



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.

Fourth Sunday of Advent
Sunday, December 24, 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 *Prelude on "Greensleeves"*—Richard Purvis Jiyoung Lee

WELCOME Pr. John L. Vaswig

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

In si - lence we wait, in dark - ness you
come to us; bring us your light.

GATHERING LITANY

PM: And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior

C: Mary sings her praises to God who blessed her to carry the salvation of the world

PM: Mary's song is our song, Mary's singing our singing

C: Songs of praise to the one who came in low, who scatters the proud in the imagination of their hearts

PM: He has brought down the powerful from their thrones

C: He has lifted up the lowly, he has filled the hungry with good things

PM: And so we sing, we sing to the one who was and is and will be

C: We sing with Mary a song of thanksgiving, a song of joy, a song of holy praise

All thanks be to God.

OPENING HYMN *O Lord, How Shall I Meet You* ELW #241

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 - being of the

C Lord, have mer - cy.

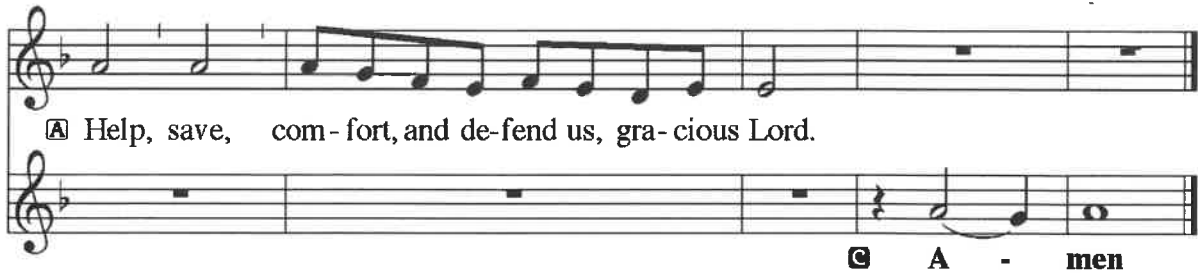
Church of God, and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the

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.



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 4) (during processional and recessional)



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

FIRST READING

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

¹Now when the king was settled in his house, and the **Lord** had given him rest from all his enemies around him, ²the king said to the prophet Nathan, “See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent.” ³Nathan said to the king, “Go, do all that you have in mind; for the **Lord** is with you.”

⁴But that same night the word of the **Lord** came to Nathan: ⁵Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the **Lord**: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? ⁶I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. ⁷Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, “Why have you not built me a house of cedar?” ⁸Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the **Lord** of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; ⁹and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. ¹⁰And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, ¹¹from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the **Lord** declares to you that the **Lord** will make you a house. ¹⁶Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

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

LUKE 1:46B-55 MAGNIFICAT (sung responsively)

46^bMy soul proclaims the greatness | of the Lord,
47 **my spirit rejoices in | God my Savior,**
48 for you, Lord, have looked with favor on your | lowly servant.
 From this day all generations will | call me blessed:
49 you, the Almighty, have done great | things for me
 and holy | is your name.
50 You have mercy on | those who fear you,
 from generation to | generation.
51 You have shown strength | with your arm
 and scattered the proud in | their conceit,
52 casting down the mighty | from their thrones
 and lifting | up the lowly.
53 You have filled the hungry | with good things
 and sent the rich | away empty.
54 You have come to the aid of your | servant Israel,
 to remember the prom- | ise of mercy,
55 the promise made | to our forebears,
 to Abraham and his chil- | dren forever.

SECOND READING

Romans 16:25-27

25 Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages 26 but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith— 27 to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION — *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* (verse 7)

O Come, O King of Nations, come O Cor - ner - stone that
binds in one: re - fresh the hearts that long for you;
re - store the bro - ken, make us new. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

THE GOSPEL

Luke 1:26-38

PM: The holy gospel according to Luke.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." ²⁹But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³²He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." ³⁴Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" ³⁵The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁶And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

PM: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pr. John L. Vaswig

SILENCE

HYMN OF THE DAY

My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness

ELW #251

NICENE CREED

**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 Lord be with you. Ⓞ And al - so with you.

Ⓟ Lift up your hearts. Ⓞ We lift them to the Lord.


Ⓟ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Ⓞ 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



Ⓞ 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



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

Thee We Adore, O Savior ELW #476

Blessed Be the God of Israel ELW #250

All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly ELW #461

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

Fling Wide the Door

ELW #259

DISMISSAL

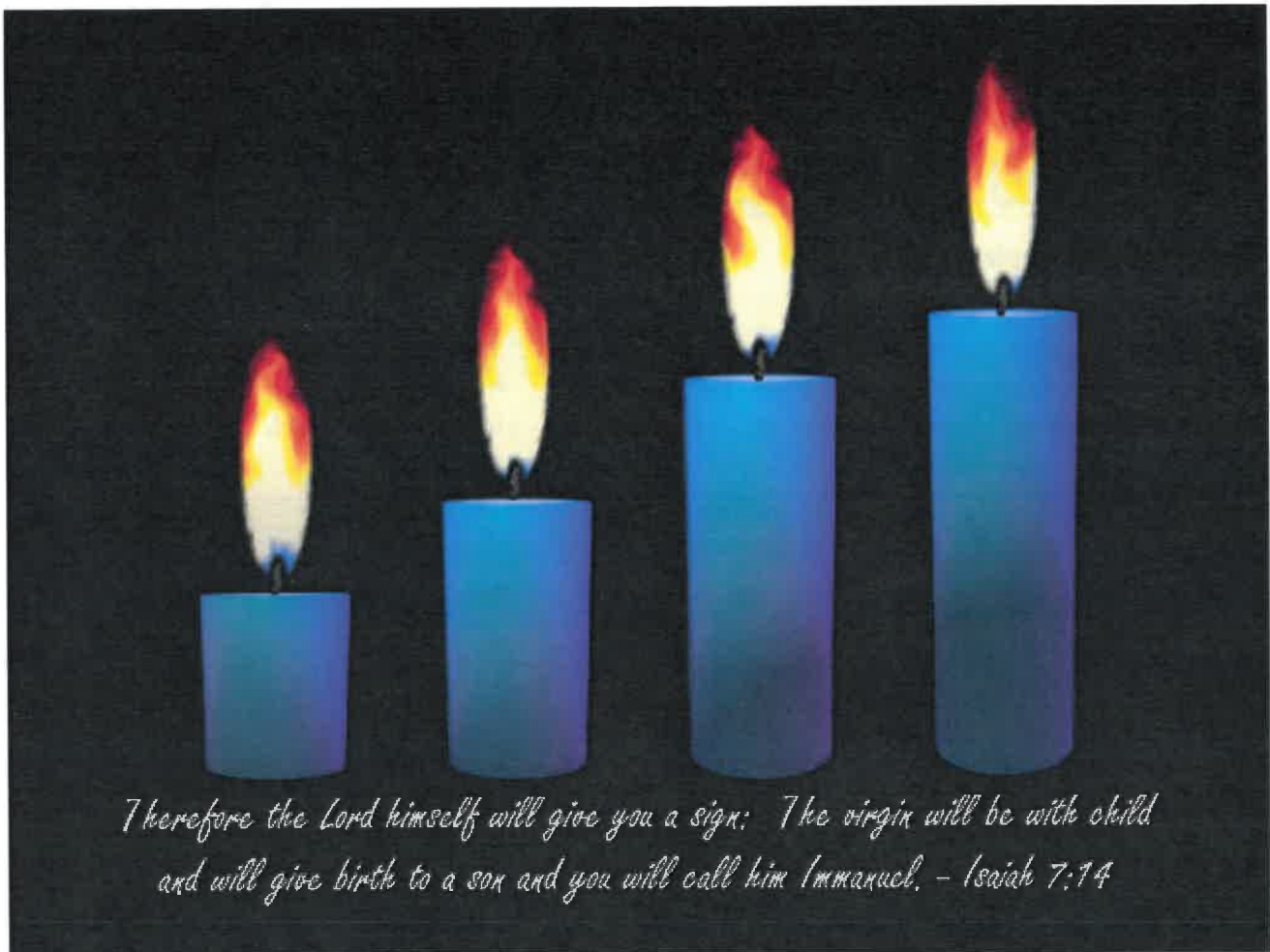
AM: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

O Come, All Ye Faithful—Jacob B. Weber

Jiyoung Lee



OSLC Announcements

Farewell Lunch for Pr. Vaswig

Mark your calendars and plan to join us as we wish Pr. John Farewell and Godspeed!

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 knitting two congregations into one.

We will miss you ♥

Parsonage Refurbishment Fund



If you wish to support the refurbishment of the parsonage, funds are now being collected. Many thanks to those who have already donated!

Remember that we've been offered up to \$10,000 in matching funds for any donations received in December, thanks to a couple of extra-generous members.

Work on the parsonage is expected to begin in early January.

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A Message of Gratitude from the Community Outreach Committee

Thank you for your generous support of our December gift card collections for the non-profits OSLC supports.

We collected \$895 in gift cards for the Parents at Vine Maple Place to give to their teens for Christmas. We collected \$1450.00 in gift cards for OSLC to help members of our community with needs that arise.

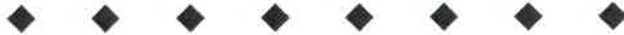
In addition to our gift card collections, we gave monetary gifts to Issaquah Community Services and The Community Meals Program to help with their client needs during this season. These totaled \$1,800 from the budgeted Community Outreach Designated Funds.



Thank you all for being a blessing to our community.



OSLC Announcements



Serving in Worship Today

| | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Presiding Minister: | Pr. John L. Vaswig |
| Assisting Minister: | Connie Fletcher |
| Psalm Cantor: | Wendy Winslow |
| Organist/Pianist: | Jiyoung Lee |
| Usher: | Don Robertson |
| Altar Guild: | Barbara Fetty-Solders |
| 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**
- ◆ **Jim Jewell** (father of Jeff Jewell)

✦ 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
- ◆ **Baby Jack**, who is being treated for leukemia (nephew of Bill Suttmeier)
- ◆ **For the health and wellbeing of the Inman Family**
- ◆ **Rawson Gomez**, for healing and wholeness (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
- ◆ **Cynthia Delaney**, who is still suffering from COVID, and her family

This Week at Our Savior Lutheran Church

TODAY

9:30 a.m.

10:00 a.m.

11:00 a.m.

12:30 p.m.

7:00 p.m.

DECEMBER 24—FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT & CHRISTMAS EVE

Spirit of Peace UCC (downstairs)

Advent 4 Worship Service (Sanctuary)

Coffee & Fellowship Hour (Anderson Hall)

New Creation Church (downstairs)

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service (Sanctuary)

MONDAY

DECEMBER 25—CHRISTMAS DAY

THE CHURCH OFFICE IS CLOSED THIS WEEK.

TUESDAY

7:45 p.m.

DECEMBER 26

AA — Alcoholics Anonymous (Anderson Hall)

WEDNESDAY

DECEMBER 27

THURSDAY

10:00 a.m.

DECEMBER 28

Al-Anon (Education Room)

NEXT SUNDAY

9:30 a.m.

10:00 a.m.

11:00 a.m.

12:30 p.m.

DECEMBER 31—THE SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

Spirit of Peace UCC (downstairs)

Worship Service (Sanctuary)

Coffee & Fellowship Hour (Anderson Hall)

New Creation Church (downstairs)



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



