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you. Bless-ed you have loved us, love bless-ed Je - sus, still. Je - sus,

Text: attr. Dorothy A. Thrupp, 1779–1847 Music: BRADBURY, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

Bless-ed

## \*DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you! Thanks be to God.

#### NOVEMBER HAPPENINGS

Come & See - Tuesdays, 11 AM,

Weekly faith formation conversations for everyone. This fall we will focus on the upcoming readings for the week. We'll spend time with the "Hidden Gem" reflection prepared by John Indermark, which will take us deeper into one of the texts. Held in the Patio Room. Bring your Bible our borrow one of our Lutheran Study Bibles. Led by Pastor Amalia.

Centering Prayer - Tuesdays, 12:15

Centering Prayer is a form of Christian contemplation that involves sitting in silence, focusing on a sacred word, consenting to God's presence and action within. We pray for 20 minutes. Held in Koch Chapel. Beginners welcome.

Our Saviour's Chancel Choir - Thursdays at 6:30 PM

Choir rehearsals are Thursdays at 6:30PM. Everyone is welcome to sing with the choir! Share the music. Talk to Aysen Millioğulları about joining: Aysen@lutherantucson.org

Our Saviour Bell Choir -Mondays at 6:30 PM

We welcome all who are interested in ringing or just curious to see what is involved. If you have any questions just ask any current bell ringer or contact Kathie (kmmmiller@hotmail.com)

**Pray Without Ceasing - Paused for December** 

Open prayer space on the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month at 5:30.

The service lasts about a half hour. Rooted in Christian tradition, open to Tucson community.

**Gospel of Luke Book Study - 1**<sup>st</sup> **and 3**<sup>rd</sup> **Mondays at 6:30 PM - Ramada Room** Ched Myers, *Healing Affluenza and Resisting Plutocracy - Luke's Jesus and Sabbath Economics.* Join us 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays at 6:30pm to 8pm in the Ramada Room. This journey with Luke will challenge us personally, in our households, and our communities, both locally and globally. Contact: Paula Miller for more information.

SAVE THE DATE - Rain Garden Work Date - Saturday December 6.

Sign up in the back of the sanctuary or email Michele at OSLC@lutherantucson.org







## **HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE**

### **November to December 31**

The ICS Food Bank gratefully accepts prepackaged, canned, non-perishable and in-date items.

#### **Holiday Items Needed:**

- Instant, canned, or fresh potatoes and yams
- Cranberry sauce
- Canned veggies especially green beans and corn
- Boxed and bagged stuffing mix
- Boxed baking mixes (Bisquick, Jiffy)
- Gravy mix or canned gravy
- Canned pumpkin
- Cream of mushroom soup

#### **Pantry Staples**

- Peanut butter
- Canned meats: tuna, chicken, Spam, etc.
- Meals in pop-top cans: chili, ravioli, etc.
- Pasta
- Canned fruits and vegetables

Please put items in the shopping cart that is on the patio on Sundays.



# Thanksgiving dinner to be served to our homeless neighbors at The Lot on 22nd Street

Our Saviour's is responsible for supplying enough side dishes to feed around 350 people. At the time this article is being written, we are still needing what is listed below. These items should be given to Asher or Mary at the church on a Sunday or one of us can pick it up at your home. To make arrangements for a donation or if you would like to help us prepare food in the church kitchen on Thanksgiving Day, call or text us at 520-481-5684 (Mary), 520-771-5994 (Asher) or email us at maryandasher@msn.com. Thank you so much!

Mary & Asher Havenhill

- 80 Cans of Green Beans
- 350 Dinner Rolls
- 80-100 Boxes of Mashed Potatoes
- 80 Cans of Cranberry Sauce
- 100 Bags of Mixed Salad
- 80 Boxes of Butter
- 25 Gallons of Milk
- 25 Bottles of Dressing

# TUCSON Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network Helping People with HIV to Live Well

## TIHAN NEWS: SHARE WARMTH AND JOY THROUGH YOUR GIFTS

Each December, TIHAN has the opportunity to brighten the holidays for CarePartners living with HIV by sharing gifts and gift cards to let them know they are seen, valued, and not alone. For many CarePartners, this is the one gift they can count on receiving, and it means the world to them. Will you help us make this heartfelt tradition possible again in 2025? As you shop and help spread the word, please remember: Gifts must be new, unused and unwrapped. Because CarePartners belong to a variety of faith traditions, or may not identify with any faith, we ask that holiday gifts do not portray any religious images or messages.

To keep gifts equitable, please look for gifts with a value between \$15 and \$25.

The greatest need is for gifts that would be appropriate for older adult males, such as household items like towel sets, small kitchen appliances, cooking tools, bed pillows, etc.

Please try to avoid sized items like shoes or clothing.

We are also hoping to give a \$25 gift card to Target, Walmart, or Fry's to every CarePartner, so we gratefully accept donations of \$25 gift cards.

We will gladly accept cash if you don't have time to shop.

Please bring all donations to OSLC before or after worship on any Sunday in November, or to the church office during the week by Sunday November 30th. Any questions? Please see Mary Pflibsen at the TIHAN table on the patio Sunday mornings, or contact her at marypflib@hotmail.com, 520-622-1983.

#### **SMALL GROUP MINISTRY**

**Centering Prayer** 

Meets weekly from 12:00 on Tuesdays in Koch Chapel. We begin at 12:15 with simple instruction, then 20 minutes of Centering (silent) prayer. No preparation or experience necessary.

#### Come and See

Meets weekly from 11:00 - 12:00 on Tuesdays in the Patio Room. Weekly faith formation conversations for everyone. This fall we will focus on the upcoming readings for the week. We'll spend time with the "Hidden Gem" reflection prepared by John Indermark, which will take us deeper into one of the texts. Held in the Patio Room. Bring your Bible our borrow one of our Lutheran Study Bibles. Please note the new day and time.

**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 Aysen at Aysen@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** 

¿Āprender 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.

Wednesday Bible Study

Meets Wednesdays at 10:30 in the Pocket Room. Contact Lauretta Olson for more information - landjo@cox.net.

**Grief Group** 

Meets the second Saturday of each month in the Ramada Room at 10:00AM. Led by Pastor Ricki from Hospice of the Valley

## Other Ways to Grow Your Faith:

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

Mindfulness Meditation (Mondays, 1:30 - 2:30 PM); Men's Bible Study (Tuesdays, 7:00 AM)

# THOSE SERVING TODAY 11/23/2025

**Presiding Minister** Rev. Amalia Vagts

**Assisting Minister** Scott Koenig

Communion Assistants Mary Pflibsen, Bill DeVinney

Acolyte Scott Koenig Keyboard Betsy Dunlap Music Chancel Choir Cantor Joy Bulawa

**Usher** Emily Nadler, Patty Sirls

Greeter Mary Lou Forier Cross Bearer Emily Nadler Coffee Host Kris Sanchez

Treats Mary Lou Forier, Jack Wahl

Tech Team Pflibsen/Bustamante

**Scripture Background** John Indermark

## THOSE SERVING SUNDAY 11/30/2025

**Presiding Minister** Rev. Amalia Vagts **Assisting Minister** John Indermark

**Communion Assistants** Bonnie Phelps, Sharon Reinbott

Acolyte Bonnie Phelps
Keyboard Betsy Dunlap
Music Bell Choir

**Usher** Judy Indermark, Diane Siefkes

Greeter Sophia Rankin
Cross Bearer Bonnie Phelps
Coffee Host Catalina Rankin
Treats Mary Havenhill

**Tech Team** Pflibsen/Bustamante

Scripture Background John Indermark

## Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

1200 N. Campbell Ave. Tucson, Arizona 85719 Phone: (520) 327-6521 Website: lutherantucson.org E-Mail: oslc@lutherantucson.org

## **Sunday Worship Times**

9:00 - Sanctuary Coffee following

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

#### **Ministry Team**

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

Michele Ruttinger Parish Administrator Michele@lutherantucson.org

Aysen Millioğulları Music Director Aysen@lutherantucson.org

Betsy Dunlap Interim Collaborative Musician

> John Perez Campus Caretaker

## **Lutheran Campus Ministry**

Deacon Wendi Van Beek Interim Director wendi.lcmuofa@gmail.com www.lcmuofa.org 520-771-9742 (LCM Office)

**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.



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