

Our Saviour Lutheran Church

"Making disciples and growing in grace"

212 Sunset Drive, Johnson City, TN 37604

423-282-2313

Third Sunday of Advent

December 14, 2025

*If you are a visitor, welcome to OSLC.
Please sign our guest book in the narthex so we may greet you properly.*

Welcome/Announcements

Prelude *Go Light Your World* Rice

Verse

There is a candle in ev'ry soul
Some brightly burning some dark and cold
There is a Spirit who brings a fire
Ignites a candle and makes His home

Chorus

So carry your candle run to the darkness
Seek out the hopeless confused and torn
Hold out your candle for all to see it
Take your candle and go light your world
Take your candle and go light your world

Verse

We are a fam'ly whose hearts are blazing
So let's raise our candles and light up the sky
Praying to our Father in the name of Jesus
Make us a beacon in darkest times

Chorus

So carry your candle run to the darkness

Seek out the helpless deceived and poor

Hold out your candle for all to see it

Take your candle and go light your world

Take your candle and go light your world

Words and Music by Chris Rice CCLI Song #1829337 © 1995 Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Publishing

Please stand

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, whose home is heaven and earth, whose salvation is sure. **Amen.**

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

Silence for reflection and self-examination

Long-expected God,

We confess that we look to ourselves for the peace and security only you can provide. We reach for swords and spears, reluctant to release our grip on the ways of war. We become impatient while waiting and weary of keeping awake.

Free us from self-reliance, and teach us to live in harmony with our neighbors.

Increase our trust in God's timing, and awaken us to your advent among us, that we may abound in the hope you have promised. Amen.

God judges us not as we deserve, but according to God's own righteousness. You are freed and forgiven, saved by grace, and ready to welcome the Savior. **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn *My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness* **ELW 251**

1 My soul proclaims your greatness, Lord; I sing my Savior's praise! You looked upon my lowliness, and I am full of grace. Now ev'ry land and ev'ry age this blessing shall proclaim—
great wonders you have done for me, and holy is your name.

2 To all who live in holy fear your mercy ever flows. With mighty arm you dash the proud, their scheming hearts expose. The ruthless you have cast aside, the lowly throned instead; the hungry filled with all good things, the rich sent off unfed.

3 To Israel, your servant blest, your help is ever sure; the promise to our parents made their children will secure. Sing glory to the Holy One, give honor to the Word, and praise the Pow'r of the Most High, one God, by all adored.

Text: With One Voice, 1995, based on the Magnificat Text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress. One License # A-739334

Lighting of the Candle of Joy by The Olsen Family

The angels sang a message of joy! (Luke 2:13-14)

Advent Lighting: *We Are Waiting For Jesus* **ACS 905**

1 We are waiting for Jesus; Jesus brings peace.

We are waiting for Jesus; Jesus brings peace.

Sun of justice, shine upon us;

we are trusting in your promise.

We are waiting for Jesus; Jesus brings peace.

Text: John Helgen, b. 1957 Text © 2013 Augsburg Fortress One License # A-739334

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray,

Heavenly Father, as we prepare to celebrate the birth of our Saviour, help us to remember those who are in need of food, shelter, and clothing. We are reminded that Jesus was born in the poverty of a stable and he taught us that when we do something to help those in need, it is the same as doing it for him. Amen.

Please be seated.

Introduction to "M is for Manger" Ricki Doty, Narrator

Mark Doty will be reading the book

Program:

H "One Small Child" children and choir

M "Away In A Manger" children - verses 1 and 2

N "Silent Night" children - verse 1

P "Hark the Herald Angels Sing" v 1 congregation and children

S "Bethlehem Night" children and choir

H “One Small Child” children and choir

Verse 1

One small Child in a land of a thousand
One small dream of a Savior tonight
One small hand reaching out to the starlight
One small city of life O

Verse 2

One king bringing his gold and riches
One king ruling an army of might
One king kneeling with incense and candlelight
One King bringing us life O

Chorus 1

See Him lying a cradle beneath Him
See Him smiling in the stall
See His mother praising His Father
See His tiny eyelids fall

Verse 3

One small light from the flame of a candle
One small light from a city of might
One small light from the stars in the endless night
One small light from a face O

Chorus 2

See the shepherds kneeling before Him
See the kings on bended knee
See His mother praising His Father
See the blessed Infant sleep

Verse 4

One small Child in a land of a thousand
One small dream in a people of might
One small hand reaching out to the starlight
One small Savior of life O

Words and Music by David Meece CCLI Song #10783 © 1971 Curb Word Music

M “Away In A Manger” children - verses 1 and 2

Verse 1

Away in a manger no crib for a bed
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head
The stars in the bright sky looked down where He lay
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay

Verse 2

The cattle are lowing the Baby awakes
But little Lord Jesus no crying He makes
I love Thee Lord Jesus look down from the sky
And stay by my cradle 'til morning is nigh

Frank Anderson, James Ramsey Murray, John Thomas McFarland, Martin Luther\ CCLI Song #5950047 © Words: Public Domain; Music: 1979 New Spring

N “Silent Night” children - verse 1

Silent night holy night
All is calm all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and Child
Holy Infant so tender and mild
Sleep in heavenly peace
Sleep in heavenly peace

Franz Xaver Gruber, John Freeman Young, Joseph Mohr CCLI Song #27862 © Words: Public Domain; Music: Public Domain CCLI License #2869281

P “Hark the Herald Angels Sing” v 1 congregation and children

Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king;
peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful, all you nations, rise;
join the triumph of the skies;
with angelic hosts proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Refrain

Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king!"

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.

S “Bethlehem Night” children and choir

Verse 1

On this night a king is born
In a cattle shed
Swaddling clothes will keep him warm
In his manger bed

Verse 2

Shepherds watching flocks by night
In the field nearby
See an angel in great light
Glory fills the sky

Chorus 1

What a wonder what a story
What a joyful sight
Can this be another
Ordinary Bethlehem night

Verse 3

Hear the angels share the news
Tidings of great joy
Now a Savior comes to you
In this baby boy

Chorus 2

What a wonder what a story
What a joyful sight
Love is come our God is with us
On this Bethlehem night
Love is come our God is with us
On this Bethlehem night

Words and Music by Terry D. Taylor CCLI Song #7187217 © Choristers Guild

Program Closing Song: *Light of the World (Sing Alleluia)* Bergthold and Cash

Light of the World Treasure of Heaven
Brilliant like the stars in the wintery sky
Joy of the Father reach through the darkness
Shine across the earth send the shadows to flight
Light of the World from the beginning
The tragedies of time were no match for Your love
From great heights of glory You saw my story
God You entered in and became one of us

Chorus

Sing hallelujah
Sing hallelujah
Sing hallelujah for the things He has done
Come and adore Him
Bow down before Him
Sing hallelujah to the Light of the World
Light of the world crown in a manger
Born for the cross to suffer to save
High King of Heaven death is the poorer
We are the richer by the price that He paid

Chorus
Sing hallelujah
Sing hallelujah
Sing hallelujah for the things He has done
Come and adore Him
Bow down before Him
Sing hallelujah to the Light of the World
Light of the World soon will be coming
With fire in His eyes He will ransom His own
Through clouds He will lead us straight into glory
And there He shall reign forevermore

Andrew Berghold, Ed Cash, Franni Cash, Martin Cash, Scott Cash CCLI Song #7163734 © 2020 Angie Feel Good Songs; Bay19; Capitol CMG Genesis; Capitol CMG Paragon; Scott Cash Publishing Designee; We The Kingdom Music CCLI License #2869281

Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

Please be seated or kneel.

Prayers of the Intercession

With longing and hopeful expectation, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

We rejoice in you, O God, for you have anointed the church with your spirit and given glad tidings of comfort and joy to proclaim to those imprisoned by evil, doubt or fear. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We rejoice in you, O God, for your promise to give wisdom to the leaders of the nations. We pray that they may seek and follow your guidance so that they may govern according to your will. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We rejoice in you, O God, for in you there is good news for the poor and oppressed. Inspire us to help those who are in need and to strive for justice and freedom for all people. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We rejoice in you, O God, for you have given us this community of faith, where we share stories of your love and faithfulness and praise your holy name. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We rejoice in you, O God, that you bring healing to those who are ill. We pray especially this morning for: Karin McCoy, Annabelle Mason, Dorla Brunke, Val Halverson, Larry Seifert, Jean Loveday, Brad Rouse, Gene Whitson, Duane Williams, John Paul Neas, Scott & Cindy Gibson, Mary King, Barbara Diehl, Karen Mears, Curtis Van Hooser. And these family and friends: Stephanie Patteson, Connie Raymond, Jennifer Keegan, Jenny Weirich, Skip Nipper, Aga Schrock, Nikki Miller, Jason & Kayla Hyder, Ryan Nesseth, Carolyn Parish, Andy Wilhoit, Bob Edwards, Doug Beier, Pat Kirkland, Trish Gradley, Jeanie Patrick, Paul Gregory, Sr., Luke Hawk, Julian Hawk, Juniper Hawk, Kristy Epperson. Renew the strength of health care professionals and all who provide care for the sick and infirmed. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We rejoice in you, O God, for in your promise of salvation you give us hope for new life. Help us to remain steadfast in our faith until you bring us home into your eternal kingdom. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Receive our prayers, faithful God, as we watch and wait for your coming among us in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen!**

The Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you. *(Please greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.)*

Please be seated.

Offering

Offertory

Make Room **Maher and Hall**

A family hiding from the storm
Found no place at the keeper's door
It was for this a child was born
To save a world so cold and hollow

A sleeping town they did not know
That lying in a manger low
A Savior king who had no home
Has come to heal our sorrows

Chorus 1

Is there room in your heart
Is there room in your heart
Is there room in your heart
For God to write His story

Shepherds counting sheep at night
Do not fear the glory light
You are precious in His sight
God has come to raise the lowly

Chorus 2

You can come as you are
It may set you apart
When you make room in your heart
And trade your dreams for His glory
Make room in your heart
Make room in your heart

A mother holds the promise tight
Every wrong will be made right
The road is straight the burden's light
For in His hands He holds tomorrow

Ending

Is there room in your heart
Make room in your heart
Make room in your heart

Mark Hall, Matt Maher CCLI Song #7101018 © 2017 Be Essential Songs; I Am A Pilgrim Songs; My Refuge Music CCLI License #2869281

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

Nourishing God, you are water in the wilderness and streams in the desert. Through this meal, satisfy our parched places, that we may rejoice and be for the world signs of your kingdom come. **Amen.**

Holy Communion

We give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with all the faithful of every time and every place, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy (Sung to tune of O Come, O Come Emmanuel)

O Holy, Holy, Holy Lord. O God of Hosts, by all adored.

For heav'n and earth cannot contain

The pow'r and glory of Your name!

Rejoice! Rejoice! Praise God eternally

"Hosanna" to the one who sets us free.

Holy God, we praise you. Let the heavens be joyful, and the earth be glad. We bless you for creating the whole world; for your promises to your people Israel, and for Jesus Christ in whom your fullness dwells. Born of Mary, he shares our life. Eating with sinners, he welcomes us. Guiding his children, he leads us. Visiting the sick, he heals us. Dying on the cross, he saves us. Risen from the dead, he gives new life. Living with you, he prays for us.

Words of Institution

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died, Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray.

Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen

Invitation to Communion

Come to Christ, who comes to us in this holy supper.

Thanks be to God.

Please be seated.

Song during Communion *People Look East* **ELW 248**

1 People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People, look east, and sing today— Love, the Guest, is on the way.

2 Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow'r may flourish. People, look east, and sing today— Love, the Rose, is on the way.

3 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east, and sing today— Love, the Star, is on the way.

4 Angels announce with shouts of mirth him who brings new life to earth. Set ev'ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People, look east, and sing today. Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Text: Eleanor E. Farjeon, 1881-1965 Text © Miss E. Farjeon Will Trust, by permission of David Higham Associates.

Please stand.

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

God our host, at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness. Send us forth, eager to share the feast, welcome the stranger, and bear good fruit in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Blessing

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

Sending

Ready the Way

Stephan

Chorus

Ready the way ready the way

Ready the way of the Lord

Ready the way ready the way

Ready the way of the Lord

Verse 1

Make straight the road

Raise the valleys

And mountains make low

Turning from sin

Let the broken be whole
And ready the way of the Lord

Chorus

Ready the way ready the way
Ready the way of the Lord
Ready the way ready the way
Ready the way of the Lord

Verse 2

As we wait for You
Give us the strength
To walk in Your truth
So we may love
More like You
And ready the way of the Lord

Chorus

Ready the way ready the way
Ready the way of the Lord
Ready the way ready the way
Ready the way of the Lord

Verse 3

Let us see Your face
In our hearts we prepare a place
Come bring this world
Your mercy and grace
Ready the way of the Lord

Chorus

Ready the way ready the way
Ready the way of the Lord
Ready the way ready the way
Ready the way of the Lord

Dismissal

Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude *Ready the Way*

Worship volunteers for today:

Acolyte: The Olsen Family; Ushers: Cheryl & Dallas; Lector: Martha; Communion Asst.: Brenda; Altar Guild: P. Zinser; A/V: Bryon & Travis H.; Tellers: McGaughey, Wilson; Greeters: Ricki & Mark Doty

Worship volunteers December 21:

Acolyte: Asher; Ushers: Travis & JBP; Lector: Martha; Communion Asst.: Brenda; Altar Guild: Laura P; A/V: Bryon & Travis H.; Tellers: JBP & Huff; Greeters: Ricki & Mark Doty

Our Saviour Lutheran Church Staff: *Pastor: Jim DuMond; Music Director: Martha Hawk; Organ/Piano: Carolynn Bailey; Office Administrator: Abai Curtiss*

If you have a prayer request, fill out the card in the back of each pew, where the envelopes sit, and place it in the offering plate or give it to the pastor. If you would like to remain on the prayer list or remove a name, please let the church office know through the communication cards in the pews or through some other means.

Announcements

Directory Photos—We will be taking pictures for the directory along with a visual reference guide for Pastor Chris. Please see Mark Doty by the front office to get your photo taken.

Help needed—Anyone visiting the church, please check the Chrismon Tree and make sure it has adequate water.

Reception for Pastor Jim and Alice—In celebration of Pastor Jim and Alice's time with us light snacks will be served in the fellowship hall following the service on December 21st. Please indicate your attendance by putting your name on the sign up sheet posted on the in-Reach bulletin board outside the kitchen.

Calling all crafters and shoppers! On Saturday January 17th, at 2pm **In-Reach** is hosting a combination fund raiser and fun-filled afternoon of BINGO and snacks! Your help is needed for prizes for the young and the mature. Ideas include, but not limited to: nominal value gift cards, small toys like legos, coloring books, crayons, craft made items, books, etc. Think about what you would like to win and make that donation. A designated collection basket is available to receive goods near the donations bench. And, make sure to put your name on the sign up sheet outside the kitchen where we hang out!

Additional support is needed for the Sunday Morning coffee and snack. Please consider occasionally taking a turn. A sign up sheet is posted outside of the kitchen. If you are unsure of just what to do or where to find the supplies, please see Tandy Hobbs, Collete Forsman or Bill McComb.

Melting Pot is again collecting winter clothing, including outerwear, socks, underwear, long sleeved shirts, long pants, etc., to donate to the homeless and less fortunate. Please put the donations in the large box in the hallway for us to deliver with our monthly meals. Our past donations have been so appreciated to help people through our cold months!!!!

The reverse advent project has begun. All materials are available for you to take home. See Diane Bolger.

Poinsettias for decorating the church and then your homes are now available for purchase. See the sign up sheet on the flower bulletin board in the main hallway. The cost is \$12 per plant. If you wish to purchase or make a donation in honor or memory of someone, please get with the church office. Email is office@oslc.church

****Attention all children and teens** - there will be a Happy Birthday to Jesus celebration in the fellowship hall after the church service today, December 14th. Please join us in wishing Jesus a Happy Birthday. There will be cupcakes and gifts!

Announcements for Bulletin —Abai is asking that any announcements for upcoming Sunday's bulletin be submitted by Tuesday please.

Melting Pot needs individually wrapped desserts. Please bring these by and place them in the kitchen.

Please wear your name tag or use a sticker tag.

Prospective members! If you have an interest in becoming a member, please reach out to the pastor.

We need everyone to offer their time and talents to serve in the congregation and community. We always need volunteers:

- ⇒ to serve as ushers for our Sunday morning services. See Alex Bolger.
- ⇒ we need teachers for the children's Sunday school and people to give the young people's message during the service. Sign up on bulletin board.
- ⇒ coffee maker, set out sugars, creamers, and bring a snack each Sunday at 9am. Signup sheet is on bulletin boards.

Sunday, December 14

9am-*The Story* adult bible study will be discussing chapter 18/No Confirmation class will be meeting in the Library/Sunday school for children/fellowship time

10am-Worship/Children's Christmas Program/after service-Happy Birthday Jesus Party

Monday, December 15

Office closed

9-2-PDO

9:30-PDO Christmas Program

Tuesday, December 16

Office closed

Wednesday, December 17

9-2-PDO

4:30pm-Choir/Band Practice

Sunday, December 21

9am-The Story adult bible study will be discussing chapter 19/Confirmation class will be meeting in the library/Sunday school for children/fellowship time

10am-Worship

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