

Program for the Week of December 10 – December 17, 2023

Sunday:

8:00 Worship
9:00 Coffee Time
9:20 Sunday School
9:20 Bible Class
10:30 Worship
6:00 TSNT

5:20 Handbell Choir
5:20 Introductory Choir
5:30 Meal
6:05 Brass
6:30 Advent Worship
7:30 Jr. Confirmation
7:30 Vocal Choir

Monday:

6:30 Early Bird Bible Study
9:00 Quilting
7:00 Young Adult Bible Study

Thursday:

9:00 Private Confession
10:00 Bulletin Deadline
7:30 Men's Bible Study

Tuesday:

10:00 Staff Meeting
1:00 Tuesday Bible Study
6:30 Planning Council
7:00 Worship Service on KTV

Friday:

4:00 The Voice Deadline

Wednesday:

1:30 Advent Worship
2:00 Worship Service on KTV
4:45 Introductory Bells

Saturday:

9:30 Christmas Service Rehearsal

Next Sunday:

8:40 Pre Service Recital
9:00 Children's Christmas Service
10:00 Christmas Reception

Chancel flowers are provided by Norma Burns in loving memory of Jerry.

About the Cover: As the King returns to His Holy City in victory, the voice in the wilderness calls out to clear the way. John's "baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins" (Mark 1:4; Luke 3:3) was a call to prepare every heart for Christ's coming. God's Law continues to call us to repentance so that His saving Gospel may reside in our hearts. Christ has conquered sin, death, and the power of the devil for us. Behold, He is coming again.

TSNT Youth: Join us for a special TSNT event TONIGHT, Sunday, December 10th from 6pm – 8pm. We'll enjoy pizza in the Fireplace room, and then go on our 2nd annual Christmas Lights Scavenger Hunt! Younger siblings are invited to join in this event as well. We will need additional chaperones for driving/riding to meet our 2 adult requirements. Please let Michelle Rottermond or Zak Tess know if you'll be there so we can plan accordingly.

Prayer Shawl: If you, or someone you know, may find comfort in a Prayer Shawl, please call Marcella B. Eilders, 507-317-4127.

Young Adult Bible Study meets Monday, December 11th, at 7pm in the Fireplace Room. If you have any questions, contact Karee Bless at 507-381-3826 or kbless@blc.edu.

Men's Bible Study meets Thursday, December 14th from 7:30 – 8:30. We will continue to study St. John's Epistles. If you are interested, please speak with Pastor Matheny.

The deadline for the January 2024 issue of The Voice is Friday, December 15th at 4pm. Please drop off any submissions at the church office or e-mail to contact@oslcmandkato.org.

Kids Recital Rehearsal- We will run through the kids recital on December 16th at 9am right before the Christmas program dress rehearsal. If you have any questions, please reach out to Suzie Gangi 507-341-4173 or suzie@oslcmandkato.org

Christmas Eve Instrumental Ensemble Rehearsal We will rehearse on December 17th after the Christmas Program Reception and on December 24th between services from 9:30-10:15 in the chapel. Come to one or both rehearsals. If you can't make it to either, that's ok too. We'd love to have you join us on Christmas Eve. Please contact Suzie Gangi if you are interested at 507-341-4173 or suzie@oslcmandkato.org

Join us next Sunday at 9am, our Sunday School children will present the Christmas story "Joy to the World". Come early, the children will share their musical gifts singing and playing Christmas songs in the Pre-Service recital. Following the service, make your way to the Fellowship Hall for fellowship and refreshments. Everyone is welcome!

Next Sunday, December 17th, is Mite Sunday. The featured Mission Grant is #3, Journey's Lutheran School - \$100,000. Journeys Lutheran School in Milwaukee is Serving God's Children with Special Needs by providing educational opportunities in a specialized setting to meet the children's needs. The vans purchased with grant funds will be used to transport the children to and from events, internships, and other activities. To learn more, visit www.lwml.org/2023-2025-mission-grant-3. District Mite Grants are found in the WOM (Women on a Mission) newsletter. District Mission focus is POBLO International. POBLO trains missionaries that lead international friendship centers (IFCs) in partnership with congregations. These IFCs provide English as a second language (ESL) and life-skills classes for new immigrants and provide opportunities to connect into church life. There are currently IFCs in Rochester, Bloomington, Burnsville, and Prior Lake. We invite you to pray for POBLO international in your personal and corporate prayers that those who lead & serve would be strengthened in their efforts to reach people with the good news of Jesus.

Anyone interested in placing flowers for our worship services in December, please contact Judy Mensing, 507-387-4908.

Wednesday Night Meals: During Advent, meals will begin at 5:30pm. All are welcome to come for a good meal before the Mid-week Advent Service at 6:30pm. Check the sign-up sheets in the Fireplace room to see where you can help.

Mission Service will NOT be held in December. A good time to complete a personal mission service. We will meet again in January. Thank you to everyone who came to put the projects together and for the generous donations we received so the projects could be done!

Our Savior's gratefully acknowledges receipt of the following memorials:

- \$50 Undesignated; \$70 Capital Improvements; and \$10 Taxi Fund in memory of Darla Kopischke
- \$5,000 Benevolent Fund in memory of John & Eileen Traeger
- \$1,463.71 Capital Improvement Fund in memory of Kathryn Beyer

The December 2023 edition of the Lutheran Witness is available. It contains the MN South District News insert.

Advent Event- Sisters-in-Christ of Our Savior Lutheran Church gathered together for fellowship on November 30th, 2023. Rejoiced with one another, looked forward to the beginning of the new Church year, the Advent Season of 24 days before the celebration of the coming of the Savior. Amazingly the ladies were from 9 decades, the teens through the 90's!! Wonderful communications with each other on many topics, so the room was filled with laughter and talk. There was also a time to spend thanking and praising our Lord in prayer.

Thank you to our Shut-in Card volunteers for 2023: Vel Brunner, Marion Brunz, Chris Dumke, Marcella Eiders, Lori Ellanson, Karen Fischer, Betty Mace, Theresa McLaughlin, Judy Mensing, Rhonda Rastedt, and Mark Wellner. Blessed to be a blessing! Shut-in card volunteer sign-up list for 2024 is on the LWML bulletin board. Questions? Call Dolly Blomquist at 507-388-4594, leave a message or email blomdart@hickorytech.net. Thank you!

The Winter Quarterly 2023, Lutheran Woman's Quarterly is here for you. The theme for this quarter is Equipping Women.

From the Stewardship Committee: 2 Peter 3:11 – “Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness?” All the things of the earth have an expiration date: “Good until the last day.” On that day, all these things will be dissolved. The things that seem so important now will simply cease to be. Peter issues this to us as a challenge: Since this is so, what kind of life should we be living? What should your priorities be? On things? Or on the things of God?

Lutherans for Life. Save the date! Lutherans for Life, Lifelines will hold a public information event on January 27, 2024, at 9:00 am at Trinity Lutheran Church, Waconia. Rev. Fred Hinz will be there to discuss recent Minnesota government legislative and bureaucratic mandates.

Listen to KFUE.ORG, a media ministry extension of LCMS congregations, shares Christ for you anytime, anywhere via worship services, Bible and theology studies, practical talk programs, and sacred music. All programs are archived at www.KFUE.org for 24/7 on-demand listening. Have a question or comment? Find us at @KFUEradio on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. This week dive into Advent Hymnody on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11am), study 1 Corinthians 12-14 on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8am), and learn more about the 3rd Sunday in Advent on The Coffee Hour (October 13 at 9am). Music and programming for the 12 Days of Christmas begins December 25!

Main Street Living airs each Sunday at 9am on WFTC Channel 29/9-2. This week's *This is the Life* episode, "Red Boots for Christmas" features a shoemaker who learns the true meaning of Christmas. The worship service begins at 9:30am with Rev. Dennis Brech from Trinity Lutheran Church in Slayton, who will present a message titled "Hello John" based on Mark 1:1-8. For more information or to watch the program, go to www.mainstreetliving.com and select the "Twin Cities" tab.

Pick up your copies in the Narthex of all the District Synodical publications. The LHMS, The Lutheran Layman Fall Issue. Use the website: <https://www.mnsdistrict.org>

December Pray for Us Calendar is in the Narthex.

Follow One Voice for Public Policy: Go to the website: <https://www.msdistrict.org/public-policy>. Read the information from Rev. Fred Hinz. Don't have access? Hard copies are in the Narthex.

Orphan Grain Train amazing giving and donations – take time to read the December 1st OGT in the Mission Center. Your donations are so important to the success of bringing relief for human need worldwide.

The Martin Luther Jr/Sr High School Music Department will present "The Joy of Christmas in Concert" on Saturday, December 16th at 7:00 p.m. in the high school gymnasium in Northrop. The band will give a debut performance of a special piece commissioned exclusively for MLHS written by Kurt Heinecke, Veggie Tales composer. Heinecke will be the guest speaker at the concert and will give insight to the design of the piece. Elementary and high school musicians in band and choir will be under the direction of Mr. Phil Schult. Admission is a free will donation.

Welcome to Our Savior's Lutheran Church! We are Christians gathered around the unchanging Word and Gifts of Jesus Christ which give forgiveness and salvation now and forever. Our Savior has more than enough blessings for everyone and promises that He will turn no one away. Please let us know who you are and how we can serve you by completing a registration card found in the seat backs and placing it in the offering plate at the entrances to the sanctuary.

At Our Savior Lutheran Church we live to make Christ known.

Monthly Memory Verse:

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 1:14

Weekly Discussion Question:

God showed Himself visually. What do we gain from that?

Holy Communion: As He instituted the Lord's Supper, Jesus said, "I tell you I shall not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's Kingdom" (Matthew 26:29). St. Paul also set forth the connection between Christ's second coming and the Lord's Supper, saying that in receiving it we "proclaim the Lord's death until He comes" (1 Corinthians 11:26). As we commune today, we confidently confess faith in the Lord's return! Those who understand the meaning of communion and wish to receive it today are asked to review the statement on the back of the registration card.

Serving today:

Liturgist & Preacher Rev. Adam M. Matheny
Organist Susan Klute
Special Music..... Handbell Choir
Elder of the Day [8:00] Tom Benson; [10:30] Judd Schultz
Acolytes [8:00] Dalton Ling; Jesse Matheny
..... [10:30] Peter Bittner; Jimmy Bittner
Assistant Usher.....[8:00] Gary Rabenhorst
A/V Tech Dale Bergemann