



Our Savior's Lutheran Church

Our Mission: *We gather together to explore and celebrate the wonder of Christ, equipping all to live a God centered life.*

First Sunday of Advent- November 26, 2023

Welcome to worship! We celebrate Holy Communion at each service. Guests and visitors are always welcome and we are filled with joy at your presence with us! The “pray-ground” near the organ is available for those families with little ones to sit and enjoy while being part of our worship. A Parent Room is also available for your use if your child just needs a space of their own! Ushers are available if you need any assistance or have any questions.

PRELUDE, WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

** Indicates to stand as you are able*

SIGN OF THE CROSS: *We remember + our baptismal calling.*

WREATH: In the ancient world, various peoples lit fires to mark the turning of the light into winter's season and to pray for the return of the light. Today in this place, these candles are signs of the growing light of Christ who is coming again in all fullness into the darkness of our world. Until the dawning of that Great Day, we watch and wait in Holy Spirit for Christ's coming into the darkness of our world, lighting candles of hope, peace, joy, and love; and remembering the promises of God with prayer.

We gather around these candles of hope, peace, joy, and love, remembering the promises of God with prayer. We light our first candle in hope. *As the First Candle of Advent wreath is lit we hear God's Word:*

Hear God's promise of hope from Isaiah 64:1-5:

○ that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence—as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil—to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down; the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right,

those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

***GATHERING HYMN:** O Come, O Come, Emmanuel # 257 (vs. 1-4)

***GREETING:** ...*and also with you*

***ADVENT PRAYER:** Faithful God, out of this world's chaos, you bring your peace and light. Renew us in hope that we may work toward Christ's advent among all the nations. **God of promise, God of hope, into our darkness come. Emmanuel- God with us- come, we pray. Amen.**

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** *Wait for the Lord #262*

***SCRIPTURE OF THE DAY:** *Mark 13:24-33* The Lord is with you. **And also with you.** A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark. **Glory to you O Lord.** But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. "From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. "But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you O Christ!**

CHOIR MEDITATION: *My Lord, What a Morning*

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES & VISIO DIVINA PJ

(Visio Divina is translated as "divine seeing." It is related to the prayer form Lectio Divina (divine reading), but instead of Scripture, this form of prayer uses visual elements to help set your mind on prayer. It allows God to speak into your heart through the image. Focus your eyes and mind on the image, on the words you hear and the music playing in the background. May the Spirit touch your soul this Advent season!)

***PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:** *We lift up our prayers and needs of the church and community. Our spoken response is “O Come, O Come Emmanuel.”*

OFFERING ~ *We are grateful for your presence today and we never want you to feel obligated to give. Our parishioners are responsible for supporting our ministry and mission through their gifts to God. If you would like to give a gift today, you are welcome to place it in the offering box in the center aisle. Any gifts placed into Noah’s Ark through the end of the year will go towards the Waukesha Memorial Fund.*



***OFFERING PRAYER:** Let us pray together:

O God, we offer back with joy this day our lives and our offerings- gifts themselves from You. Receive us and these gifts as we strive to share Your light with the world! In the name of Jesus we pray: Amen! *(offering container brought forward by ushers)*

***WORDS OF INSTITUTION:** *Jesus’ words at the Last Supper become our prayer over the bread and wine.*

***THE LORD’S PRAYER:** *We pray the words of peace that Jesus gave us.*

***HOLY COMMUNION:** The gifts of God for the people of God: **Thanks be to God!**

A Word about Communion here at OSLC...

You are invited to come forward down the center aisle to receive baked bread and then dip that bread into the glass of red wine or juice. Gluten free bread is available as well. For those who prefer, communion kits are available in a basket near the front of the sanctuary. All are welcome to share in this meal with us!

***COMMUNION BLESSING:** The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his resurrected grace: **AMEN!**

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION** Let us pray together:
We delight in the grace of this meal, O God. Help us to come towards your Emmanuel in the days and weeks ahead. In the name of Jesus we pray together: Amen!

***FINAL BLESSING:** May God go before you to guide you; be behind you to encourage you; above you to watch over you and beneath you to support you. But may you discover the presence of God within you and know that God will always be your friend. **AMEN!**

***SENDING SONG:** *The King Shall Come* #260

***SENDING PROCLAMATION:** Go in Advent peace to be church after church!
Thanks be to God!

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Welcome to Worship at Our Savior's Lutheran Church. Welcome to long-time Lutherans, Christians from every tradition, and people new to this faith. Welcome to friends new and old. Welcome to people of every age and size, color and culture, sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression; every socioeconomic and marital status, political conviction, ability and challenge. Welcome to believers and questioners, and questioning believers. Welcome.