

Program for the Week of December 8 – December 15, 2024

Sunday:

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

Monday:

9:00 Quilting

Tuesday:

10:00 Staff Meeting
1:00 Tuesday Bible Study
6:30 Planning Council

Wednesday:

1:30 Midweek Advent Service
4:45 Introductory Choir
5:05 Introductory Bell Choir
5:25 Handbell Choir

5:30 Meal

6:05 Brass

6:30 Midweek Advent Service

7:30 Jr. Confirmation

7:30 Vocal Choir

Thursday:

9:00 Private Confession

10:00 Bulletin Deadline

10:30 Ruth/Lydia Bible Study

Friday:

Saturday:

Next Sunday: *Mite Sunday*

8:00 Divine Service

9:00 Coffee Time

9:25 Bible Class

9:25 Sunday School

10:30 Divine Service

6:00 Youth Pizza & Scavenger Hunt

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

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.)

Quilting meets on Monday, December 9th at 9am. Join us in the Quilting Room (#124/126, in the Library hallway). We sew tops, middles, and backs together and then they are tied. Everyone is welcome to join us, no sewing experience necessary. If you have any questions, please contact Julie at 507-388-7533. ****Note**** *We will not meet the week of Christmas. This will be our only work day in December.*

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. Welcome – call 507-327-7082 for information.

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.

MITES – next Sunday, December 15th is Mite Sunday. December Focus Grant – Lutheran Family Service U.S./Healthy Workers, Healthy Church, \$106,000. Grant #26 – Life Connection Events and Kits (Lutherans for Life), \$70,000.

Place & Time Change – Mission Service will meet on December 18th at **2:30** in the **Library** for Coffee and treats.

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.

Thank you for all the donations for Options Pregnancy Center! Three boxes of clothing, bibs and booties; one box of bath products, pacifiers and toys; \$250 cash donation from Pub 500. Many moms & their babies will be blessed! Thank you.

Thank you for all of you who have been praying for my back the past two weeks! My doctor has identified the issue. I am feeling much better! Mike Holub

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.

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

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.

From the Stewardship Committee: Luke 3:4 – “As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet, “The voice of one crying in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.’” God makes long-range plans: Isaiah lived more than seven hundred years before St. John the Baptist preached by the Jordan River. Obviously, God sees farther into the future than we do! That’s yet another reason to trust Him when it comes to how He tells us to live our lives: He knows what’s coming and we don’t.

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.

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 join us as we continue our study of Isaiah on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8am), and look at chapters 15 – 18 in the Gospel of John on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11am). Don't forget to tune in for the 100th anniversary edition of JOY!, airing this Sunday, Wednesday, and Saturday at 1:00 and 7:00pm.

Main Street Living airs each Sunday at 9am on WFTC Channel 29/9-2. This week's *This is the Life* episode, "Red Boots Christmas" features a shoemaker who learns the true meaning of Christmas. The worship service begins at 9:30am with Rev. James Neubauer from St. John's Lutheran Church in Park Rapids, who will present a message titled "Stir Up Our Hearts" based on Luke 3:1-20. 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.

Christianity & Other World Religions... Judaism, Islam, Mormonism, Jehovah's Witnesses, Hinduism, Buddhism, Atheism, Scientology. Issues, Etc., a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL, is doing a World Religions 101 series with Dr. Adam Francisco of Concordia University Chicago. You can listen to this multi-part series at issuesetc.org/worldreligions.

S.A.G.E.S. – Saints Alive Growing Ever Serving. 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, 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 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 Life Date for you, also available at www.lifenews.com

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.

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.

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: 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.

About the Cover: The cries of John in the wilderness for a Baptism of repentance prepared the way of the Lord's first coming. For His second coming, Paul's deep desire is that we will be "pure and blameless for the day of Christ" (Philippians 1:10). The Lord has accomplished this for us by His abounding love that went all the way to the cross. So, it is by faith today that we are counted as pure and blameless because He is the pure, blameless, and spotless Lamb of God who has taken away our sin (see John 1:29).

Serving today:

Liturgist Rev. Adam M. Matheny
Preacher Rev. John H. Koopman
Organist Barb Anderson
Special Music..... Vocal Trio: Barb Anderson, Lisa Gahler, Denise Painter
Acolytes [8:00] Madelyn Hendley; Charlotte Amborn
..... [10:30] Endre Anderson; Wesley Whitmore
Elder of the Day [8:00] Gaylen Lenz; [10:30] Mike Anderson
Assistant Usher..... [8:00] Kurt Anderson
A/V Tech..... Dale Bergemann