Program for the Week of December 15 - December 22, 2024

Sunday: Mite Sunday	5:30 Meal
8:00 Divine Service	6:05 Brass
9:00 Coffee Time	6:30 Midweek Advent Service
9:25 Sunday School	7:30 Jr. Confirmation
9:25 Bible Class	7:30 Vocal Choir
10:30 Divine Service	Thursday:
6:00 Youth Pizza & Scavenger Hunt	9:00 Private Confession
Monday:	10:00 Bulletin Deadline
Tuesday:	Friday:
10:00 Staff Meeting	4:00 The Voice Deadline
Wednesday:	Saturday:
1:30 Midweek Advent Service	9:30 Christmas Program Rehearsal
2:30 Mission Service Social	Next Sunday:
4:45 Introductory Choir	8:40 Pre-Service Recital
5:05 Introductory Bell Choir	9:00 Christmas Program
5:25 Handbell Choir	10:00 Christmas Reception

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.

Today is MITE Sunday. Mite grant #21: Healthy Together: Healthy Workers, Healthy Church – Lutheran Family Services, US - \$106,000. There is an urgent need for the church to support and care for church workers. All churches should be concerned with the well-being of those God calls to ministry. Read the MITE stories in the Narthex for each of these grants.

Mission Service – Note time and location change. We will meet this Wednesday at **2:30 in the Library** for coffee and treats.

The deadline for the August 2024 issue of *The Voice* is Friday, December 20th at 4pm. Please drop off any submissions at the church office, or e-mail to contact@oslcmankato.org.

Christmas service rehearsal will take place on Saturday, December 21st from 9:30-11a.m. Sunday School kids 3yrs-6th grade as well as youth readers should try to attend to ensure a smooth service on Sunday. If you are participating in the Christmas recital, please stick around after the rehearsal to hear instructions from Mrs. Gangi.

Christmas Reception: Sunday, December 22nd following the Christmas Program. Join us for brunch and fellowship in the Fireplace Room/Fellowship Hall. Thank you. – Board of Deacons

Shut-In Card Volunteers: The 2025 monthly sign-up sheet, to send out shut-in cards, is on the LWML bulletin board. Questions? Contact Dolly Blomquist at 507-388-4594. Thank you.

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

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.

The December Lutheran Witness is here. It contains the MN South District News. It is available on the district website and in the Narthex.

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: Philippians 4:5–6 – "The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God." Wouldn't you like to be free from worry and anxiety? Isn't it worry and anxiety that often keep us from living the generous life God has called us to? St. Paul contrasts anxiety with prayer, supplication and thanksgiving in making our requests known to God. In other words, when you are tempted to anxiety and worry, pray to the Lord with a thankful heart and pour out your supplications before Him.

Listen to KFUO.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.KFUO.org for 24/7 ondemand listening. Have a question or comment? Find us at @KFUOradio on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. This week tune into Sharper Iron as we continue our study of Isaiah (weekdays at 8am) and wrap up the Gospel of John with the Resurrection account on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11am). Don't forget to join us for this week's edition of Joy!, featuring sacred music for the Advent season.

Public Policy Advocacy: Learn more about issues concerning life (including abortion and physician-assisted suicide), marriage, family, sexuality, parental choice in education, and religions freedom. Go to https://www.mnsdistrict.org/public-policy for resources to navigate social issues.

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Truth, Goodness & Beauty... Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week's topics include: The Movie "Gladiator II," The Hymn "May God Bestow on Us His Grace," Roman Catholicism & Indulgences, Mary Visits Elizabeth, The Testimony of John the Baptist and more. You can listen on-demand at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app, Amazon Alexa, Google Home, Apple HomePod, TuneIn or a podcast provider.

Winter Quarterly for you is in the Narthex. The Winter Theme is "Tell Your Story". *Come and hear, all you who fear God: let me tell you what He has done for me.* Psalm 66:16 NIV

Save: Read Now: All information you need for the Growing in God's grace. 2 Peter 3:18

At the 41st Biennial LWML Convention to be held on June 26-29, 2025 in Omaha, Nebraska:

- Registration opens March 1st, 2025
- Schedule
- Cost
- Convention personalities
- Mite Action speakers
- Additional presenters
- Mission impact lunches
- Meals and special luncheons
- Receptions
- Gifts from the Heart
- Hotel information
- A Bi/State bridge walk
- Golf 4 Tee up Mites
- Servant activities
- Blood Drive

See you in the Heartland.

Main Street Living airs each Sunday at 9am on WFTC Channel 29/9-2. This week's *This is the Life* episode, "Christmas Is" features a shepherd in a Christmas play who learns the importance of Christmas. The worship service begins at 9:30am with Rev. Caleb Worral from Shepherd of the Lake Lutheran Church in Garrison, who will present a message titled "The One who Is to Come" based on Luke 7:18-28. 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.

Rev. Keith Grimm, pastor of Family of Christ in Ham Lake, is the recipient of CSP's Service to the Church Award!

S.A.G.E.S. – <u>Saints Alive Growing Ever Serving.</u> The SAGES passage is Psalm 92:14, "They will still bear fruit in old age, they will stay fresh and green." The Minnesota South District Older Adult ministry, <u>needs a volunteer or 2 from Our Savior</u> to serve as a representative. We also need a representative from the Arlington Circuit for the District Board. The Mission of SAGES is to provide Christian Fellowship, service and life enrichment. **SAVE the date: SAGES Gathering** will be held May 5th & 6th, 2025 at Country Inn & Suites, Mankato.

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 <u>Life Date for you</u>, also available at www.lifenews.com

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

Ladies: 2024 December eNews for You. Go to https://mnslwml.org/newsletters.

Rose Bowl Parade is January 1st, 2025. In the morning on TV. Don't miss seeing our Lutheran Float in the parade.

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: Luther encouraged each person in his parish to frequently receive the Lord's Supper because of "the trouble that lies heavy on him". By this he meant the daily troubles brought upon us by the world and by Satan and by our own sinful nature. In this gift of the Savior, we do find rest and refreshment for our souls. 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: One day, like the bright morning light that breaks through the darkness of night, the Lord's second coming will bring rejoicing. While we do not know the day, the Lord is at hand today. God's Word shines brightly, dispelling the darkness of anxiety and fear and replacing it with rejoicing in what He has accomplished for us in the forgiveness of our sins. The Lord is at hand. Let us rejoice today!

Serving today:

Liturgist	Rev. John H. Koopman
	Rev. Adam M. Matheny
Organist	Edith Williams
Special Music	Clarinet Trio: Mary Bittner, Susan Klute, Edith Williams
Acolytes	[8:00] Elijah Matheny; Henry Matheny
	[10:30] Jimmy Bittner; Peter Bittner
Elder of the Day	[8:00] Mike Holub; [10:30] Lon Whitehead
Assistant Usher	[8:00] Kevin Hermanson
A/V/ Tech	Joel Maunula