

# Our Savior Lutheran Church

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## Second Sunday of Christmas

January 5, 2025

# Service of Prayer and Preaching

## Prayer Before Worship

*O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for the sake of His name. Amen.*

## Opening Hymn

## “What Child Is This”

LSB 370



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mar - y's lap is  
2 Why lies He in such mean es - tate Where ox and ass are  
3 So bring Him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; Come, peas - ant, king, to



sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet While  
feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here The  
own Him. The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; Let



shep - herds watch are keep - ing? This, this is  
si - lent Word is plead - ing. Nails, spear shall  
lov - ing hearts en - throne Him. Raise, raise the



Christ the king, Whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;  
pierce Him through, The cross be borne for me, for you;  
song on high, The vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The babe, the son of Mar - y!  
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The babe, the son of Mar - y!  
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, The babe, the son of Mar - y!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–98

Tune: English, 16th cent.

Text and tune: Public domain

## Opening Versicles

LSB 260

**L** This is the day which the Lord has made;  
**C** let us rejoice and be glad in it.

**L** From the rising of the sun to its setting,  
**C** the name of the Lord is to be praised.

**L** Better is one day in Your courts than a thousand elsewhere;  
**C** I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.

**L** Make me to know Your ways, O Lord.  
**C** Teach me Your paths.

**L** Sanctify us in Your truth.  
**C** Your Word is truth.

**L** From the rising of the sun to its setting,  
**C** the name of the Lord is to be praised.

**C** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

## Old Testament Canticle


LSB 261

*Refrain*

**C** The Lord God is my strength and my song, and  
He has be - come my sal - va - tion.  
With joy will you draw wa - ter from the  
wells of sal - va - tion. And you will say in that  
day: "Give thanks to the Lord, call up - on His name,



make known His deeds a - mong the peo - ples, pro -



claim that His name is ex - alt - ed."

*Refrain*




The Lord God is my strength and my song, and



He has be - come my sal - va - tion.



Sing prais - es to the Lord, for He has done




glo - rious - ly; let this be made known in all the



earth. Shout, and sing for joy, O in -



hab - i - tants of Zi - on, for great in your midst is the



Ho - ly One of Is - ra - el.

*Refrain*



The Lord God is my strength and my song, and



He has be - come my sal - va - tion.



Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son  
 and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;  
 as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will  
 be for - ev - er. A - men.

*Refrain*  
 The Lord God is my strength and my song, and  
 He has be - come my sal - va - tion.

## Psalm 119:97-104

MEM

<sup>97</sup>Oh how I | love your law!\*

It is my meditation | all the day.

<sup>98</sup>**Your commandment makes me wiser than my | enemies,\*  
 for it is ever | with me.**

<sup>99</sup>I have more understanding than all my | teachers,\*  
 for your testimonies are my medi- | tation.

<sup>100</sup>**I understand more than the | aged,\*  
 for I keep your | precepts.**

<sup>101</sup>I hold back my feet from every | evil way,\*  
 in order to | keep your word.

<sup>102</sup>**I do not turn aside from your | just decrees,\*  
 for you have | taught me.**

<sup>103</sup>How sweet are your words | to my taste,\*  
 sweeter than honey | to my mouth!

<sup>104</sup>**Through your precepts I get under- | standing;\*  
 therefore I hate every | false way.**

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\*  
and to the Holy | Spirit;  
as it was in the be- | ginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

## Old Testament Reading

*1 Kings 3:4-15*

**L** A reading from 1 Kings, the third chapter.

<sup>4</sup>The king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the great high place. Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. <sup>5</sup>At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, “Ask what I shall give you.” <sup>6</sup>And Solomon said, “You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant David my father, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you. And you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne this day. <sup>7</sup>And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of David my father, although I am but a little child. I do not know how to go out or come in. <sup>8</sup>And your servant is in the midst of your people whom you have chosen, a great people, too many to be numbered or counted for multitude. <sup>9</sup>Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil, for who is able to govern this your great people?”

<sup>10</sup>It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. <sup>11</sup>And God said to him, “Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, <sup>12</sup>behold, I now do according to your word. Behold, I give you a wise and discerning mind, so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you. <sup>13</sup>I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that no other king shall compare with you, all your days. <sup>14</sup>And if you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days.”

<sup>15</sup>And Solomon awoke, and behold, it was a dream. Then he came to Jerusalem and stood before the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and offered up burnt offerings and peace offerings, and made a feast for all his servants.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Epistle Reading

*Ephesians 1:3-14*

**L** A reading from Ephesians, the first chapter.

<sup>3</sup>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, <sup>4</sup>even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love <sup>5</sup>he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of

his will, <sup>6</sup>to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. <sup>7</sup>In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, <sup>8</sup>which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight <sup>9</sup>making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ <sup>10</sup>as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

<sup>11</sup>In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, <sup>12</sup>so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup>In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, <sup>14</sup>who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Gospel Reading

*Luke 2:40-52*

**L** A reading from the Gospel of Luke, the second chapter.

<sup>40</sup>The child [Jesus] grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

<sup>41</sup>Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. <sup>42</sup>And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom. <sup>43</sup>And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, <sup>44</sup>but supposing him to be in the group they went a day's journey, but then they began to search for him among their relatives and acquaintances, <sup>45</sup>and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him. <sup>46</sup>After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. <sup>47</sup>And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. <sup>48</sup>And when his parents saw him, they were astonished. And his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress." <sup>49</sup>And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" <sup>50</sup>And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them. <sup>51</sup>And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart.

<sup>52</sup>And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

- L** Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.
- C** Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.
- L** Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.
- C** Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.
- L** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
- C** Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.

Hymn of the Day

“A Great and Mighty Wonder”

LSB 383



1 A great and mighty wonder, A full and holy cure:  
 2 The Word becomes incarnate And yet remains on high,  
 3 While thus they sing your Monarch, Those bright angelic bands,  
 4 Since all He comes to ransom, By all be He adored,  
 5 All idols then shall perish And Satan's lying cease,



The virgin bears the infant With virgin honor pure!  
 And cherubim sing anthems To shepherds from the sky.  
 Rejoice, O vales and mountains, And oceans, clap your hands.  
 The infant born in Bethl'em, The Savior and the Lord.  
 And Christ shall raise His scepter, Decreeing endless peace.

*Refrain*



Proclaim the Savior's birth: "To God on high be



glory And peace to all the earth!"

Text: Germanus, c. 634–c. 734; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt.  
 Tune: Alte Catholische Geistliche Kirchengeseng, 1599, Köln  
 Text and tune: Public domain



## Ten Commandments

LSB 264

- ☐ You shall have no other gods.**
- You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.**
- Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.**
- Honor your father and your mother.**
- You shall not murder.**
- You shall not commit adultery.**
- You shall not steal.**
- You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.**
- You shall not covet your neighbor's house.**
- You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.**

## Apostles' Creed

LSB 264

- ☐ I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life ✠ everlasting. Amen.**

## Lord's Prayer

LSB 264

- ☐ 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.**

**Catechism Reading: What is the Office of the Keys?**

*LSB 326*

*What is the Office of the Keys?*

**The Office of the Keys is that special authority which Christ has given to His Church on earth to forgive the sins of repentant sinners, but to withhold forgiveness from the unrepentant as long as they do not repent.**

*Where is this written?*

**This is what St. John the Evangelist writes in chapter twenty: The Lord Jesus breathed on His disciples and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.”**

**(John 20:22–23)**

*What do you believe according to these words?*

**I believe that when the called ministers of Christ deal with us by His divine command, in particular when they exclude openly unrepentant sinners from the Christian congregation and absolve those who repent of their sins and want to do better, this is just as valid and certain, even in heaven, as if Christ our dear Lord dealt with us Himself.**

**Sermon**

**“Jesus is the True Wisdom That Saves”  
*1 Kings 3:4-15***

## Sermon Hymn

## “Children of the Heavenly Father”

LSB 725



1 Chil - dren of the heav'n - ly Fa - ther Safe - ly  
2 God His own doth tend and nour - ish; In His  
3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er From the  
4 Though He giv - eth or He tak - eth, God His



in His bos - om gath - er; Nest - ling bird nor star in  
ho - ly courts they flour - ish. From all e - vil things He  
Lord His chil - dren sev - er; Un - to them His grace He  
chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth; His the lov - ing pur - pose



heav - en Such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.  
spares them; In His might - y arms He bears them.  
show - eth, And their sor - rows all He know - eth.  
sole - ly To pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870–1958

Tune: Lofsånger och andeliga visor, 1873, Sweden

Text: Public domain

Tune: Public domain

## Offering and Prayer

### Prayer of the Church

**P** Let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

### Collect of the Day

**L** . . . one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

### Collect for the Word

**L** Blessed Lord . . . who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

**C** I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

New Testament Canticle

*Refrain*

Christ has been raised from the dead! Al - le -

lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Christ our Pass - o - ver Lamb has been sac - ri - ficed.

Raised from the dead, He will nev - er die a - gain.

Death has no more do - min - ion o - ver Him.

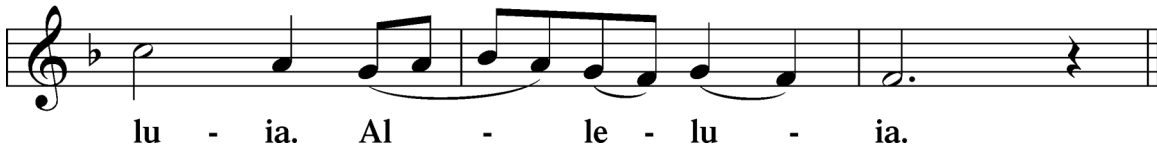
*Refrain*

Christ has been raised from the dead! Al - le -

lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.



**C** Christ has been raised from the dead! Al - le -



## Blessing

LSB 267

**L** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**L** The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us.

**C** Amen.

## Closing Hymn

## “Angels We Have Heard on High”

LSB 368



1 An - gels we have heard on high, Sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,  
2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?  
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing;



And the moun - tains in re - ply, Ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.  
What the glad - some tid - ings be Which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?  
Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.



Glo - - - - - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - - - - -



- ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Text: tr. The Crown of Jesus, 1862, Part 2, London, alt.  
Text and tune: French  
Text and tune: Public domain

## Acknowledgments

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## EVENTS THIS WEEK

**Today:** Worship at OSLC, 9am  
**Today:** Worship at Good Shepherd, 10:45am  
**Monday:** Pastor and Family out of town until January 10  
**Saturday:** Worship at Immanuel, 6pm

## Those Serving at OSLC

	<b>1/5/25</b>	<b>1/12/25</b>
<b>Elder</b>	Justin Schroeder	Neil Rieches
<b>Organist</b>	Linda Kellerhals	Linda Kellerhals
<b>Radio Monitors</b>	Darren and Jamie Bakken	Dean Lingley Patty Bruens
<b>Sound Board</b>	Neil Rieches	Patrick Teig
<b>Greeters</b>	Norman and Maryanne Anderson	Doug Benner Kendra Morts
<b>Acolyte</b>	Ellie Schwartz	Jackson Lavicka
<b>Head Usher</b>	Landon Reutter	Landon Reutter
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Sheila Selk Patty Bruens Renee Minton	Sheila Selk Patty Bruens Renee Minton

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**WEDNESDAY MEAL AND FELLOWSHIP** will resume on February 5, 2025 due to Pastor and Family being out of town in January. We will have a Chili Cook Off. Dust off the chili recipes and let Renee know if you are willing to participate.

**INSTALLATION OF 2025 OFFICERS** will not take place until after the Annual Meeting in the hopes we have Elders elected.

**2025 GREETERS LIST:** New lists are in your mailboxes.

**2025 ALTAR GUILD:** Sign up list is in the Narthex. We are still looking for a couple more people to help with the “behind the scenes” necessities. This is a simple job and the commitment is minimal. Just 2 months a year would be helpful.

**PASTOR AND FAMILY OUT OF TOWN** December 30 – January 10. If a Pastoral need arises, contact Rev. Dale Fjordbotten (Trinity, Cissna Park and St. John, Ash Grove) at 646-265-7832.

**PORTALS OF PRAYER** for January – March are available in the narthex.

**TODAY’S SERVICE** is being led by Seminarian Jacob Bergstedt. Jacob is a member at Good Shepherd in Hoopston and a 2nd year Seminarian at Concordia Theological Seminary in Ft. Wayne, IN. He will be receiving his Vicarage assignment in April. Take a moment to chat with him on your way out this morning.

**THANK YOU** to Seminarian Bergstedt for preaching in my absence this morning. His willingness to lead service this morning is appreciated.  
- Pastor

**JANUARY IS LIFE MONTH:** Women’s Care Clinic in Danville continues to care for those faced with an unexpected pregnancy. They provide pregnancy tests, ultrasounds, counsel, and prayer to many in our community. As we have done in the past, please pick up a Baby Bottle from the narthex to fill with money during the month of January. You can also donate baby items – diapers, wipes, lotions, sleepers, etc. Please return filled bottles and baby items by Sunday, February 2, 2025.

**WE WILL UNDECORATE THE SANCTUARY** today following service. All help is appreciated.

**A YEAR IN THE CONFESSIONS:** You’ll find a reading sheet in the newsletter this month to read through the Formula of Concord, primarily the Epitome. Take this sheet and stick it in your Book of Concord. If you need a Book of Concord, the church has copies available on the bookshelf in the Fellowship Hall – *pick up today as the readings start this week*. All are encouraged to take part in this reading to be reminded what it truly means to be Lutheran. May you be encouraged in your faith through this reading.

**LUTHERANS FOR LIFE QUOTE** “Let the peace of Christ change how you live—clothing yourself with godly virtues reflecting a thankful heart. Carry this peace that the angels proclaimed and Simeon saw. It sets the tone for the coming year, another year you get to live as God’s child in the peace of Jesus.” Rev. Peter Sulzle, St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls, Minnesota • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)



## **PRAYER LIST**

### **Those celebrating a birthday:**

Audrey Neukomm    Monday  
Carrie Brazel      Wednesday  
Christopher Catron   Wednesday  
Kaitlynn Lange     Thursday

### **Those celebrating an anniversary:**

Alan and Suzie Smith                      Today (12 years)

### **Those suffering from cancer:**

Linda Buhrmester  
Nancy Tobeck  
Connie Bruns, organist at Calvary  
Janet Doyle, friend of Patty Bruens  
Kim Cann, friend of Becky Bridge  
Dale Colvin, cousin of Jim Winder  
Tim Evans, brother in law of Bob Storm  
Hugo Hasz, brother of Dorothy Knake  
Lisa High, friend of Becky Hiles  
Kendra Howard, niece of Doug Benner  
Pamela Howard, sister of Doug Benner  
Christopher Kruse, community member  
Becky Lehmann, cousin of Bob Storm  
Fred Wright, brother of Marvin Wright

### **Those requesting your prayers:**

Ella Frerichs, friend of Charlene Rieches, hospitalized  
Dalton McWethy, great nephew of Patty Bruens, hospitalized  
Those still recovering from Hurricanes Helene and Milton

### **Homebound Members**

Dianne Estes  
Delmer Henrichs  
Arlene Hines  
Dorothy Knake  
Joann Sloan  
Brenda St. Peter

**Those serving in our Armed Forces and our local Law Enforcement, especially those connected to the OSLC family:**

***Armed Forces***

Karl Gibbs - serving as a chaplain in the U.S. Navy

Justin McGahan - Milford community member, serving in the U.S. Army

Corey Moore - OSLC Member and son of Kevin and Kasey Moore, serving in the U.S. Marine Reserves

Timothy Raddatz - nephew of Phil and Cindy Raddatz, serving in the U.S. Coast Guard

Kaleb Waldbeser - friend of Bob and Donna Flesher, serving in the U.S. Marine Corp.

***Law Enforcement***

Wyatt Alt - Iroquois County Sheriff Department

**Central Illinois District Congregations:** Christ in Jacksonville and Our Redeemer in Jacksonville as the continue in the call process.

**Iroquois Circuit Congregations:** St. Paul in Woodworth and Michael Ruhlig her pastor.

**Those studying at the Seminary:**

Vicar Simon Niemtschk, St. Paul in Carroll, IA

Seminarian Jacob Bergstedt, Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft Wayne, IN.

**Those serving in the Mission Field:**

Rev. Samuel Bobby, his wife Erica, and sons Judah, August, Benjamin, Simon, and Pax, our adopted international missionary, currently serving in Latvia. Rev. Bobby teaches at The Luther Academy, the seminary of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Latvia.



# Moments with Mahlah

*For the Week of December 15, 2024*

Christmas Greetings from Mahlah!

We look forward to seeing the adventures of 2025. Happy New Year!



Remember to email Mahlah at [Mahlah@K9Comfort.org](mailto:Mahlah@K9Comfort.org) if you know of an individual or organization that would benefit from a visit. Thanks for your continued support as we seek to bring the compassion, mercy, presence, and proclamation of Jesus to all.

