

Program for the Week of December 1 – December 8, 2024

Sunday:

8:00 Divine Service
9:00 Coffee Time
9:25 Sunday School
9:25 Bible Class
10:30 Divine Service
11:30 Decorate for Christmas/Lunch
6:00 Open Gym/Game Night

Monday:

Tuesday:

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

Wednesday:

1:30 Midweek Advent Service
2:00 – 4:00 Artist on-site
4:45 Introductory Choir
5:05 Introductory Bell Choir

5:25 Handbell Choir
5:30 Meal
6:05 Brass
6:30 Midweek Advent Service
7:00 – 9:00 Artist on-site
7:30 Jr. Confirmation
7:30 Vocal Choir

Thursday:

9:00 Private Confession
10:00 Bulletin Deadline
4:30 Advent Event

Friday:

Saturday:

Next Sunday:

8:00 Divine Service
9:00 Coffee Time
9:25 Bible Class
10:30 Divine Service
2:00 – 5:00 Koopman's Open House

Christmas Decorating: Join us today, Sunday, December 1st, following the second service to help decorate the church for the season of Advent and Christmas. This is a great family activity. All ages are invited to help. Lunch will be served when the decorating is complete.

The Christmas service is fast approaching, and we need a cover for the bulletin! We want your participation! We are inviting congregants of all ages and artistic abilities to, please, submit a piece (or two!) of original artwork, based on John 1 or the hymn Now Sing We Now Rejoice. The deadline for submissions is December 1st. The cover dimensions are 7" wide, 8 ½" tall. Please place your pieces in the designated box in the narthex - make sure to sign your piece! We look forward to seeing the array of creativity within our church body! If you have any questions speak with Laura Matheny or Terrin Boozikee.

You are Invited! Pastor and Brittany Koopman invite you to a Christmas Open House on Sunday, December 8th from 2-5 at their home, 128 Falcon Drive. We hope to see you there! (Note: We have cats, which will be put away, in case you need to take allergy meds beforehand.)

Anyone interested in placing flowers for our worship services in December, please contact Judy Mensing, 507-420-8196.

Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it. Proverbs 22:6. When a child is born we often rely on the parents and their family and friends to share the Bible and the love of Jesus with them. The church too has a responsibility to help nurture the faith of its members through their life. While this can start even before a child is born, we are looking for volunteers to visit, encourage, and give materials to newly baptized members of Our Saviors. Guidance and materials will be provided by the church. If you are willing to be a mentor in this capacity or have any questions please contact Samantha Tess at 507-217-0354.

Ruth/Lydia Bible Study and Christmas: Note New Date and Time: Thursday, December 12 at 10:30 in the Fireplace Room with lunch served at 12 noon. Begin study with the lesson on page 19, *Faith Talks and Faith Walks*, followed by pages 22 and 23: *Christ's Steadfastness: The Apostle's Creed – 2nd Article*. Yes, Christmas, God True Man. Thanks for the gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation. Welcome – call 507-327-7082 for information.

Attention Kids! It's time to start thinking about the kids recital that happens before the Christmas Program. The Sunday School Christmas Program is happening December 22 at 9am. Before the service will feature YOU! Do you like to sing, play the piano or another instrument? Choose a Christmas song, learn it and play it for the recital. Please contact Suzie Gangi if you are interested! 507-341-4173 or suzie@oslcmankato.org

Looking for a large print Bible? We have one in the Mission Center for you to take and read!

December's Youth Event (open to grades 3rd-12th) will be our annual pizza party and Christmas Lights Scavenger Hunt on Sunday, December 15th from 6-8pm! We will need extra adults for this event, each vehicle will need a driver and second adult. Please talk to Michelle Rottermond if you're able to help.

Three more boxes of Bibles and Portals of Prayers were sent to Eagle's Nest Ministries on November 20th. Thank you to Our Savior Thrivent team for paying the postage to send the boxes!

Watch our services on YouTube, livestreamed, or view later at your convenience. Access from our website www.oslcmankato.org or from YouTube (www.youtube.com), search for our channel, oslcmankato.

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

From the Stewardship Committee: Luke 19:31 – “If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ you shall say this: ‘The Lord has need of it.’” Consider the faithfulness of that man who owned the donkey and colt. All he needed to hear was, “The Lord has need of it,” and he willingly gave. The Lord has given each of us various callings in life (in our homes, in the church and in the communities we live in). In each calling we have good work to do, which comes from the Lord’s hand. The Lord has need of us in each calling. How is He calling you to generous giving in each of your vocations?

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 Sharper Iron airs a new series called “The Fifth Evangelist” (weekdays at 8am), going through the book of Isaiah. On Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11am), we enter into Holy Week, taking a look at chapters 12-14 in John’s Gospel. Join us live on Sunday and Wednesday (1 & 7pm) as we bring back a special 100th anniversary edition of JOY!, a one-hour program of sacred music for the Advent season.

Main Street Living airs each Sunday at 9am on WFTC Channel 29/9-2. This week’s *This is the Life* episode, “Stable Boy” – A manger scene comes to life and tells the story of the first Christmas. The worship service begins at 9:30am with Rev. Kent Borglum from St. John’s Lutheran Church in Montevideo, who will present a message titled “Against All Expectations” based on 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13. This program is interpreted and closed captioned for the deaf and hard of hearing. For more information or to watch the program, go to www.mainstreetliving.com and select the “Twin Cities” tab.

Sacred Music For The Advent Season... “Savior of the Nations, Come,” “On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry,” “Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending,” “Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding,” “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.” You can listen to sacred music for the Advent season 24/7 at lutheranpublicradio.org, TuneIn, Amazon Echo, Google Home, Apple HomePod and the Lutheran Public Radio mobile app.

Everyone is invited to a Christmas Concert “Get a Handel on Christmas” at Martin Lutheran Jr/Sr High School, Northrup on Saturday, December 14 at 7pm. Elementary and high school band students will be performing and the high school choir will sing. Students are under the direction of Mr. Phil Schult. Admission is a free-will donation.

One Voice for Public Policy has a new article “Pray Without Ceasing”. Pray for our nation, leaders, and for God’s will to be done. Printed copies are available on the counter in the narthex, or at: <https://www.mnsdistrict.org/public-policy>. To add to your prayers, refer to Portals of Prayer, Lutheran Service Book, Bible passages . . .

Ladies: 2024 November eNews for You. Go to <https://mnslwml.org/newsletters>.

S.A.G.E.S. – Saints Alive Growing Ever Serving. The Minnesota South District Older Adult ministry, needs a volunteer or 2 from Our Savior to serve as a representative. We also need a representative from the Arlington Circuit for the District Board. The May 5 & 6, 2025 SAGES GATHERING is continuing. FYI – The SAGES passage is Psalm 92:14. “They will still bear fruit in old age, they will stay fresh and green.” The Mission of SAGES is to provide experiences in Christian Fellowship, service and life enrichment.

District SAGES Board joins in ZOOM Meeting on December 3, Tuesday, from 10-Noon. Call Trudy for how to join meeting on ZOOM. 507-327-7082

District eNews for 11-26-2024 is in Mission Center.

Winter Edition of Orphan Grain Train News is in Mission Center. It explains many of the projects, here and abroad. An example – a 5,300 gallon water tanker to Ashville, NC (refillable) for showers and flushing toilets. Also included the new warehouse, the international convention. OGT wishes everyone a healthy and blessed Christmas with a Christ filled New Year.

Christmas at Bethany. December 5 – 8.

Redeemer Christmas Bazaar, New Ulm. Saturday, December 7, 10:30 – 1pm. To order cookies, e-mail redeemerlwml@newulmtel.net or call Cindy at 612-418-5294. See LWML bulletin board for more information.

2024 MCCL March for LIFE will be on January 22, 2024 at noon at the Minnesota State Capitol. The Lutherans for Life news is in Life Date for you, also available at www.lifenews.com

NEEDED: Young Woman Representatives (ages 22-40) wanted to go to the Omaha LWML Convention. This is an opportunity of a lifetime. Application at www.mnslwml.org. Call Trudy Wiechmann for details as soon as possible.

Today! You're invited to a Christmas Organ Concert at St. John's Willow Creek at 2pm. The concert will feature Glenn Henriksen, who will be playing a selection of beloved Christmas songs and carols. Refreshments will be served following the concert, and a free-will offering will be collected.

Pickup your Lutheran Hour Ministries Advent Devotions, “*Come, Let Us Adore Him!*”. Copies are in the narthex, or go to: www.lhm.org/advent to read, print or subscribe to a daily email.

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:

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.
John 1:5

Holy Communion: In the Apostles' Creed we confess . . . "from thence He will come to judge the living and the dead". The exalted Christ will come again! This time He will not be spit upon and crowned with thorns, but He will be crowned with glory as Lord and judge of all. Is it not a wonder that He who fills and rules all things comes to us now with His very body and blood under the bread and wine? 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.

About the Cover: As a cloud once obscured the disciples' view of Jesus' ascension into heaven, a day is coming when He will return in the same way (see 1 Thessalonians 4:17). The world shall see Jesus coming with all of His saints on the Day of Judgment. Though we do not see Him with our natural eyes today, we see Him by faith in His Word and Sacrament, where He delivers the benefits of all that He accomplished in His ministry, death, and resurrection. For in Christ, we have already passed through judgment and into eternal life through His forgiveness of our sins.

Serving today:

Liturgist Rev. John H. Koopman
Preacher Rev. Adam M. Matheny
Organist Susan Klute
Elder of the Day [8:00] Randy Burmeister; [10:30] Mike Blomquist
Assistant Usher [8:00] Gary Rabenhorst
A/V Tech Gene Mensing