



# WELCOME IN THE NAME OF JESUS!

**LIVING SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH** welcomes you as you join with us in worship this day. May the Holy Spirit bless you with the message you hear from God's Word, the prayers, the hymns, and the fellowship we share with you. Here is some information you might find helpful:

- Children of all ages are welcome in our worship services. If you need to step out for a moment with your child, a Family Room is located right outside the Sanctuary doors.
- Changing Tables are located in the Restrooms.
- Please fill out an attendance sheet in the pad on the chairs and place it in the offering plate or hand to an usher. We ask guests and members to fill them out each week. Guests: We promise we will not bombard you with emails or calls, but this information is helpful for staying in touch.
- Please let us know if we can help you in any way.

**HOLY COMMUNION:** *We are very glad that you have joined us today for this worship service as we hear the Word of God and receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. This church is in fellowship with other congregations of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. As such, we believe and practice the biblical teaching that we receive the true Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in, with and under the bread and the wine of the Sacrament (Matthew 26, Mark 14 and Luke 22). If you have a different understanding of Communion or are still learning about this biblical teaching, we love you enough to ask you not to receive Holy Communion this day (1 Corinthians 11). However, you are welcome to come forward for a blessing at the time of Communion. If later you have questions about this or any other teachings, the pastor would be very pleased to talk with you.*

<b><u>OUR CONTACT INFORMATION</u></b>		
Living Savior Lutheran Church 309 Pond Street, Montgomery, TX 77356	<a href="http://www.livingsaviortexas.org">www.livingsaviortexas.org</a> Church Phone: 936-597-8013	Prayer Chain Requests under "Contact Us" tab on website
Pastor David R. Bailes Cheryl G. Bailes Lindsay Oneto	936-521-9389 (cell) Director of Christian Education Church Office Administrator	<a href="mailto:drbailes@livingsaviortexas.org">drbailes@livingsaviortexas.org</a> <a href="mailto:cgbailes@livingsaviortexas.org">cgbailes@livingsaviortexas.org</a> <a href="mailto:office@livingsaviortexas.org">office@livingsaviortexas.org</a>
<b><u>ELDERS OF LIVING SAVIOR</u></b>		
Roger Bartel Mark Dinning Clay Hegar Doug Krenz Doug Lee Butch Nye Bruce Shutt Earl McCaleb	936-537-0011 713-429-1273 903-275-8413 713-248-9892 281-744-0448 936-522-7464 346-273-5594 936-445-8923	<a href="mailto:omro_fox@yahoo.com">omro_fox@yahoo.com</a> <a href="mailto:madinning@spectraenergy.com">madinning@spectraenergy.com</a> <a href="mailto:clay.hegar@icloud.com">clay.hegar@icloud.com</a> <a href="mailto:dougkrenz87@gmail.com">dougkrenz87@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:adouglaslee@yahoo.com">adouglaslee@yahoo.com</a> <a href="mailto:jandmnye@yahoo.com">jandmnye@yahoo.com</a> <a href="mailto:bruceshutt@yahoo.com">bruceshutt@yahoo.com</a> <a href="mailto:jmccaleb@consolidated.net">jmccaleb@consolidated.net</a>
<b><u>CHURCH COUNCIL OF LIVING SAVIOR</u></b>		
Jack Heintschel – President Chris Cheatham – Vice President Lisa Schoppa – Secretary Earl McCaleb – Treasurer Mark Lamprecht – Financial Secretary Butch Nye - Presiding Elder	Contact information available upon request.	John Burg - Evangelism Mike Newman – Head Trustee Lee Wernli - Youth Andrea Mascardo - Christian Growth Joyce Knighten - Family Life Clay & Kate Hegar - Stewardship

## Hope

Advent is a season for us to grow in hope. We gather amid a world that in many ways seems hopeless. Extremists on both ends of the political spectrum seem to control almost everything we hear, read, and see. Deep divisions over race, politics, and economics loom over us like a dark storm cloud. How can the Church possibly make a difference in all of this? Today's Readings acknowledge the distress and fear that the world's foundations are being shaken. And right in the middle of it all, there is hope. Jesus says, "Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will not pass away" (Luke 21:33). The prophet Jeremiah declares God's promise to restore His people and all creation. If we were left to ourselves, there would be little room for such hope. But God does not leave us alone. By His Word and Sacraments, God establishes our hearts and prepares us for Jesus' coming final restoration. Until that day, we wait, we pray, we hope.

## Pre-Service Music

## Welcome/Announcements

## We Call Upon the Name of the Lord

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**G** Amen.

## Opening Sentences

Jeremiah 33:14–15; Luke 21:27, 33, adapt.

**P** The LORD says, "I will fulfill the promise I made to the houses of Israel and Judah."

**G** We thank You, O Lord!

**P** The LORD says, "My righteous Branch will cause justice and righteousness to spring up."

**G** We adore You, O Lord!

**P** The LORD says, "You will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory."

**G** We praise You, O Lord!

**P** The LORD says, "Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will never pass away."

**G** We worship You, O Lord!

## Hymn: "O Lord, How Shall I Meet You"

LSB 334 (tune of LSB 527)

1 O Lord, how shall I meet You,  
How welcome You aright?  
Your people long to greet You,  
My hope, my heart's delight!  
O kindle, Lord most holy,  
Your lamp within my breast  
To do in spirit lowly  
All that may please You best.

4 Love caused Your incarnation;  
Love brought You down to me.  
Your thirst for my salvation  
Procured my liberty.

Oh, love beyond all telling,  
That led You to embrace  
In love, all love excelling,  
Our lost and fallen race.

5 Sin's debt, that fearful burden,  
Cannot His love erase;  
Your guilt the Lord will pardon  
And cover by His grace.  
He comes, for you procuring  
The peace of sin forgiv'n,  
His children thus securing  
Eternal life in heav'n.

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## Lighting of the Advent Wreath

*One Advent candle is lit.*

**P** Let us pray.

O Lord, let the lighting of this candle signify that You are the light that shines in all the darkness of our lives. As we wait, watch, hope, and pray, guide us all to reflect Your light and let it shine; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

## Call for Confession

Psalm 25:6–7

**P** Having emerged from the waters of Baptism as God's new creation in Christ, we confess our sins to God and one another.

*A time of silence is observed.*

**P** We confess to You, O Lord, that we are captive to sin in thought, word, and deed. We have neither loved You with our whole heart nor loved our neighbors as ourselves.

**C** Remember Your mercy, O LORD, and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

**P** Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions;

**C** according to Your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of Your goodness, O LORD!

1 Forgive us, Lord, for times when hope was lost,  
And moments when we never thought to trust,  
For times when we despair and forget  
That You are where all joy and truth have met.  
Forgive, forgive, forgive us all our sins  
And help us hope and trust You without end.

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## God Forgives Our Sins

**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## Greeting

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

## Prayer of the Day

**P** Let us pray.

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection

**C** we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins

**P** and saved by Your mighty deliverance;

**C** for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## + God Speaks to Us Through His Word +

### God Speaks to Us Through His Prophet

Jeremiah 33:14–16

“Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David, and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will dwell securely. And this is the name by which it will be called: ‘The LORD is our righteousness.’”

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**G** Thanks be to God.

### God Speaks to Us Through His Apostle

1 Thessalonians 3:9–13

What thanksgiving can we return to God for you, for all the joy that we feel for your sake before our God, as we pray most earnestly night and day that we may see you face to face and supply what is lacking in your faith?

Now may our God and Father himself, and our Lord Jesus, direct our way to you, and may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you, so that he may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**G** Thanks be to God.

### God Speaks to Us Through His Son

Luke 21:25–36

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-first chapter.

**G** Glory to You, O Lord.

Jesus said: “There will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity because of the roaring of the sea and the waves, people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

And he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree, and all the trees. As soon as they come out in leaf, you see for yourselves and know that the summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all has taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

“But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a trap. For it will come upon all who dwell on the face of the whole earth. But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**G** Praise to You, O Christ.

### Children's Message

#### Hymn: “The Advent of Our King”

LSB 331

1 The advent of our King  
Our prayers must now employ,

And we must hymns of welcome sing  
In strains of holy joy.

- 2 The everlasting Son  
Incarnate deigns to be,  
Himself a servant's form puts on  
To set His servants free.
- 3 O Zion's daughter, rise  
To meet your lowly King,  
Nor let your faithless heart despise  
The peace He comes to bring.
- 4 As judge, on clouds of light,  
He soon will come again

And His true members all unite  
With Him in heav'n to reign.

- 5 Before the dawning day  
Let sin's dark deeds be gone,  
The sinful self be put away,  
The new self now put on.

- △ 6 All glory to the Son,  
Who comes to set us free,  
With Father, Spirit, ever one  
Through all eternity.

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## God Speaks to Us Through Pastor Bailes: "Hope Is Near"

Luke 21:25-36

### Creed

- ☐ I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

### Prayer of the Church

- ☐ As we prepare our hearts and minds for Christ's coming, we turn to the Lord in prayer.

- ☐ O Wisdom from on high, guide Your Church throughout the world to be a demonstration of hope. Move the leaders, pastors, teachers, and all the people of our Synod to yearn for that coming day when Jesus will reign forever in justice and righteousness, and all creation will be restored. We pray,

- ☐ hear us, coming Lord.

- ☐ O Desire of nations, bless the leaders of nations, our president and Congress, our governors and local leaders. Move all leaders to cease envy and boastfulness, injustice and corruption. Guide our leaders to be honorable people who do not neglect the poor and who strive toward the flourishing of all human beings. Bless those who serve in our armed forces and lift up refugees and all victims of war. Bring peace between us and our enemies and let Your peace reign over this broken world. We pray,

- ☐ hear us, coming Lord.

**P** O Dayspring from on high, come to the aid of all who are in need. As You humbly entered this world as a vulnerable baby, help all of us to enter humbly the lives of those who are sick, facing surgery, or dying, to offer comfort and hope, [*especially . . .*]. Bring healing according to Your will and peace to those whose suffering endures. Thank You for the work of doctors, nurses, and other medical professionals who work toward healing and restoration of wholeness. Guide scientists searching for cures for diseases that bring suffering to the world that their work might lead to healing for many. We pray,

**G** **hear us, coming Lord.**

**P** O Key of David, let Your joy, forgiveness, and peace flow freely in and among the families of this congregation. Empower parents and grandparents to love their children and children to love their parents. Watch over all who travel and comfort families who are separated by many miles. Guide families to be places where Your love is demonstrated to strangers as well as to friends. We pray,

**G** **hear us, coming Lord.**

**P** O Lord of might, help us during this Advent season both to look back to those days when our salvation was won in Your death and resurrection and to look forward to the day of Your return, when by Your power You will bring the dead to life and restore all creation. We pray,

**G** **hear us, coming Lord.**

**P** O Immanuel, You deliver Your people even from the grip of death. Comfort those who mourn and use us to express the hope that comes from trusting in You. Bring us to be with them on that great day to come, and until that day give us grace to endure life's difficulties, while also abiding in Your love. We pray,

**G** **hear us, coming Lord.**

**P** You, O Lord, know the thoughts of our hearts and hear those prayers that come to You in sighs too deep for words. All our prayer we entrust to You in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**G** **Amen.**

## **We Worship God with Our Offerings**

*(Our offerings give us an opportunity to give thanks to God for the many ways He has blessed us. Members and regular attendees support God's mission and ministry as He works through this congregation. Guests are welcome to give an offering, but are not expected to do so. Psalm 54:6; 116:12-14, 17)*

## **Hymn: "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"**

LSB 805

△ 1 **Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Text: Public domain

## **+ Our Lord Comes to Us in His Body and His Blood +**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**G** **And also with you.**

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**G** **We lift them to the Lord.**

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**G** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

## Holy is the Lord

LSB 161

**C** 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.

## The Words of Our Lord

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\text{✠}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\text{✠}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## Proclamation of Christ

**P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

**C** Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

## Lord's Prayer

**C** Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

## Peace of the Lord

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

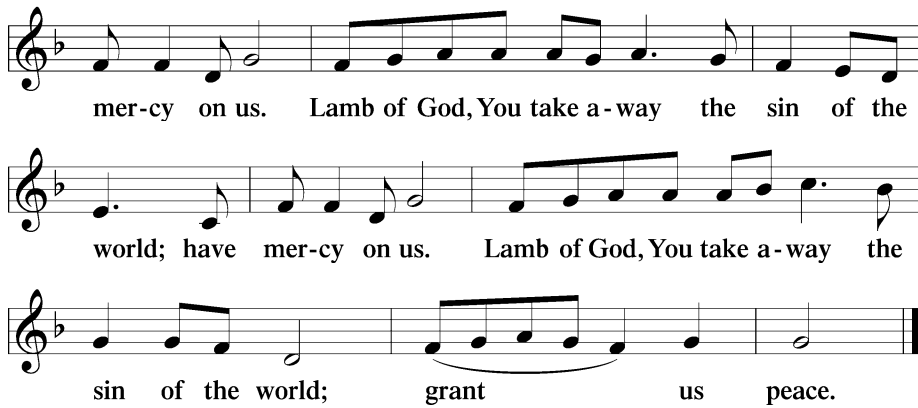
**C** Amen.

## Lamb of God

LSB 163

**C** 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.

## Hymn: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

LSB 357

1 O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear. Refrain

ref Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

2 O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,  
Who ord'rest all things mightily;  
To us the path of knowledge show,  
And teach us in her ways to go. Refrain

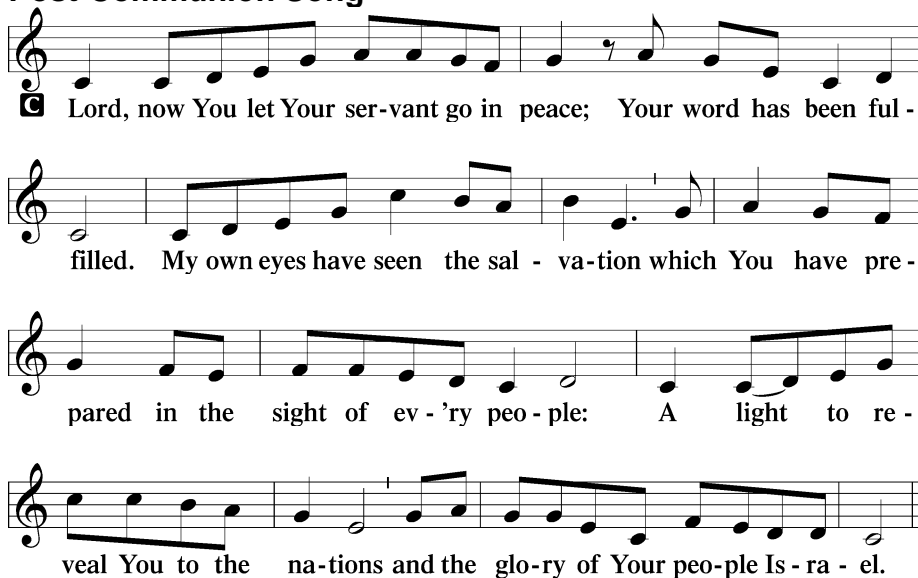
6 O come, Thou Dayspring from on high,  
And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
And death's dark shadows put to flight.  
Refrain

7 O come, Desire of nations, bind  
In one the hearts of all mankind;  
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,  
And be Thyself our King of Peace. Refrain

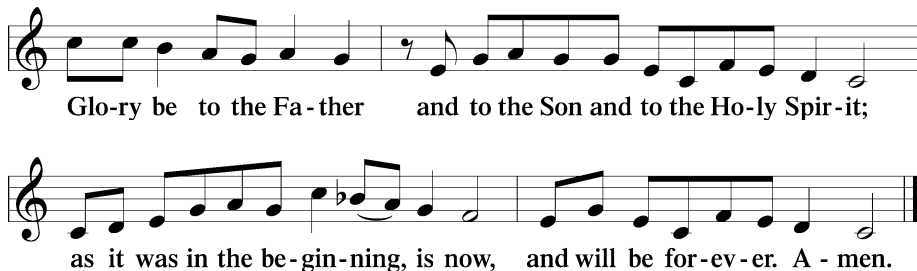
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## Post-Communion Song

LSB 165



Lord, now 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 ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re -  
veal You to the na-tions and the glo-ry of Your peo-ple Is - ra - el.



## Post-Communion Thanksgiving

**P** Let us pray.

Thank You, Lord, for this gift of Christ's body and blood. Grant that His presence with us in the Meal fill our hearts with Your peace, that our hope for that great coming day of restoration may abound; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**G** Amen.

## Blessings

1 Thessalonians 3:12–13; Numbers 6:24–26

**P** May the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, . . . so that He may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all His saints.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

**G** Amen.

## Hymn: "Savior of the Nations, Come"

LSB 332

- 1 Savior of the nations, come,  
Virgin's Son, make here Your home!  
Marvel now, O heav'n and earth,  
That the Lord chose such a birth.
- 2 Not by human flesh and blood,  
By the Spirit of our God,  
Was the Word of God made flesh—  
Woman's offspring, pure and fresh.
- 6 For You are the Father's Son  
Who in flesh the vict'ry won.  
By Your mighty pow'r make whole  
All our ills of flesh and soul.
- 7 From the manger newborn light  
Shines in glory through the night.  
Darkness there no more resides;  
In this light faith now abides.

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