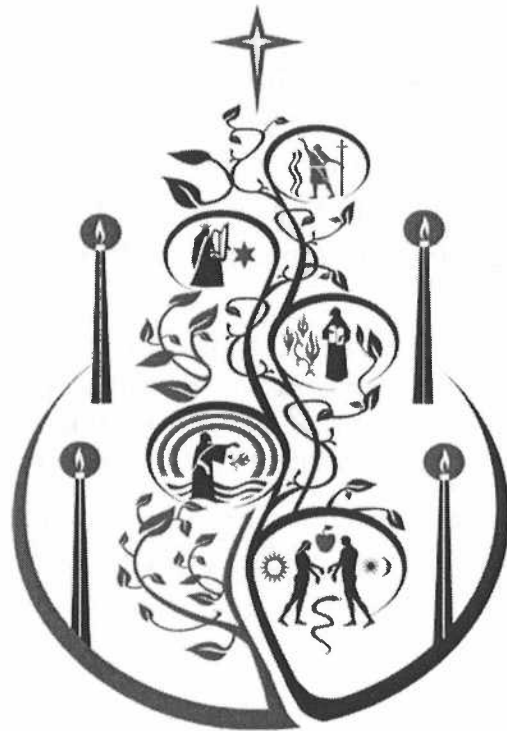


OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH **SUNDAY WORSHIP**

December 15, 2024
Third Sunday of Advent



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 Hank Phillips, Tracy; Marty; Maija, Paul, and those at home.

Our Extended Friends & Family: Friends and Family of Doris Ballmer (Patty Sirs' 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 History of Christmas Carols: Part II

We'll continue to explore the history of our traditional (and maybe some untraditional) Christmas carols. Let's celebrate the coming of our Lord in song! Join in for: "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day", "Joy to the World", "Little Drummer Boy", and (of course!) "Silent Night".

Advent Midweek Services - Our Saviour's and Lutheran Campus Ministry

We will hold midweek services in the evening using Holden Evening Prayer as our liturgy. Advent Midweek Services - Wednesdays, December 4, 11, and 18 - 6:15PM pm - Koch Chapel

December 15, 2024

Third Sunday of Advent

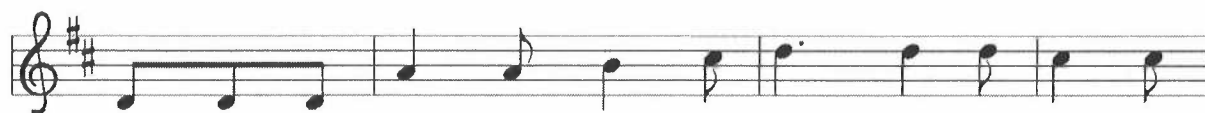
ELW is Evangelical Lutheran Worship, our red hymn book located in the pew rack in front of you.
The songs are in the back half of the book, with the song number at the top of the page.

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

WELCOME

PRELUDE - *Within Our Hearts Be Born*, Arr. by Michael Joncas

ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING - ELW #248 (v.1-3) - *People Look East* People, Look East



1 Peo - ple, look east. The time is near of the crown - ing
2 Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is
3 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the
4 An - gels an - nounce with shouts of mirth him who brings new



of the year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble,
plant - ed there. Give up your strength the seed to nour - ish,
bowl shall brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er,
life to earth. Set ev - 'ry peak and val - ley hum - ming



trim the hearth and set the ta - ble. Peo - ple, look
that in course the flow'r may flour - ish. Peo - ple, look
bright as sun and moon to - geth - er. Peo - ple, look
with the word, the Lord is com - ing. Peo - ple, look



east, and sing to - day— Love, the Guest, is on the way.
east, and sing to - day— Love, the Rose, is on the way.
east, and sing to - day— Love, the Star, is on the way.
east, and sing to - day— Love, the Lord, is on the way.

ADVENT PRAYER

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing,
give thanks in all circumstances.

Stir up our hearts in wonder, O God.
May we wear a mantle of praise
as we delight in your gift of salvation,
in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and our Song.
Amen.

***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, alive in the world, reviving creation,
arriving soon.
Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of mercy,
**we confess that we have sinned. We trust earthly powers and human
authority alone. We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.**

God of might,
**we confess that we have sinned. We have turned away from our neighbors.
We have trusted false promises.**

God in our midst,
**we confess that we have sinned. We plead: come to us. Bring your mercy to
birth in us.**

A righteous branch springs forth: it is Christ the Lord, our Savior, in whom we
have forgiveness, life, and mercy. By the power of the Holy Spirit, receive the
grace and forgiveness of God through + Christ Jesus, whose day draws near.
Amen

***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: Zephaniah 3:14-20

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgments against you; he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: "Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival." I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord.

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

Isaiah 12:2-6

Read in parts. The congregation part is in bold.

Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid, for the LORD GOD is my strength and my might, and has become my salvation.

With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the LORD, call on God's name; make known the deeds of the LORD among the nations; proclaim that this name is exalted.

Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth.

Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

SECOND READING: Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

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

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ELW #878 *Soli Deo Gloria* (vs 5)

Soli Deo Gloria



5 A bil - lion voic - es in one great song, now soft and
gen - tle, now deep and strong, in ev - 'ry
cul - ture and style and key, from hill and val - ley, with sky and
sea, with Christ we praise you e - ter - nal - ly:
So - li De - o glo - ri - a! So - li De - o glo - ri - a!

*GOSPEL

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

Luke 3:7-18

John said to the crowds coming out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Therefore, bear fruits worthy of repentance, and do not begin 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. 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."

And the crowds asked him, "What, then, should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none, and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

As the people were filled with expectation and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water, but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the strap of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

So with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Silence for Reflection

HYMN OF THE DAY - ELW#242 - *Awake, Awake, and Greet the New Morn* (next page)

Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn



1 A - wake! A - wake, and greet the new morn, for
 2 To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em -
 3 In dark - est night his com - ing shall be, when
 4 Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night, though



an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing. Sing out your joy, for
 man - u - el comes a - sing - ing, his hum - ble song is
 all the world is de - spair - ing, as morn - ing light so
 dark the win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall



soon he is born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing.
 qui - et and near, yet fills the earth with its ring - ing;
 qui - et and free, so warm and gen - tle and car - ing.
 crown you with light, be strong and lov - ing and fear - less.



Come as a ba - by weak and poor, to bring all hearts to -
 mu - sic to heal the bro - ken soul and hymns of lov - ing -
 Then shall the mute break forth in song, the lame shall leap in
 Love be our song and love our prayer and love our end - less



geth - er, he o - pens wide the heav'n - ly door and
 kind - ness, the thun - der of his an - thems roll to
 won - der, the weak be raised a - bove the strong, and
 sto - ry; may God fill ev - 'ry day we share and



lives now in - side us for - ev - er.
 shat - ter all ha - tred and blind - ness.
 weap - ons be bro - ken a - sun - der.
 bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
 Music: REJOICE, REJOICE, Marty Haugen
 Text and music © 1983 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638, www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.
 All rights reserved. Used by permission.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The assisting minister leads the prayers.

...God in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

.....Saviour of the nations, come, and receive these prayers and the pleas of our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

***EXCHANGE OF PEACE**

OFFERING - *O God, Hear Us*, Arr. by Bob Hurd and Craig Kingsberry

***OFFERING PRAYER** -*Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* (all sing)

Come, thou fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace

Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise

While the hope of endless glory fills my heart with joy and love

Teach me ever to adore thee; may I still thy goodness prove.

Almighty God, your love is cast, like seed upon the ground

O let the dew of grace appear, and righteous fruits abound

***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.**

It is indeed right to give our thanks and praise in all ways and all places...

...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 - ELW #487 What Feast of Love (next page)

God Bestows on Every Sense Arr. by Adam Tice and Anthony Giamanco
Emmanuel-Isaiah 7:14 Arr. by Bob McGee

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

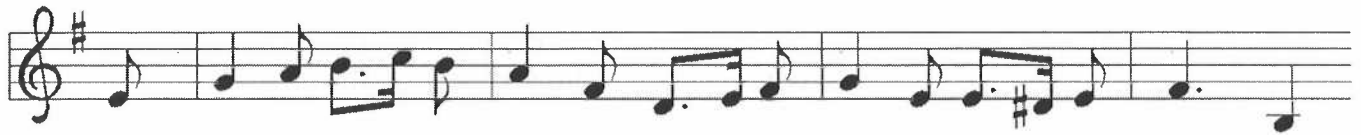
SENDING PRAYER (spoken together)

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.

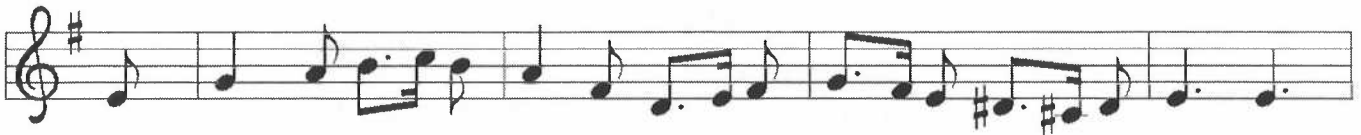
SENDING ANNOUNCEMENTS

***BLESSING**

What Feast of Love



- 1 What feast of love is of - fered here, what ban-quet come from heav - en?
- 2 What light of truth is of - fered here, what cov - e - nant from heav - en?
- 3 What wine of love is of - fered here, what crim-son drink from heav - en?



What food of ev - er - last-ing life, what gra - cious gift is giv - en?
What hope of ev - er - last-ing life, what won-drous word is giv - en?
What stream of ev - er - last-ing life, what pre - cious blood is giv - en?



This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heav - en.
This, this is Christ the king, the sun come down from heav - en.
This, this is Christ the king, the sweet - est wine of heav - en.



Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the man - na giv - en!
Oh, see and hear and sing! The Word of God is giv - en!
Oh, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is giv - en!

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

Text © 1993 Delores Dufner OSB. Published by OCP Publications. All rights reserved.

SENDING HYMN - *Our God is Our Wholeness* (Tune: O Come All Ye Faithful)

Our God is our wholeness
Trust the One who made us
God is our living and our nurture, our home
You will draw water from the wells of healing
We sing for all our stories
of God so present with us
Take courage in the faith that has carried us here

Remember our history
Track this faithful journey
Look back in wonder at the presence of love
Open your hearts now; faith and hope are deepening
We sing for all our stories
of God so present with us
Take courage in the faith that has carried us here

Now sing for God's glory
Shout with all creation
Bring tears and laughter to resound with the world
You will draw water from the wells of healing
We sing for all our stories
of God so present with us
Take courage in the faith that has carried us here

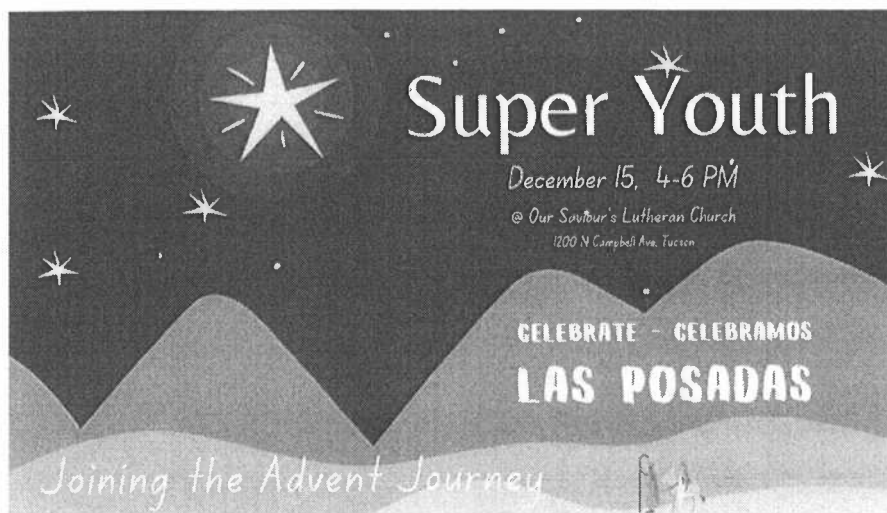
***DISMISSAL**

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 *All Who are Thirsty* - Isaiah 55:1 Arr. by Michael Connolly

Adapted from sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2024 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS023337. Scripture quotations are taken from the New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition. Copyright © 2021 National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide. All rights reserved. Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, admin Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A -706018, CCLI License #540222 or other appropriate license.



Sunday Forums

December 22: Sharing Christmas Treats in the Courtyard

Are there some special Christmas cookies or other treats that you'd like to share? Our Saviour's has a reputation for "great bakers"! We will share treats and time together. Please bring your favorites - consider a double batch to provide treats for Hank Phillips Memorial.

December 29: Coffee and Fellowship

Memorial Service for Hank Phillips

Sunday, December 22 at 1:00 PM

Dessert Reception Following

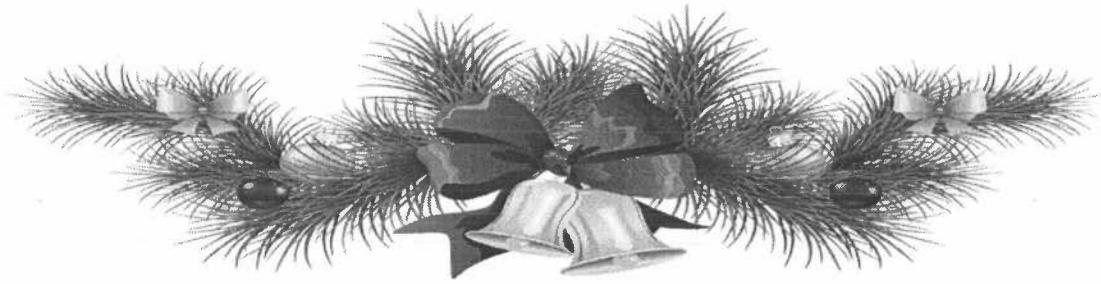
Olga Ryan will be contacting members to help with baking treats and reception. Please contact the church office if you can help.

Poinsettias for our Christmas Services

Dedicate a Christmas Poinsettia for the Altar. Tomorrow is the last day to order. Poinsettias are \$15.00 per plant. You can pick up a flower form on Sundays or email oslc@lutherantucson.org or see Michele in the church office.

Come & See:

Gather with others exploring the Bible and faith for these weekly conversations. You can bring your lunch. Patio Room, 12-1 on Thursdays. Bring your Bible or borrow a Lutheran Study Bible. Led by Pastor Glenn and Pastor Amalia.



Christmas Eve

5:00 PM - Sanctuary (Livestream) - Candles and Holy Communion

Christmas Day

9:00 AM - Sanctuary (In-person only) -

Hymn Sing & Holy Communion

.....

Update from Generosity Team - Living Water

Thank you to all who have responded so generously to our annual Generosity Appeal. Your completed statement of intended giving for the coming year helps our congregation plan for our mission and ministry in the year ahead. This year we are excited about two new ministry initiatives - a water harvesting project that will redirect rainwater that causes flooding issues into a new and lovely raingarden for birds, pollinators, and human enjoyment. Second, a commitment to supporting our life together - small and new ways of being together as a congregation for social and worship life. Your consistent giving funds all of the daily ministry that we provide together as a congregation - weekly worship, care for families and individuals, small group, and continued care for our facilities and grounds.

54 households have returned a Statement of Intent - our goal is 70. If you haven't yet returned yours, please do! You can place it in the offering plate, bring or mail to the office, or fill one out online.

We've received a total of \$264,306 for intended offerings in the coming year. We are getting closer to our goal of increasing overall giving by \$15,000 in the coming year - as we grow in ministry, your growth in giving makes our mission possible.

Generosity Team: Jeanne Gacke, Chair; Kris Sanchez, Patty Sirls, Michael Marty, Diane Siefkes, Pastor Amalia

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 Thursday 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 (kmmiller@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 Laretta Olson at landjo@cox.net).

THOSE SERVING SUNDAY 12/15/2024

Minister	Rev. Amalia Vagts
Assisting Minister	John Indermark
Communion Assistants	Bonnie Phelps and Linda Zizka
Acolyte	Bonnie Phelps
Advent Wreath	Raymond LeDoux Jr.
Cantor	Jordan Fouts
Music	Chancel Band, Jordan Fouts, Jack O'Brien, David Lester, Jeff Ladderud, Ron Rud
Usher	Judy Indermark and Patty Sirls
Greeter	Jeanne Gacke
Coffee Host	Ron and Nancy Rude
Treats	Lauretta Olson
Tech Team	Pflibsen/Bustamante
Scripture Background	John Indermark

THOSE SERVING SUNDAY 12/22/2024

Presiding Minister	Rev. Amalia Vagts
Preaching Minister	Rev. Glenn Schrader
Assisting Minister	Kris Sanchez
Communion Assistants	Bonnie Phelps and Jennifer Strand
Acolyte	Claudia Saphir
Advent Wreath	Dawn Wyatt
Cantor	Sophia Rankin
Piano	Dr. Gréta Pásztor
Music	Bell Choir
Usher	Bill and Ann DeVinney
Greeter	Judy Indermark
Coffee Host	David Lester
Treats	Congregation
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, Arizona 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

John 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