



Christmas

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.

First Sunday of Christmas
Sunday, December 31, 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

Gesu' Bambino—Pietro Yon

Karla Stalwick

WELCOME

Pr. John L. Vaswig

GATHERING LITANY

PM: Holy One, your servant Simeon, righteous and devout, believed by the gift of the Holy Spirit.

C: He believed against all odds that the consolation of Israel was made known in the child presented by Mary and Joseph in the temple.

PM: The child born for Simeon, the child born for us. Simeon took the child in his arms, blessed him and praised God for him.

C: Simeon could now depart in peace, knowing his eyes had seen the face of salvation.

PM: A light for revelation to the Gentiles and the glory of God's people Israel.

C: And now we are reminded all over again that the child was/is born for us.

PM: Guided by the Spirit, we dare proclaim the Good News of the child born for the world.

C: All praise and honor be yours, holy Father, blessed Savior. Amen!!

OPENING HYMN

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

ELW #275

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Assisting minister



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

PM: The Lord be with you.
C: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

MUSICAL OFFERING *Mary, Mary*—arr. Carolyn Jennings Choral Ensemble

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

FIRST READING

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

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.

^{62:1}For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. ²The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give. ³You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

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

SECOND READING

Galatians 4:4-7

⁴When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. ⁶And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" ⁷So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Go, Tell It on the Mountain, verses 1 & 2

ELW #290

THE GOSPEL

Luke 2:22-40

PM: The holy gospel according to Luke. C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²²When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, [Joseph and Mary] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), ²⁴and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons."

²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. ²⁷Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the

law, ²⁸Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, ²⁹“Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; ³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation, ³¹which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.”

³³And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, “This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.”

³⁶There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

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

SERMON

Pastor John L. Vaswig

HYMN OF THE DAY

Love Has Come

ELW #292

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

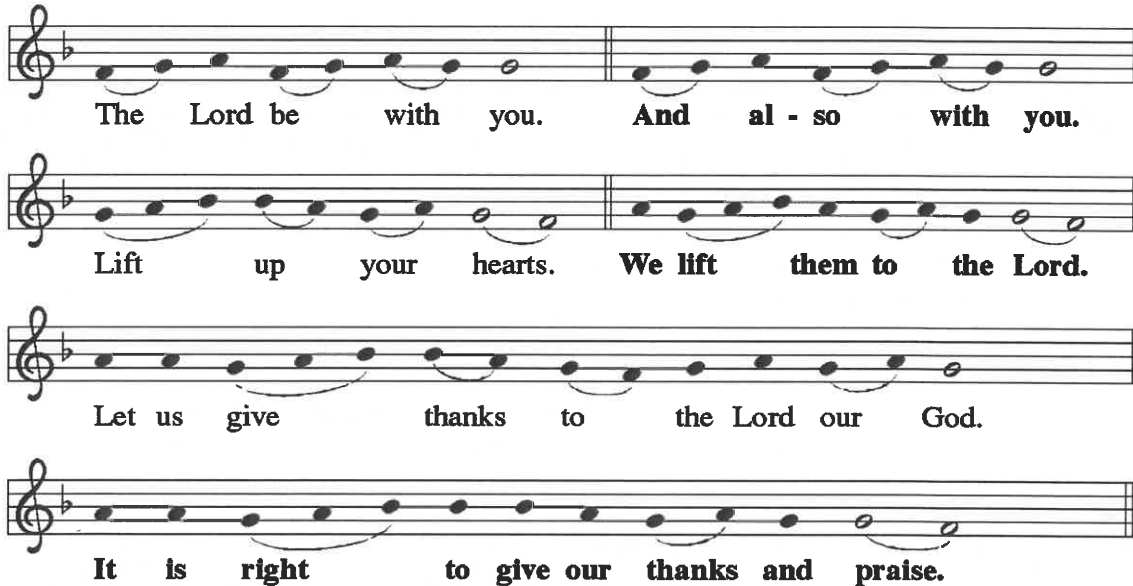
AM: Lord, in your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.

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, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. 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.

LAMB OF GOD

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

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

Offerings may be left in the basket at this time.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

In the Bleak Midwinter ELW #294

Of the Father's Love Begotten ELW #295

Come to the Table (sing 2-3 times) ELW #481

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

ELW #288

DISMISSAL

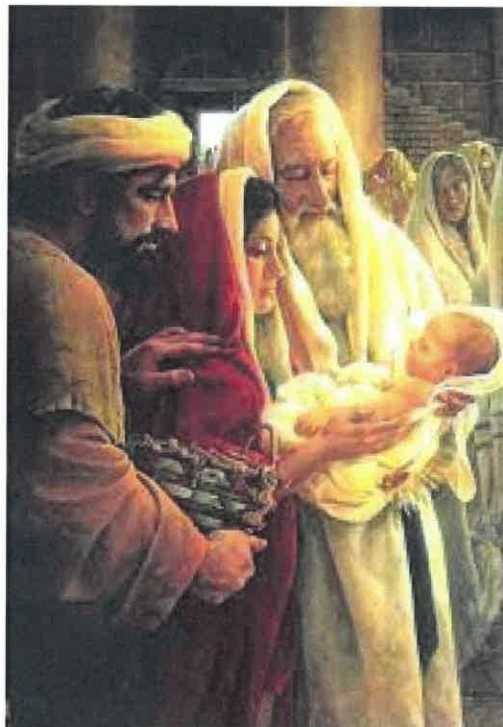
AM: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Joy to the World—Helman

Karla Stalwick



OSLC Announcements

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! Please remember that thanks to a couple of extra-generous members we've been offered up to \$10,000 in matching funds for any donations received in December. Work on the parsonage is expected to begin in early January.

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Help Needed to Put Away Christmas Decorations

What goes up must come down! On Saturday, January 6 at 9:00 a.m. (or as soon as you can join in), please join Jane Wuest at church to put away Christmas decorations. A special shout out to those who decorated the Christmas tree; it's time to undecorate it. Thank you in advance.



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Treasurer's Update

November YTD budgeted income: \$131,250
November YTD actual contributions: \$127,446
November YTD budgeted expense: \$190,395
November YTD actual expense: \$131,129

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Serving in Worship Today

Presiding Minister:	Pr. John L. Vaswig
Assisting Minister:	Anne Ellett
Organist/Pianist:	Karla Stalwick
Usher:	Larry Thomas
Altar Guild:	Jean Pass/Delaney Cash
Sound / Videography:	Jonathan Smith

+ Share & Prayer +

We invite you to include these people in your daily prayers. You can make prayer requests via email at office@oslccissaquah.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, **and his family** (14- year-old great-nephew of Sue Johnson)
- ◆ **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)
- ◆ **Greg Garling**, facing heart surgery (family of Marilyn Carlson)
- ◆ **Bobbie Jean McCullough**, for healing (grandmother of Holly Heckler)

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

- ◆ **John Hansen**
- ◆ **Darlene Frahm**
- ◆ **Jim Jewell** (father of Jeff Jewell)
- ◆ **Cathy**, wife of Bob and mom to Dan and Erik (cousin of Lisa DeVogel)

This Week at Our Savior Lutheran Church

TODAY

9:30 a.m.

10:00 a.m.

11:00 a.m.

11:20 a.m.

12:30 p.m.

DECEMBER 31—FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

Spirit of Peace UCC (downstairs)

Worship Service (Sanctuary)

Coffee & Fellowship Hour (Anderson Hall)

Choir Practice (Sanctuary)

New Creation Church (downstairs)

MONDAY

JANUARY 1, 2024 (HAPPY NEW YEAR!)

THE CHURCH OFFICE IS CLOSED.

TUESDAY

7:45 p.m.

JANUARY 2

AA — Alcoholics Anonymous (Anderson Hall)

THURSDAY

9:30 a.m.

10:00 a.m.

1:00 p.m.

JANUARY 4

Mission Quilters (Anderson Hall)

Al-Anon (Christian Ed. Room)

Autumn Wisdom Class (Library)

NEXT SUNDAY **JANUARY 7—BAPTISM OF OUR LORD**

9:30 a.m.

10:00 a.m.

11:00 a.m.

12:30 p.m.

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.



