

Sorrow and mourning will disappear,  
and they will be filled with joy and gladness.

Isaiah 35:10, NLT



Lutheran Church of Our Savior  
Bethany, OK

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### Our Mission Statement

*Empowered by the Spirit through Word and Sacrament, Lutheran Church of Our Savior will minister in word and action to our members and to the community, witnessing our faith in Christ who saved and gave new life to those who believe in Him.*

As we observe worship inside the sanctuary today, please be respectful of the wishes and needs of others.

- \* If you are sick, do not come.
- \* You may take your temperature at home before coming. If you have a fever, stay home.
- \* Masks are encouraged.
- \* The church will be sanitized. Doors will be sanitized.

### Entering the Church and Sanctuary

- ✝ Outside doors will be propped open wherever possible. Doors to the sanctuary will be propped open.
- ✝ Do not congregate as you enter the church. Do not congregate in the narthex as you come into the sanctuary. Make use of both doors into the sanctuary so that you keep your 6-foot distance from others.
- ✝ Every other pew will be roped off. Please sit in every other pew. Families may sit close together. Please sit 6 feet apart from others within your pew.

### Exiting the Sanctuary

- ✝ At end of service, please wait for an usher to excuse your row. Back rows will be dismissed first. Please maintain your distancing from those ahead of you.
- ✝ Thank you for following these guidelines as much as possible.

# Fourth Sunday in Advent

A Joy Not Tied to Present Circumstances

December 20, 2020

## As We Gather

Today as we recall Jesus's birth, we celebrate with songs that announce great joy meant for the whole world. The first people who received the angel's message of Good news that would bring great joy lived in a world of difficult circumstances. There were many reasons for them not to feel joyful. They were poor. They were overly taxed. They were oppressed by a foreign power. Much in their daily circumstances was not the kind of material to draw from in writing happy songs. Still, they were told to rejoice in Messiah's birth. And as this Messiah grew to become a teacher, his teaching reflected joy. He said things like, "Up till now you haven't asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, that your joy may be full." AND "Rejoice when you are persecuted and people say all kinds of evil against you falsely on account of me. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward in heaven is great." This is the joy of Jesus, a joy which can be ours whatever the circumstances.



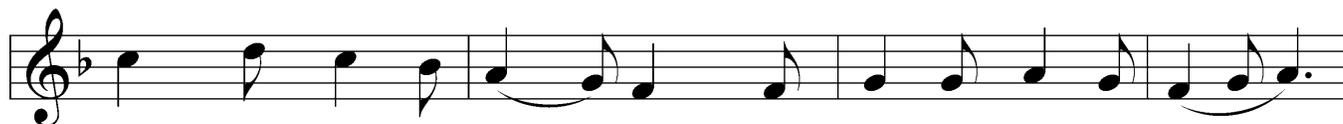
## Prelude

## Welcome

## 386 Now Sing We, Now Rejoice



1 Now sing we, now re - joice,      Now raise to heav'n our voice;  
2 Come from on high to me;      I can - not rise to Thee.  
3 Now through His Son doth shine      The Fa - ther's grace di - vine.  
4 Oh, where shall joy be found?      Where but on heav'n - ly ground?



He from whom joy stream - eth      Poor in a man - ger lies;  
Cheer my wea - ried spir - it,      O pure and ho - ly Child;  
Death was reign - ing o'er us      Through sin and van - i - ty  
Where the an - gels sing - ing      With all His saints u - nite,



Not so bright - ly beam - eth      The sun in yon - der skies.  
Through Thy grace and mer - it,      Blest Je - sus, Lord most mild,  
Till He o - pened for us      A bright e - ter - ni - ty.  
Sweet - est prais - es bring - ing      In heav'n - ly joy and light.



Thou my Sav - ior art!      Thou my Sav - ior art!  
Draw me un - to Thee!      Draw me un - to Thee!  
May we praise Him there!      May we praise Him there!  
Oh, that we were there!      Oh, that we were there!

Text and tune: Public domain

**P** Rejoice in the Lord always.

**C** I will say it again, Rejoice.

**P** Let everyone see that you are gentle and kind.

**C** The Lord is coming soon.

**P** Do not worry about anything,

**C** But pray and ask God for everything you need, always giving thanks.

**P** Until now you have not asked for anything in my name.

**C** Ask, and you will receive, so that your joy will be the fullest possible joy.

## ✠ Word ✠

### Reading

*Isaiah 35:5–10*

<sup>5</sup>Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

<sup>6</sup>then shall the lame man leap like a deer,  
and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.

For waters break forth in the wilderness,  
and streams in the desert;

<sup>7</sup>the burning sand shall become a pool,  
and the thirsty ground springs of water;  
in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down,  
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

<sup>8</sup>And a highway shall be there,  
and it shall be called the Way of Holiness;  
the unclean shall not pass over it.

It shall belong to those who walk on the way;  
even if they are fools, they shall not go astray.

<sup>9</sup>No lion shall be there,  
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;  
they shall not be found there,  
but the redeemed shall walk there.

<sup>10</sup>And the ransomed of the LORD shall return  
and come to Zion with singing;  
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;  
they shall obtain gladness and joy,  
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

### Gospel Reading

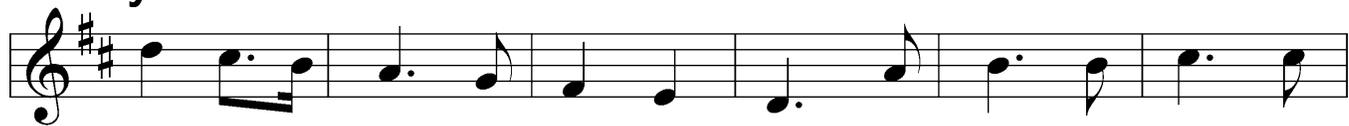
*John 16:19-24*

<sup>19</sup>Jesus knew that they wanted to ask him, so he said to them, “Is this what you are asking yourselves, what I meant by saying, ‘A little while and you will not see me, and again a little while and you will see me’? <sup>20</sup>Truly, truly, I say to you, you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice. You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow

will turn into joy. <sup>21</sup>When a woman is giving birth, she has sorrow because her hour has come, but when she has delivered the baby, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has been born into the world. <sup>22</sup>So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you. <sup>23</sup>In that day you will ask nothing of me. Truly, truly, I say to you, whatever you ask of the Father in my name, he will give it to you. <sup>24</sup>Until now you have asked nothing in my name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.

## **Greeting Time**

## 387 Joy to the World



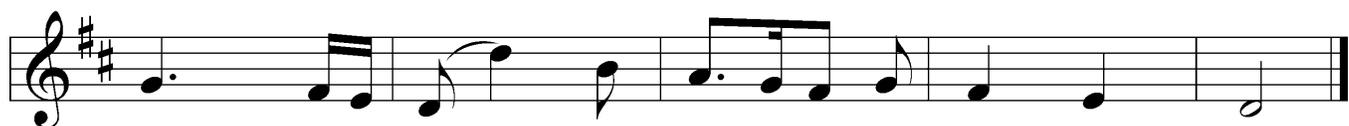
1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive her  
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let men their songs em -  
3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow Nor thorns in - fest the  
4 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the na - tions



King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him  
ploy, While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and  
ground; He comes to make His bless - ings  
prove The glo - ries of His righ - teous -



room And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture  
plains Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing  
flow Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is  
ness And won - ders of His love, And won - ders of His



sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
joy, Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
found, Far as, far as the curse is found.  
love, And won - ders, won - ders of His love.

Text and tune: Public domain

### Message

*A Joy Not Tied to Present Circumstances*

### Prayers of the Church

✠ The Lord's Supper ✠

### 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  $\text{✝}$  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.

## The Blessing

### 377 On Christmas Night All Christians Sing



1 On Christ-mas night all Chris - tians sing To hear the news the  
 2 Then why should men on earth be so sad, Since our Re - deem - er  
 3 When sin de - parts be - fore His grace, Then life and health come  
 4 All out of dark-ness we have light, Which made the an - gels



an - gels bring, On Christ - mas night all Chris - tians sing To  
 made us glad, Then why should men on earth be so sad, Since  
 in its place, When sin de - parts be - fore His grace, Then  
 sing this night, All out of dark - ness we have light, Which



hear the news the an - gels bring, News of great joy, news of great  
 our Re - deem - er made us glad, When from our sin He set us  
 life and health come in its place; An - gels and men with joy may  
 made the an - gels sing this night: "Glo - ry to God and peace to



mirth, News of our mer - ci - ful King's birth.  
 free, All for to gain our lib - er - ty?  
 sing, All for to see the new - born King.  
 men Now and for - ev - er - more. A - men."

Tune and text: Public domain

# Announcements

## Postlude

## Offering *(As You Exit)*

### Acknowledgments

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### This Week's Calendar December 20, 2020

<b>Sunday</b>	9:00 A.M.	Early Worship w/Holy Communion
	10:00 A.M.	Late Worship w/Holy Communion
	11:00 A.M.	Courtyard Worship w/Holy Communion
<b>Monday</b>	6:00 P.M.	Ladies Zoom Prayer Meeting
<b>Thursday</b>	6:00 P.M.	Christmas Eve Worship
	7:00 P.M.	Christmas Eve Worship
<b>Friday</b>	<i>Christmas Day—Office Closed</i>	
<b>Next Sunday</b>	9:00 A.M.	Early Worship
	10:00 A.M.	Late Worship
	11:00 A.M.	Courtyard Worship

### Serving Next Week December 27, 2020

Elder on Duty *Christmas Eve*  
Elder on Duty

Greg Bond  
Janie Hlinicky

### Attendance Last Week

Early Worship Attendance	9
Late Worship Attendance	8
Courtyard Worship Attendance	0



### Treasurer's Report *(December 13, 2020)*

General Fund (Offerings)	\$1,168.00
Non-Budgeted Items	\$ .00
Roof Loan	\$ .00
<b>Total Received</b>	<b>\$1,168.02</b>



“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.” *Philippians 4:6*

Paul puts two things in opposition to each other: anxiety and prayer. So, trade your worries for prayers! You have a Father who loves you and desires to hear your prayers and bless you.



**LCOS Children’s Virtual Christmas Program**—The videos have been collected and final edits made. *The Christmas Tree Narrative* is now up on the website [www.oursaviorokc.org](http://www.oursaviorokc.org). If you have not viewed it yet, be sure to watch and learn about why we decorate Christmas trees and what the different symbols and colors mean. Thank you to Sandy Cox and Jon Stone plus all the participants who shared their gifts in the making of this video.

## **Covid Update 12/01/2020**

A decision has been made to have our Advent Midweek Services online only. In addition the service times for Sunday worship have been changed slightly with a 3rd outside service being added (see below).

Unless adjustments are needed due to changing COVID conditions this will be our plan through the end of the year:

### **Sunday Morning Worship**

*(Holy Communion celebrated on the 1st and 3rd Sunday)*

9:00 a.m. worship will be in the sanctuary (and online)

10:00 a.m. worship will be in the sanctuary (and online)

11:00 a.m. worship will be held outside in the courtyard.

*Be sure to dress warm and bring a blanket just in case.*

### **Christmas Eve Worship**

6:00 p.m. December 24<sup>th</sup> in Sanctuary (and online)

7:00 p.m. December 24<sup>th</sup> in Sanctuary

### **New Year’s Eve Worship w/Holy Communion**

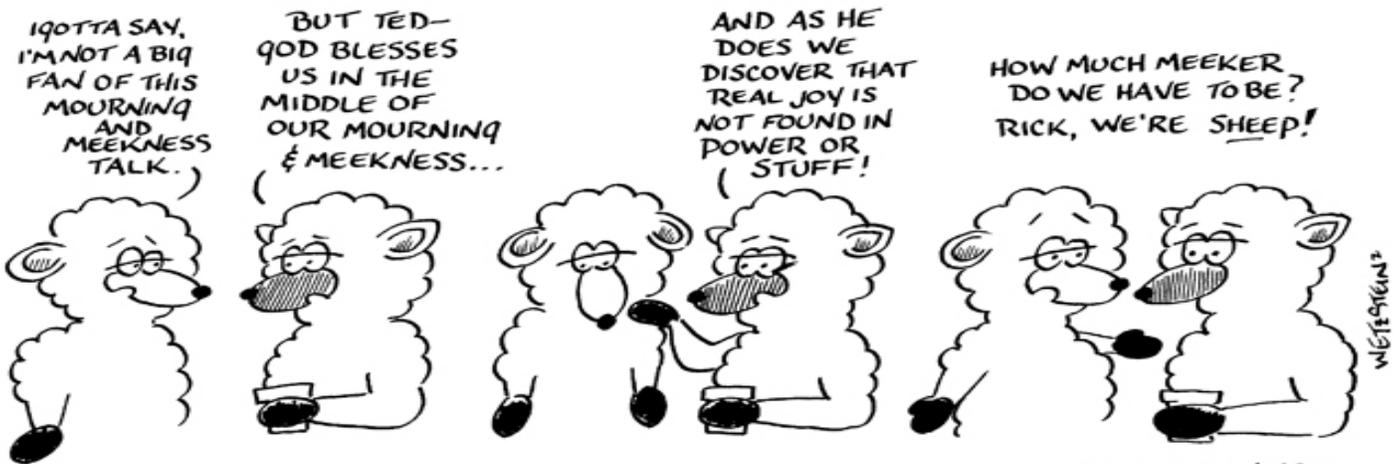
7:00 p.m. December 31<sup>st</sup> in Sanctuary (and online)



**LWML Shoes News**—Once again our shoes can step up to a global mission! LWML is collecting shoes for the world. Some will go directly to those treading barefoot and some will be recycled to make something new. Men’s women’s, children’s—makes no difference! While we are currently limited in our travels, our shoes can represent our good will to people both near and far. Please secure pairs together by rubber bands and/or strings and drop them in the box marked “SHOES” in the activity room.



**Attention Family of God**—The ROC (Reaching Our City) ministry needs food for the hungry every week! In case you hadn’t heard, Linda May orders or picks up 10,000 lbs. of food weekly! Two hundred families receive help from the ROC every week! So, how can we help? If we bring in one can of food (or more) each week, this will help! You may also donate money, as well as paper sacks and plastic bags which are used in filling up with supplies at the food bank. The ROC always needs toilet paper and paper towels, green beans, corn, tuna, and canned chicken! There is also a need for volunteers at the ROC to help fill carts with food for each family! It’s a great way to meet other Christians who help support this ministry! Please call Linda May if you would like to volunteer sometime. Maybe we will see you there!



ALL SAINTS DAY '97

Agnus Day appears with permission by [www.agnusday.org](http://www.agnusday.org)

Prayers are kept on prayer list for four weeks. If you have a prayer request that you want prayed for during a Sunday worship service, please call or email the church office by Wednesday morning at 9:00 a.m.

**Pray For Those Who Are Ill, Recovering Or In Need**

Michaela Stephen's brother who is waiting on test results for COVID.

Lois May, mother of Sandy Cox, has COVID.

Steve Curtis, friend of Karen Bishop, hospitalized with COVID & Pneumonia.

Rex & Opal Rorabaugh, recovering from COVID.

Tere & Greg Bond, recovering from COVID.

Jason McGee, son of Gale Mueller, recovering from COVID.

Family of Pauline Rea, passed away last Sunday.

**Spiritual Guidance & Strength/Life Struggles**

Pray for our shut-ins and homebound

Pray for those coping with cancer

Pray for Pastor Gary and LCOS leadership

Pray for our government officials and first responders

Pray for all families who have been affected with COVID-19



**Pray for Those Serving Their Country**

Randy Brooks IV

Kyle Freeman

Kyle Taylor

Jennifer Clark

Jonathan Krepel

Timothy Thomas

Hunter Conatser

Nathan Hiegel

Christopher Warren

**We Celebrate This Week:**

**The Birthdays of:**

Dec 20 Craig Cooper

Charlie Michael

Dec 23 Margot Olea

**The Anniversaries of:**

Dec 26 Dave & Gale Mueller



Anniversaries  
and Birthdays