

**THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOUR**

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Mitchell Sensenig, Organist

Barbara Johnson, Administrative Assistant

*First Sunday of Christmas*

*Sunday, December 26, 2021*

*Worship 9:30 am*

*A Service of Lessons and Carols*

*Throughout the service, where you find an asterisk (\*) you are invited to stand as you are able.*

**WELCOME TO OUR SAVIOUR TODAY**

- Please put your cell phones on quiet mode.

An altar flower vase today is presented to the Glory of God in memory of Janet Ruocco by Linda Schreier.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> altar vase today is presented to the Glory of God in memory of husband & father, John Farling by Eva Farling & Deb Flage.

*This morning we welcome our brothers & sisters in Christ from Good Shepherd, Paxtang.*

## THE GATHERING

### Welcome & Announcements

#### Prelude

P: Beloved in Christ, at this Christmastide let it be our care and delight to hear again the message of the angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which has come to pass, and the Babe lying in the manger.

**\*Entrance Hymn**     *Angels, from the Realms of Glory*     RED #275

#### \*Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: and also with you.**

P: Let us pray. . .

P: Shine into our hearts the light of your wisdom, O God, and open our minds to the knowledge of your word, that in all things we may think and act according to your good will and may live continually in the light of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## LESSONS AND CAROLS

**First Lesson:** Genesis 3:8-15

Hope Bowling

*God announces in the Garden of Eden that the seed of woman shall bruise the serpent's head.*

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Carol**     *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

RED #254

**Second Lesson:** Genesis 22:15-18

Greg Borzok

*God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall the nations of the Earth be blessed.*

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Carol**     *Blessed Be the God of Israel*

RED #250

**Third Lesson:** Isaiah 9: 2, 6 and 7

Deb Flage

*Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by Isaiah.*

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Carol**     *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*

Quartet A Cappella

**Fourth Lesson:** Micah 5:2-4

Marcia Freed-Dankman

*The prophet Micah foretells the glory of little Bethlehem.*

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Carol**     *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

RED #279

**Fifth Lesson:** Luke 1:26-38

John Zimmerman

*The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.*

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Carol**     *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

RED #270

**Sixth Lesson:** Luke 2:1-7

Dixie McCauley

*St. Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.*

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Carol**     *Away in a Manger*

RED #278

**Seventh Lesson:** Luke 2:8-16

Pastor Kathy Baker

*The shepherds go to the manger.*

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Carol**     *Angels, We Have Heard on High*

RED #289

**Eighth Lesson:** Matthew 2:1-11

Jonah Petruschke

*The Wise Men are led by the star of Jesus.*

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Carol**     *We Three Kings of Orient Are*

BLUE #646

**Ninth Lesson:** John 1:1-14

Pastor Joel Petruschke

*Saint John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.*

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Carol**     *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

RED #283

**\*Prayers of the People**

*See Celebrate*

P: Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

**\*The Peace**

### ***THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT***

**\*Offertory**     *The First Noel*

RED #300

(stanzas 1 & 5)

**\*Offertory Response**     *In the Bleak Midwinter*

RED #294

**\*Offertory Prayer**

**\*The Great Thanksgiving**

RED p. 152

**\*Proper Preface for Christmas**

P: It is indeed right and salutary . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**\*The Sanctus** (*Holy, Holy, Holy*)

RED p. 153

### **\*Eucharistic Prayer**

Holy Father, Creator of all and Source of life, at the birth of time your Word brought light into the world.

In the fullness of time, you sent your Word, born of Mary, to shine in our darkness and to make us your daughters and sons.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat: this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: this cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his birth and life among us, his death and resurrection, we await his coming again when all things will be restored in him.

By your Spirit bless us and this bread and cup, that, held and nourished by you, we may live as your children, shining with the light of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### **\*The Lord's Prayer**

RED p. 154

### **\*Invitation to Communion**

P: This is Jesus, the Word made flesh, he feeds us and gives us new life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*Lamb of God*

RED p. 154

### **Communion Together**

*Please join in singing during Communion.*

*From Heaven Above*

RED #268

*(stanzas 1-3)*

*Angels, from the Realms of Glory*

RED #275

*(stanzas 1 & 4)*

*Let All Together Praise Our God*      RED #287  
(stanzas 1, 2 & 4)

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C: Amen.**

**\*Post-Communion Canticle**

RED #207

*After communion, please place empty communion container in the plastic bag and securely seal it.*

**\*Post-Communion Prayer**

P: Almighty Father, in the Incarnation of your Son, you began the work of our deliverance from sin and death. Through the grace of this Holy Sacrament, strengthen us in spirit and renew in us the New Birth we have through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

***THE SENDING***

**\* Benediction**

**\* Recessional Hymn**      *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*

RED #288

**\* Dismissal**

P: Go in peace. Share the good news.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**\*Postlude**

Nick Werner

### ASSISTING TODAY

9:30 am	Reader	Hope Bowling Deb Flage John Zimmerman Greg Borzok Pastor Kathy Baker Pastor Joel Petruschke Marcia Freed-Dankman Dixie McCauley Jonah Petruschke
	Ushers	Deb Flage, Phoebe Drake
	Counters	Herb Logan, Nadine & Otis Martin

### ASSISTING NEXT WEEK, SUNDAY, JANUARY 2, 2022

9:30 am	Reader	Alice Lubrecht
	Ushers	Donna Miller, Dawne Veet
	Counters	Jim Lubrecht, John Zimmerman

### SCHEDULE IN BRIEF

Today	9:30 am	Lessons & Carols
Monday, December 27		office closed
Friday, December 31		office closed
Sunday January 2	9:30 am	Sunday Worship

### Important Items In Your Mailbox Today

1) Your 2022 contribution envelopes are now in your mailbox. **Some people may have new numbers for 2022.** Please do not use your new envelopes until the 1st Sunday in January and please remember to **discard any unused 2021 envelopes.** This is important so that your contributions are recorded correctly.

**2) Also** in your mailbox is the church staff's annual holiday letter to you.

**3) And most importantly** for those of you who don't have email, you will find our Proposed Constitution and Bylaws Amendments changes and a report from our Constitution & Bylaws Committee. Please look over this in advance of our Congregational meeting next month.

### **Attention All Committee Chairs**

In advance of our congregational meeting on January 23rd, please start preparing your annual reports. All reports are due into the office no later than Wednesday, January 12th. Thank you.

### **Thank You To the Congregation**

The Social Ministry Committee would like to thank our members for their generous support of gifts to The Salvation Army collection. We are very grateful that our members always respond to help others in need. Nadine Martin and I delivered them to the Salvation Army and they were very appreciative for our support.

Thank you,

Social Ministry Committee

Donna Miller, Chairperson

### **Thank you from all the staff!**

We would like to thank you all for the generous gifts & holiday greeting cards. Your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated this holiday season. Pastor Joel, Mitchell, and Barb.

### **Manna Food Pantry**

Our "2nd Sunday" food collection is still ongoing. During this time of the pandemic food pantries are still seeing a greater demand of their services. If you would like to make a donation you may bring your items into the church & place them on the table in the Narthex at any time. There is a list of suggested items now on the table. If you are not comfortable with coming into the church building we would be happy to offer "curbside drop-off" during regular office hours. Just let us know & will be happy to come out & get your donation from you. If you would like to make a monetary donations, please mark your envelopes "Manna Food Pantry" and place it with your regular giving envelope. Thank you.



### **Important Update on Flower Sponsoring**

At our last Altar Guild meeting we discussed a notice we received from Royer's. The letter stated that due to the events of the past 18 months having had a profound impact on the floral industry, Royer's will be increasing significantly the cost of our weekly flowers (3 times our current cost). Due to all of these increased costs we have decided that **starting next Sunday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>**, we will no longer use fresh, cut flowers on our altar each week. Instead we will use lovely silk flower arrangements. **Please note we will still continue** to use fresh, potted, live flowers (poinsettias, lilies, etc.) for the festivals of Christmas & Easter. If you have any questions about this change please speak to any Altar Guild member. This change only applies to flower sponsors. **We will be continuing our sponsorships of Sunday bulletins.** Those sign-up sheets will continue to be on the bulletin board in the hall way. Thank you for your understanding as we make this change.

**Sign-up sheets to sponsor bulletins for the months of January, February & March are now on the bulletin board. Later months will be put up very shortly.**

## **PRAYER REQUESTS**

Christopher Albright (Fay Nelms' grandson), Hannah Dunkle (Fay Nelms' granddaughter), Chuck & Shelly Lisse, Tom Snyder, Fay Nelms, Mary Louise Shuler, Linda Freed, MaryPat & Aaron MacMurtie (Hope Bowling's family members), Jacqueline Neil (Brad Neil's mother), Abby Keith (Marilyn Hocker's granddaughter), Merle Beachell, Rahbiyah, Zheyen & Omid (friends of the Flemings), Sharon Veet (Dawne Veet's mother-in-law), Bernie Kunz, Ed Seneca, Tara Beachtel, Todd MacMurtie (Hope Bowling's nephew), Lisa Tosheff (Marion's daughter-in-law), Russ Kolacek (Tom & Wendy Snyder's son-in-law), Tiffany Crosby, Jeff Noaker (friend of the Flemings), Kathy Dare, Marion Tosheff, Annabelle Paul, Leroy MacMurtie (Hope Bowling's father), Andrew (friend of Pastor Joel), Lisa (Dawne Veets' family member), Robyn, Evelyn, and their family (friends of the Zimmermans), Ed Digon (Malane's husband), Cheryl Digon (Ed & Malane Digon's daughter-in-law), Julianna Stoner (friend of Eva Kunz), Bob Sheetz (Bill's brother), Makwan Sayed (friend of the Flemings), Veronika Lenker (friend of the Flemings), Betty Giovaninello (friend of Linda Schreier), Sondra Andrews (Bob & Jean Lisse's daughter), Barbara Hammell (Betty's daughter), Vernel Brown (friend of the Flemings), Bishop Dunlop.

Pray for missionaries, especially Tonya Starnier in Mongolia.

Pray for our military, especially Ian Bowling, Robert McCann, Jason Nunez, Maxwell Reilly, Noel Sanchez & George Schreffler, III.

Pray for our shut-ins, especially Shirley Kaltreider, Irene Nanov, Miriam Reinard, Ellavene Rutter, Ed Seneca, Alta Shadel, Tom & Wendy Snyder.

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## **MISSION STATEMENT**

Our Saviour Lutheran Church, a caring congregation dedicated to the word of Christ welcomes all people to worship and grow with us as we share His love and salvation with our neighbors, our children and ourselves.