

Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church & Preschool

Connecting people to Jesus as we gather, grow, and go.



Third Sunday of Advent

December 17, 2023

8:00am & 10:45am

Welcome to Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church!

We greet you in the name of our risen Savior, Jesus Christ. We are glad you are worshipping with our family of faith and rejoice with you as God comes to us through His Word this day to bring His gift of forgiveness and life in Jesus.

If you have any questions, please seek out one of the ushers who will be happy to assist you.

Pastor Schultz & Pastor Ada look forward to meeting you at the end of the service.

ATTENDANCE REGISTRATION Members and visitors, please scan this QR code and register your attendance with us today. Thanks!



HEARING ASSISTANCE devices are available. Please talk to an usher.

YOUNG CHILDREN We believe that young children need to be brought to Jesus (Mark 10:14); and what better way than to include them in the regular worship life of the congregation! We **DO NOT** have a staffed nursery during church because we **encourage families to worship together**. Children's bulletins and worship activity bags are available to help quietly occupy those children too young to listen to the sermon. Please feel free to use the narthex as a cry room when needed. Monitors and speakers will assist in your participation.

EDUCATION HOUR (9:30-10:30am)

Adult Bible Class: During the four weeks of Advent, we will be studying Advent and Christmas hymns.

Sunday School: Classes are offered for children who have turned 3 by September 1 through high school. Please ask an usher for assistance in locating classrooms.

Nursery: There is a nursery during education hour located in the lower level, Room 118.

HOLY COMMUNION In Holy Communion we celebrate the real presence of our Lord Jesus Christ as He gives us His true body and blood in and with the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of faith. In love for God's Word and in love for God's people, we do not want anyone to receive this blessed gift to their spiritual harm (1 Cor. 11:27-29). **Therefore, anyone who wishes to commune here for the first time and who is not a member of Beautiful Savior or a congregation of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, is asked to speak with Pastor Schultz or Pastor Ada before receiving Holy Communion.**

Those not communing are still welcome to come receive a blessing.

Order of Service

HYMNS FOR TODAY'S SERVICE: LSB 343, 345, 628, 332, 338, and 353

PRAYER AT THE BEGINNING OF WORSHIP

Lord, open now my heart to hear,
And through your Word to me draw near;
Preserve that Word in purity
That I your child and heir may be.

LW 197:1

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION

PRELUDE

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus
arr. Culli

PASTORAL GREETING

OPENING HYMN

Prepare the Royal Highway
LSB 343

Stand

✠ THE PREPARATION ✠

INVOCATION

(The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of your Baptism.)

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Matthew 28:19b

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.** *1 John 1:8-9*

(A moment of silence to confess our specific sins.)

P Let us together confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy... and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.** *[John 20:19-23]*

✠ THE SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

HYMN OF RESPONSE

Once He Came in Blessing

LSB 333 sts. 1, 4

1. **Once He came in blessing,
All our sins redressing;
Came in likeness lowly,
Son of God most holy;
Bore the cross to save us;
Hope and freedom gave us.**

4. **Come, then, O Lord Jesus,
From our sins release us.
Keep our hearts believing,
That we, grace receiving,
Ever may confess You
Till in heav'n we bless You.**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Week 3 – Joy Candle

- P** I will greatly rejoice in the LORD;
- C** **My soul shall exult in my God,**
- P** For he has clothed me with the garments of salvation;
- C** **He has covered me with the robe of righteousness.**
- P** For as the earth brings forth its sprouts, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up,
- C** **So the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to sprout up before all the nations. (Is. 61:10-11)**

WREATH HYMN

“We Light the Advent Candle”

We light the Advent candle
And sing with cheerful heart.
With JOY, we spread the message
That God would us impart.
Our JOY is never ending;
The Son to us is sending.
We wait with growing light
Till God makes all things right!

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.** *2 Timothy 4:22*
- P** Let us pray:
Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

Sit

¹The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; ²to proclaim the year of the LORD’s favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; ³to grant to those who mourn in Zion—to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he may be glorified. ⁴They shall build up the ancient ruins; they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. . . .

⁸For I the LORD love justice; I hate robbery and wrong; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. ⁹Their offspring shall be known among the nations, and their descendants in the midst of the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge them, that they are an offspring the LORD has blessed. ¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD; my soul 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 like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. ¹¹For as the earth brings forth its sprouts, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to sprout up before all the nations.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

Our Hope is in Emmanuel

Johnson

Youth Choir with Flute

(The original anthem calls us to hope in the promises of God to save us.)

EPISTLE

1 Thessalonians 5:16–24

¹⁶Rejoice always, ¹⁷pray without ceasing, ¹⁸give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ¹⁹Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰Do not despise prophecies, ²¹but test everything; hold fast what is good. ²²Abstain from every form of evil.

²³Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

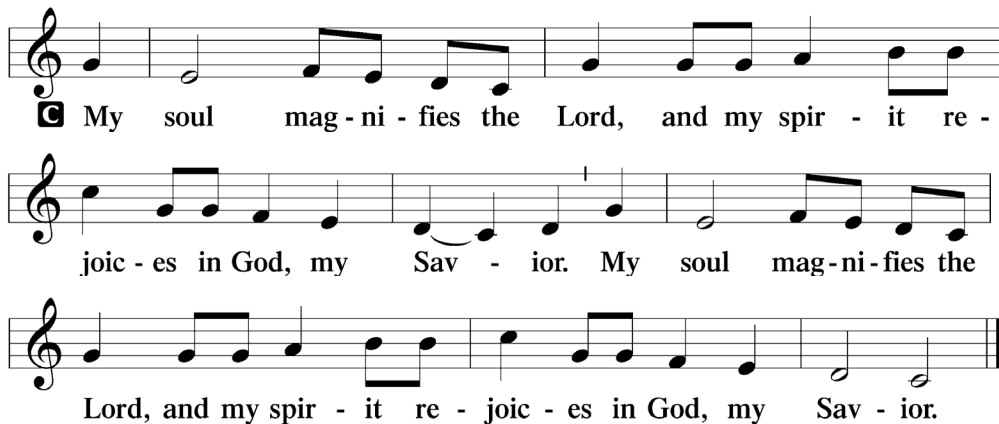
Stand

GOSPEL VERSE

MAGNIFICAT ~ Song of Mary

LSB 248

Luke 1:46-47



C My soul mag - ni - fies the Lord, and my spir - it re -
joic - es in God, my Sav - ior. My soul mag - ni - fies the
Lord, and my spir - it re - joic - es in God, my Sav - ior.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 1:6–8, 19–28

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.

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

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. . . .

¹⁹This is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" ²⁰He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, "I am not the Christ." ²¹And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" And he answered, "No." ²²So they said to him, "Who are you? We need to give an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" ²³He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,' as the prophet Isaiah said."

²⁴(Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.) ²⁵They asked him, "Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?" ²⁶John answered them, "I baptize with water, but among you stands one you do not know, ²⁷even he who comes after me, the strap of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie." ²⁸These things took place in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sit

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pastor Mike Ada

SERMON HYMN

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

LSB 345

SERMON

Prepare the Way

John 1

Pastor Mike Ada

Stand

APOSTLES' CREED (*located on the inside back cover of the hymnal*)

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

P Father of all mercies, the visitation of Your Son has enlightened the darkness of our hearts and every corner of creation. Hear us as we pray in His name and according to His will.

P O God, You have sent messengers to prepare the way of Your Son's coming. Grant us ears to hear and hearts to believe the words delivered by pastors and all who bear Your Word. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Gracious Lord, You have instituted the home to be a refuge for husbands and wives and a place of growth and safety for children. Look with favor upon the homes of our land, and grant that the faith might be delivered from one generation to the next. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Righteous Lord, You rule over all things in heaven and on earth. Until that day when Your Son comes in glory to usher in His kingdom, give wisdom and insight to all leaders, that we may live peaceable lives. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P O Lord, the prophet Isaiah looked for the day when blind eyes would see, deaf ears would hear, lame legs would leap and mute tongues would sing. Until the final day of restoration, draw near to all who have requested our prayers, [*especially _____,*] and give them healing according to Your gracious will. Bind up those who grieve, that they may look for the resurrection of all flesh. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P *Additional Prayers of Thanksgiving or Intercession*, Lord, in Your mercy:

C **hear our prayer.**

P With great jubilation, O Lord, we rejoice at Your Son's gracious visitation in His body and blood in the fellowship of this altar. Grant us faith to receive Him

worthily as He comes in this foretaste of the Lamb's marriage feast. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P O God, Your love invites us to rejoice in Your goodness. In every circumstance of life, teach us the joy that comes from knowing Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and eagerly expecting His gracious visitation; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

OFFERING

(Our offerings are collected at the door and brought forward and presented in thanksgiving to the Lord. If you missed this opportunity, your offering can be placed in the plate at the door as you leave.)

OFFERING PRAYER

✠ THE SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

[Colossians 3:1]

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

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

[Psalm 136]

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

PROPER PREFACE

P It is truly good, right, and salutary...evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS

O Holy, Holy, Holy Lord

Tune: O come, O come, Emmanuel

James Pierce

O ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, The God by heav'n - ly
hosts a - dored, Both heav'n and earth Your glo - ry show.
Refrain
Ho - san - na sing we to the Lord. Re - joi - ce! Re - joi - ce!
Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

P Lord, remember us in Your Kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

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

PAX DOMINI~~(Latin: Peace of the Lord)

John 20:19

(The pastor here makes a **declaration** of the peace we have with the Lord through the forgiveness offered in this Sacrament. Therefore, we boldly respond **AMEN!** – which means “Yes, yes, this is so!”)

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen!

AGNUS DEI

O Christ, The Holy Lamb of God

Tune: O come, O come, Emmanuel

James Pierce

O Christ, the ho - ly Lamb of God, Who takes a - way the
whole world's sin, Have mer - cy on us now, we pray,
And grant Your heav'n - ly peace with-in. *Refrain* Re-joice! Re-joice!
Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

INVITATION

P Welcome to the table of our Lord.

Sit

DISTRIBUTION

VISITORS, please read the statement concerning Holy Communion on page 2.

Personal Examination Before Communing

1. Do I believe I am a sinner and am I sorry for my sins?
2. Do I believe Christ's true body and blood to be present in the Lord's Supper for the forgiveness of sins?
3. Do I earnestly intend with the help of the Holy Spirit to amend my sinful life?

(For a longer examination see pages 329-330 of the hymnal.

Communion Prayers are located inside the front cover of the hymnal.)

Instructions for Communing

We use continuous kneeling tables for Holy Communion. The congregation will be ushered forward to kneel. You will receive the Body of Jesus from the Pastors and then the Blood of Jesus from the Elder/Vicar. You may receive either from the common cup or the individual cup. When you have sufficiently meditated, stand, reverence the altar, and return to your seat. Those not communing will receive a blessing from the pastor.

Non-alcoholic white wine is located in the center of each tray and should only be used by those with medical conditions prohibiting the use of wine.

Gluten-free wafers are available from the pastor when you come forward.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

LSB 628 *Your Table I Approach*

LSB 332 *Savior of the Nations, Come*

LSB 338 *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

Stand

DISMISSAL

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

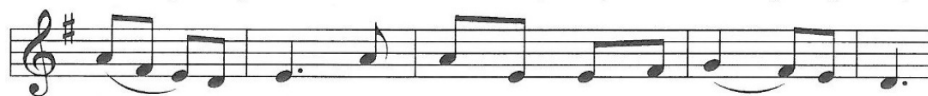
Lord, Let Your Servant Go in Peace

Tune: O come, O come, Emmanuel

James Pierce



1 Lord, let Your ser - vant go in peace, Your Word ful - filled with -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, Son, And Ho - ly Spir - it,



in my sight. Sal - va - tion comes for all to see.
with them one, As was in the be - gin - ning, now,



For Is - rael, glo - ry; Gen - tiles, light. Re-joice! Re-joice!
And as the end-less a - ges run.



Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

BENEDICAMUS/BENEDICTION

P Let us bless the Lord.

Psalm 103:1

C **Thanks be to God.**

P The Lord bless you...and † give you peace.

Numbers 6:24-26

C **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring

LSB 353

POSTLUDE

Prepare the Royal Highway

arr. Behnke

**Before you go:
Visitors and Members –
please register your attendance.**



Rev. Joel Schultz, Senior Pastor
Rev. Michael Ada, Associate Pastor
Vicar Nathan Harkins, Student Pastor

A Member Congregation of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod
 13145 S. Blackbob Road, Olathe, KS 66062
 Phone: (913) 780-6023 website: www.bsclks.org

Serving the Lord and Us Today:

Preaching Pastor Mike Ada
 Celebrant..... (8:00) Pastor Joel Schultz (10:45) Pastor Mike Ada
 Liturgist..... Vicar Nathan Harkins
 Organist..... Lauran Delancy
 Flautist..... Kara Raetzel
 Acolytes..... (8:00) Kaylee Bahr & Olivia Travis (10:45) Rowen Clark & Kelsey Teply
 Greeters(8:00) Tom & Brenda Bremer (10:45) Scott & Denise Behrman
 Ushers.....(8:00) Zach Gardner, Jordan Klebe, Bob Rinne, & Kent Thompson
 (10:45) Ron Aerni, Brad Keefe, David Raetzel, & Dennis Smith
 Altar Guild..... TBA
 Nursery..... Jerod & Shelby Waldman (Helping Hands – Jason & Alli Bauck)
 Counters George Ledgerwood & Todd Scheumann
 Altar Flowers Kellan Mahnken’s 20th Birthday
 Zoey Booth’s Baptismal Birthday

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Divine Service One from Lutheran Service Book
 Parts of the catechism reprinted from Luther’s Small Catechism
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PRAYERS REQUESTED THIS WEEK

For **Jerica and Lucas Dunn**, on the birth of their son Tatum Lee on December 6th.

For **Joe and Deb Hodnik**, as they travel and vacation in Curacao.

For **Megan Brown and Steven McCarey**, who were united in Holy Matrimony on December 8th.

For the **Stoll family**, as they move back home after spending two years in Switzerland.

For **Brett Clark**, who is recovering from losing consciousness inexplicably earlier this week. He fell, broke his nose, and severely cut his face. Also, as the doctors work to find the cause of this incident.

For **Kevin Erwin**, who is recovering from gall bladder surgery.

For **Brad Gellerstedt**, Phil Bertels' nephew, who is undergoing treatment for Stage 4 lung cancer.

For **Ladell Gossen**, Barbara Gossen's brother-in-law who is recovering from a stroke.

For **Dale Brandt**, as he encounters intense pain post-surgery and has begun treatment for cancer.

For **Karen Rinne**, who is hospitalized and recovering from a major procedure to clear her bile duct obstruction.

For **God to bring about peace in the war** between **Israel and Palestine**.

For **God to bring about peace in the war** between **Ukraine and Russia**.

For **The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Ukraine**, our LCMS partner church, for their safety and love as they care for the people still caught in the conflict.

CONTINUED PRAYERS

For **Georgia Freese and family**, as they mourn the death of her cousin, Maureen Friedel.

For **Barbara Verriest**, Brenda Brown's sister, who fell and is recovering from a broken arm and ankle.

For **Stacy Martinez**, who is recovering from a knee surgery to repair her meniscus.

For **Cole Vanderpool**, infant son of Aaron and Stacey, who was born early and is in the NICU.

For **Charlotte Hundley**, who has breast cancer and recovering from surgery.

For **Karen Kuhn**, who is having chemotherapy for stage 4 pancreatic cancer.

For **Gary Olson**, who is recovering from for a broken hip.

For **our expectant mothers: Alaina Booth, Maggie Cook, Michelle Giangrosso, Marissa Lippe, Charisse Meier, Cassie Nichols**, and **Amy Oestmann** for their unborn children, and for those who long for God's gift of children.

For **those undergoing cancer treatment: Mandy Bender, Mike Broderick, Heather Delaney, Mary Lou Denny, Peggy Doane, Karen Feldes, Brad Gellerstedt, Charlotte Hundley, John Huss, Brian Jenkins, Beth Johnson, Linda Knight, Mikaela Koch, Karen Kuhn, Judy Landall, Myrna Larson, Jessica Luck, John Mahnken, Bonnie Malloch, Geordie McGuire, Lorette Marsh, Milroy Moses, Melissa Nesemeier, Edna Pitts, Bert Potter, Lisa Schaefer, Randy Schlueter, Rev. Dr. Mark Schulz, Tyler Smith, Eydie Taylor, Eric Wolgast, Gregg Wolgast, William Wolgast, and Neal Wurth.**

For **our partner church in Zacapa, Guatemala**: Pray that God would bless this congregation with church members and the community that they would be strengthened and encouraged in His faith.

For **all those who are unemployed or under-employed**, that the Lord would provide for all their needs and lead them to jobs soon. For those who have secured jobs, we offer prayers of thanksgiving.

For **our neighbors at Fieldstone Apartments**, that the Lord would continue to bless them and keep them in His care and that the Lord would turn their eyes toward Jesus. Fieldstone Apartments is a mission outreach project of BSLC.

VOICE OF THE MARTYRS PRAYER REQUEST

Christmas Care Distribution Makes Way for New Church – Sri Lanka

A church in the Batticaloa area of Sri Lanka conducted their first Christmas Care Pack distribution early in the summer. One of the distribution points was in a hunters' village deep in the jungle. The children in this village were overjoyed to receive their packs. No church was in this village prior to the distribution, but this event gave front-line workers the opportunity to negotiate with the village leader to allocate land to build a church. These workers are now in the process of procuring the land. Pray for the church to be firmly established in this village and the whole area.