

Program for the Week of December 31, 2023 – January 7, 2024

Sunday:

8:00 Worship
9:00 Coffee Time/Bible Class
10:30 Worship

Monday: Office Closed

10:00 Fireplace Room Rental

Tuesday:

8:30 Circuit Pastors
5:15 Board of Education
6:00 Board of Elders
6:30 Board of Deacons
7:00 Board of Trustees

Wednesday:

4:45 Introductory Bells
5:15 Pew Sisters Class
5:20 Handbell Choir
5:25 Introductory Choir
5:55 Brass

6:00 Meal

6:45 Devotion

7:00 Jr. Confirmation

7:00 Vocal Choir

Thursday:

9:00 Private Confession

9:30 Ruth/Lydia Circle Bible Study

10:00 Bulletin Deadline

Friday:

Saturday:

Next Sunday:

8:00 Worship

9:00 Coffee Time

9:20 Bible Class

9:20 Sunday School

10:30 Worship

11:30 Take down Christmas
Decorations / Lunch

About the Cover: The unseen is seen. In the year of the Lord's favor, Isaiah compares a planted seed shooting forth above ground to the sprouting of the Lord's righteousness. The Christ Child is the righteousness of God made known to the nations. Simeon and Anna could do nothing but rejoice and praise the Lord when they saw the Savior of the world, who sprouts forth righteousness and freely gives it by forgiving sins.

Ruth/Lydia Bible Study Circle is Thursday, January 4th in the Fireplace room at 9:30 for fellowship and refreshments with 9:45 Bible study. The lesson is "Equipped" on page 18-19 of the Winter Quarterly. Your Personal Mission Statement will help you to share your faith. Mary Circle and others are invited. All ladies are welcome!

Mission Service will meet on Wednesday, January 18th at 4 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Anyone interested in placing flowers for our worship services in January, please contact Gretchen Zellmer, 507-317-2904.

Join us next Sunday, January 7, following the 10:30 service as we put the Christmas decorations away for another year. All help will be greatly appreciated. Lunch will be served.

Thank you to all who have kept Ruthann in their prayers these past few years. Ruthann will be in Mankato on January 1st. You are invited to Church on January 1 between 2:00 and 4:00 (East side door) for a time for her to thank you. Thanks Trudy

Thank you to my church family for all the prayers, cards and offers of help following my knee surgery and rehabilitation. Special thanks to Pastor Matheny and Lisa for all your visits while in hospital and at Laurels Peak and to the prayer shawl ladies for the beautiful prayer shawl. I am getting along better each week. May God continue to bless each of you. Jan Karels

Trinity Lutheran Church in Janesville is hosting a bus to the 2024 Minnesota March for Life. The bus will leave from Trinity at 10:30am on Monday, January 22nd and return approximately 2:30pm. If you are interested in participating, please speak with Pastor Matheny so we can organize a group from Our Savior's to carpool to Janesville and share their bus.

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

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

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>

From the Stewardship Committee: **Luke 2:39** – “And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned . . . to their own town of Nazareth.” The Law of God is good. Of course, it always shows us our sins, but that is good, too! We need to be driven back to the forgiveness of Christ. And the Law also shows us the truly blessed way to live. As Mary and Joseph found their joy in a godly life, so should we see the Law as a guide for Christian living and as the roadmap for saying thank you to the Lord for all His grace and mercy to us.

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 continue enjoying the Twelve Days of Christmas with special Christmas music, Scripture, and greetings until January 6. Blessed Christmas! Christ is born!

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.

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

Main Street Living airs each Sunday at 9am on WFTC Channel 29/9-2. This week's *This is the Life* episode, "Burden Made Light" features a housekeeper helps a family through the struggle of an increasingly sick child. The worship service begins at 9:30am with Rev. Jeffrey Williams from Trinity Lutheran Church in Slayton, who will present a message titled "A Light to Lighten the Gentiles" based on Luke 2:22-40. For more information or to watch the program, go to www.mainstreetliving.com and select the "Twin Cities" tab.

Orphan Grain Train – amazing giving and donations. Go to: <https://www.OGT.org>.

December District Mission – St. Paul Outreach Center. The primary focus of the District St. Paul Outreach Center is to serve and share God's love with new immigrants to St. Paul and other neighbors in the Midway area, as well as partnering with Concordia St. Paul's International student ministry. We invite you to pray for the Outreach Center 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.

See the Voice for the Go First Ministry Conference

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Rose Bowl Parade - Petal Pushers, for more information: <https://shop.petalpushers.org>. The parade will be on Monday, January 1, 2024 at 10 am

Lutheran Women in Mission – a new prayer guide for January when you are feeding your mite box. Copy in Narthex entitled January.

Deadline for writing a Mission Grant, applications are due Jan. 5, 2024.

ISMinc Newsletter called DoorstepNews, the official publication of ISM, Inc., dedicated to ministry among international students and scholars.

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:

In Jesus we can know God more fully. What have you learned this year?

Holy Communion: Luther once said, "Word and Sacrament are the manger and swaddling clothes into which it has pleased Christ to lay Himself". Just as the shepherds were told where to find Jesus then, so also we are told where to find Him still today. He is no longer in the humble manger; but by His own promise, He is in the humble means of bread and wine with His true body and blood. As we received His gift, the greatest gift we can give to others is a loving witness to the truth of His Word. 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. Dennis O'Neill
Pianist Joel Maunula
Elder of the Day [8:00] Dave Hendley; [10:30] Mike Anderson
Acolytes [10:30] Tobin Gangi; Darren Hoppe
A/V Tech [8:00] Gene Mensing; [10:30] Dale Bergemann