



Advent

OUR SAVIOR
LUTHERAN CHURCH



Encouraged Hearts United in Love

WELCOME TO OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

We are honored you have chosen to worship with us today. Our Savior is a community that aspires to follow Jesus so that all may know of the love of God in Christ.

FAMILY RESOURCES At the sanctuary entrance there are books and clipboards with paper & crayons. Children are welcome to take these items into worship. Additionally, the family area just outside the sanctuary has full audio and a view of the service. There you will find toys, books, seating, and room to roam.

COVID REMINDERS We are privileged to be in worship with one another, a privilege we hope to maintain. **Masks are recommended in worship**, especially because of singing. This measure is especially important for vulnerable individuals among us.

HOLY COMMUNION Communion is the central gathering meal of the church. In this meal Christ promises to be fully present, offering forgiveness, a renewed faith, and a regenerative life. Everyone is invited to come forward. You are welcome to remain seated if you prefer.

Individual servings of bread & wine (red) or juice (white) await you; gluten-free bread is available. Communion will be distributed at the center aisle in front of the altar.

Please be sensitive to physical distancing. After consuming the elements, place the cup in the trays provided. To indicate that you would like to receive words of blessing instead of bread & wine, simply cross your arms over your chest.

Offerings may be left in the basket on the table at this time.

WE'D LOVE TO CONNECT If you find yourself in a time of spiritual need or you're searching for more, we would love to walk with you. Simply fill out a Connections Card, and we will contact you.

Third Sunday of Advent
Sunday, December 17, 2023
10:00 a.m.



OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH
745 Front Street S, Issaquah, WA 98027
425-392-4169

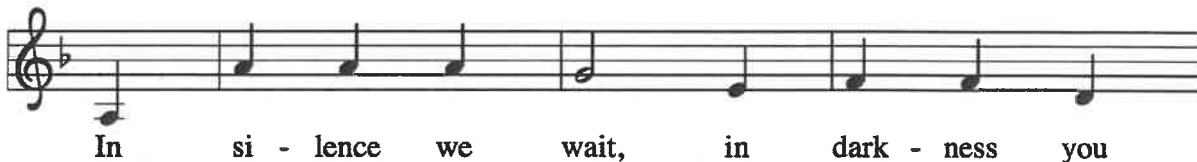
HOLY COMMUNION

GATHERING: THE HOLY SPIRIT CALLS US TOGETHER AS THE PEOPLE OF GOD.

PRELUDE *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*—R.W. Thygerson Jiyoung Lee

WELCOME Pr. John L. Vaswig

CALL TO WORSHIP — *In Silence We Wait* (sing four times)



GATHERING LITANY

PM: Blessed be God, the eternal ✠ One-in-Three, who was, and is, and is to come.

C: Blessed be God forever and ever.

PM: As the night grows longer, and the shadows settle in,

C: we ponder your marvelous designing.

PM: When our hearts are wintering, weary with grief and woe,

C: we ponder and seek your wisdom beyond our understanding.

PM: In each moment fleeting, each fragile life beholding, in each gift of your bestowing,

C: we ponder and trust your promises fully.

PM: Come, O Christ, and set us free.

C: Come, Emmanuel, bring in your reign of justice and peace.

PM: We wait for a new heaven and a new earth,

C: where righteousness is at home.

OPENING HYMN

Prepare the Royal Highway

ELW #264

GREETING

PM: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

KYRIE

A In peace, in peace let us pray to the Lord. **A** For the

C Lord, have mer - cy.

peace from a - bove, and for our sal - va - tion, let us pray to the

Lord. **A** For the peace of the whole world, the well - be - ing of the

C Lord, have mer - cy.

Church of God, and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the

Lord. **A** For this ho - ly house, and for all who of - fer here their

C Lord, have mer - cy.

wor - ship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

A Help, save, com-fort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord.

C A - men

PM: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah (verse 3) (during processional and recessional)

Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.

Lift your heads and lift high the gate-way for the King of glo - ry.

WORD: GOD SPEAKS TO US IN SCRIPTURE READING, PREACHING, AND SONG.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

¹The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; ²to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; ³to provide for those who mourn in Zion— to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, to display his glory. ⁴They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.

⁸For I the LORD love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. ⁹Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed. ¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. ¹¹For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

AM: Word of God, word of life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 126 (sung responsively)

¹When the LORD restored the for- | tunes of Zion,
then were we like | those who dream.

²Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with | shouts of joy.
Then they said among the nations, “The LORD has done great | things for them.”

³The LORD has done great | things for us,
and we are | glad indeed.

⁴Restore our for- | tunes, O LORD,
like the watercourses | of the Negeb.

⁵Those who | sowed with tears
will reap with | songs of joy.

⁶Those who go out weeping, carry- | ing the seed,
will come again with joy, shoulder- | ing their sheaves.

SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

¹⁶Rejoice always, ¹⁷pray without ceasing, ¹⁸give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ¹⁹Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰Do not despise the words of prophets, ²¹but test everything; hold fast to what is good; ²²abstain from every form of evil.

²³May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

AM: Word of God, word of life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION — O Come, O Come Emmanuel (verse 6)

O Come, O Day-spring, Come and cheer; O Son of just - ice
now draw near Dis-pers e the gloo - my clouds of night,
and Death's dark sha-dow put to flight. Re-joice! Re-joice!
Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

The musical notation is written on four staves in G major (one sharp). The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is written in a simple, folk-like style with quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are placed below the notes. The word "Refrain" is written above the third staff. The piece ends with a double bar line.

THE GOSPEL

John 1:6-8

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

¹⁹This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" ²⁰He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." ²¹And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." ²²Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" ²³He said,

"I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness,
'Make straight the way of the Lord,'"
as the prophet Isaiah said.

²⁴Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. ²⁵They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" ²⁶John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, ²⁷the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." ²⁸This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

PM: The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Pr. John L. Vaswig

SILENCE

HYMN OF THE DAY

The King Shall Come

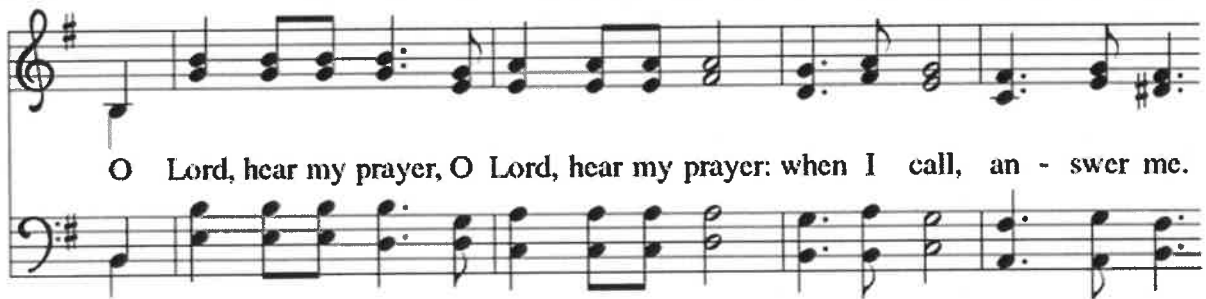
ELW #260

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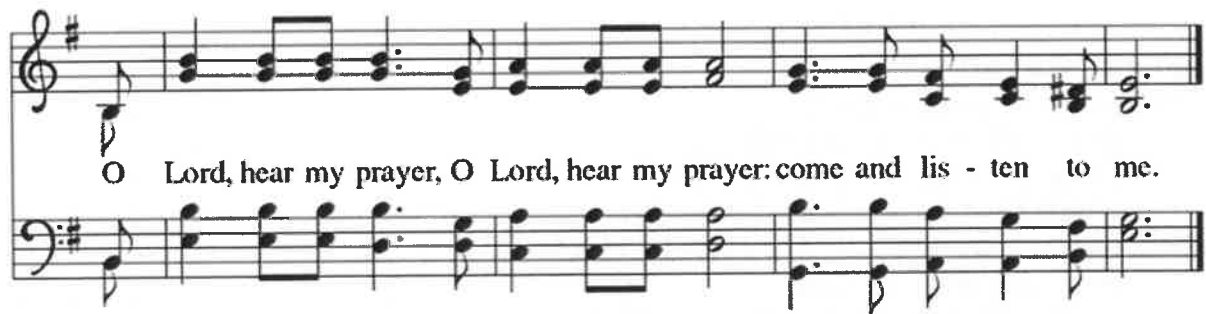
**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**
**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**
**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**
**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**
**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;**

**he ascended into heaven
 and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
 He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
 and his kingdom will have no end.**
**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
 who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
 who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
 who has spoken through the prophets.**
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
 and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE – *O Lord, Hear My Prayer (Taizé)*
 (sing once at the beginning and once at the closing of the Prayers of the People)



O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: when I call, an - swer me.



O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: come and lis - ten to me.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

PM: The Peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

MEAL: GOD FEEDS US WITH THE PRESENCE OF JESUS CHRIST.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The musical notation for the Great Thanksgiving consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 7/8 time. The lyrics are: **P** The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you. **P** Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord. **P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **C** It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

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

HOLY, HOLY

The musical notation for the Holy, Holy hymn consists of five staves of music in G major and 3/4 time. The lyrics are: **C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed, bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

PM: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

Offerings may be left in the basket at this time.

LAMB OF GOD

L Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us, have mer - cy.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us, have mer - cy.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

You Are Mine ELW #581

Bread of Life from Heaven ELW #474

We Come to the Hungry Feast ELW #479

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

SILENCE

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace:
your word has been ful - filled. My own eyes have
seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre - pared in the sight of all
peo - ple: a light to re - veal you to the
na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.
Glo - ry to the Fa - ther and to the Son, glo - ry to the
Ho - ly Spir - it, as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and
will be for - ev - er. A - men, a - men, a - men.

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN

All Earth Is Hopeful

ELW #266

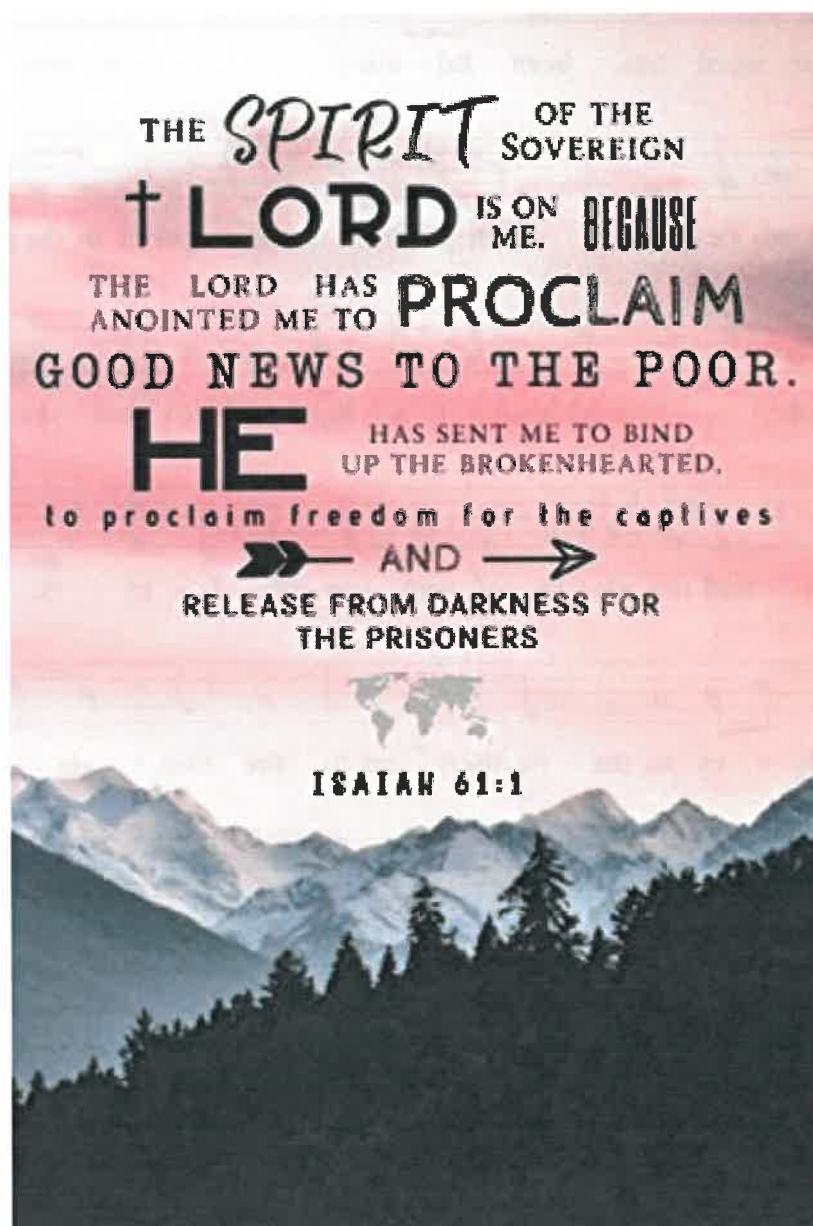
DISMISSAL

AM: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

on Veni Emmanuel—Andrew Carter

Jiyoung Lee



OSLC Announcements

Farewell Lunch for Pr. Vaswig

Mark your calendars and plan to join us!

Pastor John's last Sunday at OSLC will be January 14, 2024. Come join us for a farewell luncheon in his honor following worship that day.

It's our chance to celebrate the many months he has been with us during our transition, and the many accomplishments he's helped us achieve, including our merger and knitting two congregations into one.

We will
miss
you
♥

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

Caroling Party on December 19: "Yule Have So Much Fun!"

Come Join Us

Tuesday, December 19 at 4:00 p.m.
at Formula Brewing
1875 NW Poplar Way Suite 3 in Issaquah

- * Caroling Christmas songs
- * Chatting with new friends
- * Consuming pub grub, brews, etc.

Sponsored by Our Savior Lutheran Church,
Spirit of Peace UCC, Community Church of
Issaquah, and Faith United
Methodist Church

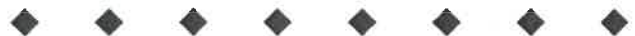
Christmas Giving 2023

Today, Sunday, December 17, is the last day the Community Outreach Committee will be collecting gift cards for two purposes:

1. **Vine Maple Place**, an organization that breaks the generational cycle of homelessness by working with single parents and their children, is asking for \$10 or \$20 gift cards from **McDonald's, Subway, Starbucks, or Taco Bell** for parents to gift their teens to use to go out and visit with friends.

2. OSLC is collecting \$25 Target, Safeway, and Fred Meyer gift cards to use when we get requests from our church members and the community for a little extra help. They can help purchase food, gas, medications, etc.

The Community Outreach Committee thanks you!



OSLC Announcements



✦ Share & Prayer ✦

We invite you to include these people in your daily prayers. You can make prayer requests via email at office@oslcissaquah.org. A complete list of prayers can be found in the Focus newsletter each month.

- ◆ **Bob Johnson**, who is receiving treatment for cancer, **and his family**
- ◆ **Dianne Tanner**, for healing, strength, and peace through her ongoing treatment
- ◆ **Diane Murff**, who is in a rehab center
- ◆ **Treasure Hinds**, who is having chemotherapy treatment (daughter of Rowan and Barbara Hinds)
- ◆ **Gary Hanson**, for God's continued healing presence in his life
- ◆ **Michael Fricke**, for recovery of his injuries suffered in a bad vehicle accident (son of Mary Fricke)
- ◆ **Baby Jack**, who is being treated for leukemia (nephew of Bill Suttmeier)
- ◆ **For the health and wellbeing of the Inman Family**
- ◆ **Jim Jewell**, for the peace of God that surpasses all understanding (father of Jeff Jewell)
- ◆ **Rawson Gomez**, who is in Boston Children's Hospital (14-year-old great-nephew of Sue Johnson) and his family
- ◆ **Cheryl Neeb**, for the discernment of her doctors
- ◆ **Nico**, who is struggling after moving into a new family home, and whose female partner recently died (father-in-law of Lisa DeVogel)
- ◆ **John Hansen**, who is entering hospice care, his wife Rita and his family.

Serving in Worship Today

Presiding Minister:	Pr. John L. Vaswig
Assisting Minister:	Jen Winslow
Psalm Cantor:	Jeff Jewell
Organist/Pianist:	Jiyoung Lee
Usher:	Larry Thomas
Altar Guild:	Jane Wuest
Sound/Videography:	Jonathan Smith

Mourning the death of loved ones:
Please keep their family and friends in your prayers.

- ◆ **Cathy**, wife of Bob and mom to Dan and Erik (cousin of Lisa DeVogel)
- ◆ **Darlene Frahm**

This Week at Our Savior Lutheran Church

TODAY

9:30 a.m.
10:00 a.m.
11:00 a.m.
11:20 a.m.

DECEMBER 17—THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Spirit of Peace UCC
Worship Service (Sanctuary)
Coffee & Fellowship Hour
Choir Practice (Sanctuary)

MONDAY

10:30 a.m.
3:00 p.m.

6:30 p.m.
7:00 p.m.

DECEMBER 18

Congregational Care Ministry Team (Library)
Companions Bible Study Group (online)
Contact Jen Winslow (jenwinmv@outlook.com) for Zoom info.
Master Chorus Eastside (Sanctuary)
Boy Scout Troop 676 (Anderson Hall)

TUESDAY

7:45 p.m.

DECEMBER 19

AA — Alcoholics Anonymous (Anderson Hall)

WEDNESDAY

6:00 p.m.
7:30 p.m.

DECEMBER 20

Autumn Wisdom Class (online)
Memorial Bells Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

THURSDAY

9:30 a.m.
10:00 a.m.
1:00 p.m.
1:00 p.m.

DECEMBER 21

Mission Quilters (Anderson Hall)
Al-Anon (Education Room)
Autumn Wisdom Class (Library)
Community Meal Prep (Kitchen)

NEXT SUNDAY

9:30 a.m.
10:00 a.m.
11:00 a.m.
7:00 p.m.

DECEMBER 24—FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT & CHRISTMAS EVE

Spirit of Peace UCC
Worship Service (Sanctuary)
Coffee & Fellowship Hour (Anderson Hall)
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service (Sanctuary)



Emergency Pastoral Care
For emergency pastoral care, please contact
OSLC Transition Pastor John L. Vaswig
at 253-677-4515 (cell) or jlvaswig@gmail.com.



