

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.*

<u>OUR CONTACT INFORMATION</u>		
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Butch Nye - Presiding Elder	Contact information available upon request.	Clay & Kate Hegar - Stewardship

Let Earth Receive Her King

From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. John 1:16

Pre-Service Music

Welcome/Announcements

We Call Upon Our God

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C Amen.

P In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

C He was with God in the beginning.

P Through him all things were made.

C Without him nothing was made that has been made.

P In him was life, and that life was the light of men.

C The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

P The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.

C We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only.

P Who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

C From his fullness we have all received grace upon grace.

P Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing—

C O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

Hymn: “Angels from the Realms of Glory”

367: 1, ref, 3 & 5

1 Angels from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight o’er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation’s story,
Now proclaim Messiah’s birth. Refrain

ref Come and worship, come and worship;
Worship Christ, the newborn King.

4 Saints before the altar bending,
Watching long in hope and fear,
Suddenly the Lord, descending,
In His temple shall appear. Refrain

5 All creation, join in praising
God the Father, Spirit, Son,
Evermore your voices raising
To the_ eternal Three in One. Refrain

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Call For Confession

P Let us approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need. Heavenly Father, we are in great need of great grace.

C **For we have sinned against you, in thought, word, and deed.**

P Sin traps us in despair.

C **And locks us up in anger and resentment.**

P Sin binds us to guilt.

C **And imprisons us in darkness and doubt.**

P Sin shackles us to shame.

C **And leaves us behind the bars of loneliness and loss.**

You are invited to meditate on the fact that, though our sin is great, Christ's love is greater.

God Forgives Our Sins

P Hear the Christmas Gospel! The Word became flesh to bear your sin and be your Savior. From the cradle Jesus loves you and from the cross Jesus forgives you. I invite you to believe and receive this promise: Jesus paid for your sin, forgives it completely, and loves you everlastingly! Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing—

C **O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!**

We Praise Our God

Psalms 98:1–4; Isaiah 52:10

C **Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.**

P Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for He has done marvelous things!

C **His right hand and His holy arm have worked salvation for Him.**

C **Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let men their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

P The LORD has made known His salvation;

C **He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

P He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

C **All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.**

C No more let sins and sorrows grow
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found.

P The LORD has bared His holy arm before the eyes of all the nations,
C and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

C He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders of His love.

P Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for He has done marvelous things!
C Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

Prayer of the Day

P O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ. Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

God Speaks to Us Through His Prophet

Isaiah 52:7-10

P How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.” The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice; together they sing for joy; for eye to eye they see the return of the Lord to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem, for the Lord has comforted his people; he has redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Hymn: “Let All Together Praise Our God”

LSB 389, 1-3

1 Let all together praise our God
Before His glorious throne;
Today He opens heav’n again
To give us His own Son,
To give us His own Son.

2 He leaves His heav’nly Father’s throne,
Is born an infant small,
And in a manger, poor and lone,

Lies in a humble stall,
Lies in a humble stall.

3 Within an earthborn form He hides
His all-creating light;
To serve us all He humbly cloaks
The splendor of His might,
The splendor of His might.

God Speaks to Us Through His Apostle

Galatians 4:4-7

- P** But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

Gospel Acclamation

- P** Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
- C** When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son. Hallelujah!

First Gospel Reading

John 1:14-18

- P** And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. (John bore witness about him, and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.'") For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

Children's Message

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us ... full of grace ... For from his fullness we have all received grace upon grace ... grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. John 1:14, 16, 17

Second Gospel Reading

Luke 2:22-40

- P** When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought Him up to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord
- C** (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord")

- P** and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord,
- C** "a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons."

- P** Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for Him according to the custom of the Law, he took Him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

Men: "Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word; for my eyes have seen Your salvation that You have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to Your people Israel."

- P** And His father and His mother marveled at what was said about Him. And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary His mother,

Men: "Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed."

Women: And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was

advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of Him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

- P** And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon Him.

Sermon Hymn “What Child Is This”

LSB 370

1 What child is this, who, laid to rest,
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the king,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The babe, the son of Mary!

2 Why lies He in such mean estate
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.

Nails, spear shall pierce Him through,
The cross be borne for me, for you;
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,
The babe, the son of Mary!

3 So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh;
Come, peasant, king, to own Him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.
Raise, raise the song on high,
The virgin sings her lullaby;
Joy, joy, for Christ is born,
The babe, the son of Mary!

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God Speaks to Us Through Pastor Bailes: “Seeing the Grace and Glory of Jesus”

John 1 and Luke 2

Nicene Creed

- G** 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.

Prayers

- P** Let us pray for the whole people of God and all people according to their needs.

Wonderful Counselor, we praise and thank You for guiding us with the Word of Christ, which dwells richly in us. Bless all pastors and teachers of Your Word, that they teach and admonish Your people with all of Your wisdom so that whatever we do, in word or deed, we do it in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him. O God of our salvation,
C **hear our prayer.**

P Mighty God, You created this world and everything in it through Your powerful Word and still take care of it. Continue to watch over and work through all who lead and serve our nation, state, and local communities. Lead and guide all first responders and members of the military as they carry out their duties to protect and serve. O God of our salvation,
C **hear our prayer.**

P Everlasting Father, You are gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. We ask for Your encouragement, healing, and care for all who are struggling with their health, [*especially* . . .]. Heal the broken hearts of those who grieve the loss of those close to them. O God of our salvation,
C **hear our prayer.**

P Prince of Peace, we praise and thank You for the peace we have in You. Empower us and all of your missionary people to embrace the opportunities You give us to share the gift of Your redemption. O God of our salvation,
C **hear our prayer.**

P We trust, O Lord, in Your great mercy to hear and answer us; through Jesus Christ, our newborn King.
C **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)

✠ Our Lord Comes to Us in His Body and His Blood ✠

P The Lord be with you.
C **And also 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 Him thanks and praise.**

HYMN: “Angels We Have Heard on High”

[LSB 368; 1]

1 Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o’er the plains,
And the mountains in reply,
Echoing their joyous strains.

**Refrain: Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

Text: Public domain

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, our newborn King, for You have prepared us for heaven and given us peace with God through Your birth, life, death, and resurrection. In the beginning, all of creation was created through You, and in the fullness of time You were born of Mary and presented in the temple to Simeon.

As we gather here in Your name, we seek the peace and promise of Your forgiveness that You offer freely in this Meal of Your body and blood given and shed for us. Graciously receive our prayers; lead and guide us to walk according to Your will and Your ways. To You alone, O Jesus, be all glory, honor, and worship, as You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

*Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20;
1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

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 ✠ 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 ✠ 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

1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20

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 *Matthew 6:9–13*

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.

“Away in a Manger”

LSB 364

- 1 Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the sky looked down where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.
- 2 The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes.

I love Thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

- 3 Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
And take us to heaven to live with Thee there.

Text: Public domain

“Let Us All with Gladsome Voice”

LSB 390

- 1 Let us all with gladsome voice
Praise the God of heaven,
Who, to bid our hearts rejoice,
His own Son hath given.
- 2 To this vale of tears He comes,
Here to serve in sadness,
That with Him in heav’n’s fair homes
We may reign in gladness.

- 3 We are rich, for He was poor;
Is not this a wonder?
Therefore praise God evermore
Here on earth and yonder.
- 4 Christ, our Lord and Savior dear,
Be Thou ever near us.
Grant us now a glad new year.
Amen, Jesus, hear us.

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POST-COMMUNION HYMN “Lord, Bid Your Servant Go In Peace” [LSB 937, tune of LSB 366]

Ref Lord, bid Your servant go in peace,
Your word is now fulfilled.
These eyes have seen salvation’s dawn,
This child so long foretold.

Ref Lord, bid Your servant go in peace,
Your word is now fulfilled.
These eyes have seen salvation’s dawn,
This child so long foretold.

- 1 This is the Savior of the world,
The Gentiles’ promised light,
God’s glory dwelling in our midst,
The joy of Israel.

- △ 2 With saints of old, with saints to come,
To You we lift our voice;
To Father, Son, and Spirit blest
Be honor, love, and praise.

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POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING Psalm 106:1b

- P** Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good.
C His steadfast love endures forever.

- P** Let us pray.

O Prince of Peace, You bless us with the peace of Your divine presence in this Meal of bread and wine, granting us the forgiveness of all our sins. We thank You for preparing us to enter Your heavenly gates as You meet us in this banquet of Your body and blood, which You have prepared to guide us on our journey to Your kingdom, which has no end; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C** Amen.

Blessing

Numbers 6:24–26

- P** The Lord be with you all. The blessing of almighty God—the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit—abide with you, now and forever.
C Amen.

HYMN: “Go Tell It On the Mountain”

LSB 388

- ref** Go tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and ev’rywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born!
- 1** While shepherds kept their watching
O’er silent flocks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens
There shone a holy light. Refrain
- 2** The shepherds feared and trembled
When lo, above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus
That hailed our Savior’s birth. Refrain
- 3** Down in a lonely manger
The humble Christ was born;
And God sent us salvation
That blessed Christmas morn. Refrain

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