

Welcome to Our Saviour

- **Welcome pads are on the pews** at the center aisle; please sign and pass to your neighbor. Please include any changes.
- Please put your cell phones on quiet mode.

The bulletins this evening are sponsored in memory of loved ones by the Kreischer family.

Thank you to our worship assistants.

Reader:

Deb Flage

Ushers:

Nadine & Otis Martin

Communion Assistant:

Deb Flage

Pastor Joel, Mitchell, & Barb wish you a
Merry & Blessed Christmas.

Join us next Sunday at 9:00am for
our Lessons and Carols Service.

The office will be closed for the holiday on
Monday, December 25th and Tuesday, December 26th.

Our Saviour 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.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Our Saviour
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Web Site: oslutheranharrisburg.org

The Rev. Dr. Joel D. Petruschke, Pastor
Mitchell Sensenig, Organist
Barbara Johnson, Administrative Assistant

*Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
with Holy Communion*

December 24, 2023

7:00 pm

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

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

God Comes to Us in the Gathering of the People

GATHERING HYMN * *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

RED #283

CHRISTMAS DIALOGUE *

Pastor

The people who have walked in darkness have seen a great light.

Congregation

Those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness have seen a great light. We have beheld Christ's glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.

P To us a child is born.

C **And his name shall be called: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

P Throughout Advent, we have lit the candles of the Advent Wreath to mark the Sundays leading up to Christmas. Tonight, we light the Christ candle to tell of Christ's birth.

C We remember that God has come to us in the Christmas gift of His Son.

P Lift up your voice and sing. Praise God for the Light of Christ has come.

Lighting of the Christ Candle on the Advent Wreath

HYMN OF PRAISE * *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

RED # 270

OPENING PRAYER *

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

God Comes to Us in the Hearing of the Word

SCRIPTURE READING:

Isaiah 9:2-7

Psalm Hymn *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*

RED #288

Titus 2:11-14

GOSPEL READING*

Luke 2:1-20

CHRISTMAS SERMON

HYMN * *Angels, from the Realms of Glory*

RED #275

THE PRAYERS*

After each petition of the prayers:

L Gracious God,

C hear our prayer.

OFFERING

OFFERING HYMN* *It Came upon the Midnight Clear*

RED #282

God Comes to Us Through Holy Communion

GREAT THANKSGIVING *

P We declare we are Christmas people and as Jesus is born in the stable, we are born again to everlasting life.

C We come to pay homage and give thanks. We come to worship Jesus.

P In this family meal we celebrate the gift of God in Christ Jesus.

C In sharing the bread and wine we find forgiveness of sin and God's resurrection presence.

P God gives us this gift to share.

C We come to eat and drink and be changed.

P 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.*"

LORD'S PRAYER *

COMMUNION TOGETHER

Please join in singing during Communion.

Hymns: RED #289, RED #277, RED #279, RED #296

POST COMMUNION PRAYER *

God Comes to Us as the Light of the World

CANDLELIGHT SERVICE*

Lighting of the candles.

The acolyte will light the candle of the first person in each pew, who in turn will light the candle of their neighbor, and so on. The person receiving the light should tip their candle - this will prevent wax from dripping.

Please attempt to keep melted candle wax from dripping onto church furnishings and books, as well as keep hardened candle wax from falling onto the floor or other surfaces.

P Tonight, we celebrate the coming of Christ, the Light of the world.
C **The candles we hold bear witness to that Light.**

P The power of darkness is all around us.
C **May the Light of Christ shine in our hearts, so that we may be signs of God's love in Christ Jesus, and scatter the darkness.**

HYMN * *Silent Night, Holy Night!* **RED #281**

(1st verse sung in German, followed by subsequent verses)

*Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht! Alles schläft,
einsam wacht nur das traute, hoch heilige Paar.
Holder Knabe im lокkigen Haar, schlaf in himmlischer
Ruh, schlaf in himmlischer Ruh.*

*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.*

*Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake
at the sight; glories stream from heaven afar,
heav'nly hosts sing, alleluia! Christ, the Savior, is
born! Christ, the Savior, is born!*

*Silent night, holy night! Son of God,
love's pure light radiant beams from your holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at your
birth, Jesus, Lord, at your birth.*

CLOSING PRAYER *

God Comes to Us in Our Witness to the World

BENEDICTION *

Candles are extinguished.

CLOSING HYMN * *Joy to the World*

RED #267

DISMISSAL *

P Glory to God in the Highest!
C **Peace to God's people on earth!**

P As heralds of God's peace, go forth in joy to love and serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

Prayer Requests



Marianne McCann, Nedda Pollock's family, Betty Nickle, Carol Gerig, Robin Walker (friend of Margo Whittaker), Linda Freed, Betty Hammell, Jason Ziegler (friend of T.J. Johnson), Denise Calamia (friend of Sue DeArmitt), Malane Digon, Pastor John Schaertel, Miriam Reinard, Larry Wilt, Sue Kistler (friend of Andrea Faber), Patsy Bauman, Dottie Koppenhaver, Tracy Burigana (Jesse's father), George Schreffler, John Piazza (Dawne Veet's co-worker), Katherine Keister (friend of Nancy Pinko), Tina Stark (friend of Linda Schreier), Eileen Cera (friend of Linda Freed), John Digon (Malane Digon's brother-in-law), Sara Dooley (Logan family member), Kaden Stevenson (relative of Otis Martin), Jacqueline Neil (Brad's mother), Nancy Staab (Joan Bateman's sister), Patti Spirk (Logan family friend), Janice Mixell (Jesse Burigana's grandmother), Fran & Kitty Kuntz (family of Lauralee Kunz), Tommy Weldon, Scott Schneider (Herb Logan's co-worker), Joyce Hrestack (Joel Hain's ex-wife), Yolanda Barron, Linda Freed, Liam Brotherton, Grace & Leroy MacMurtie (Hope Bowling's parents), Mike Boyer (friend of Buriganas), Richard Walker (friend of Margo Whittaker), Deb Nickle (Betty Nickle's daughter-in-law), Marion Tosheff, Mary Louise Shuler, MaryPat & Aaron MacMurtie (Hope Bowling's family members), Todd MacMurtie (Hope Bowling's nephew), Lisa Tosheff (Marion's daughter-in-law), Russ Kolacek (Tom Snyder's son-in-law), Tiffany Crosby, Annabelle Paul, Cheryl Digon (Malane Digon's daughter-in-law), Betty Giovaninello (friend of Linda Schreier), Sondra Andrews (Bob & Jean Lisse's daughter), Barbara Hammell (Betty's daughter), Bishop Dunlop.

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

Pray for our shut-ins, especially Shirley Kaltreider, Dottie Koppenhaver, Jean Lisse, Miriam Reinard, Ed Seneca, Tom Snyder.

