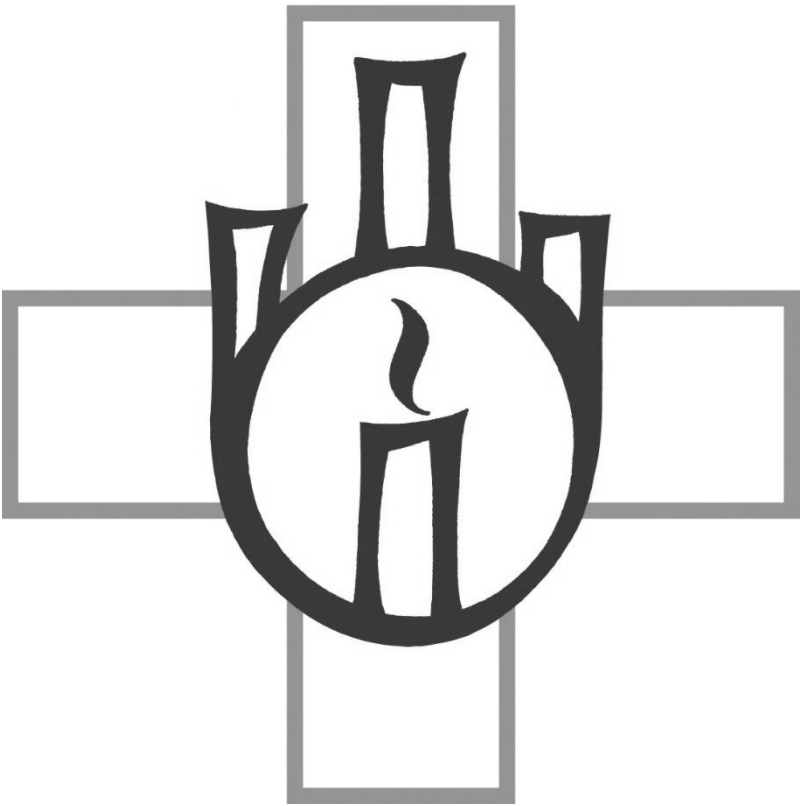


The Lutheran Church of the Savior

A Community of Faith: *Centered in Christ – Called to Serve*



Order of Worship

December 1, 2024 10:45 AM

The Lutheran Church of the Savior

426 Davis Road - Bedford, MA 01730

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Introit

Psalm 89:6, 14–16, 18; antiphon: Zechariah 9:9b

Behold, your king is coming to you;
righteous and having salvation.

Who in the skies can be compared to the LORD?

Who among the heavenly beings is like the LORD?

Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne;
steadfast love and faithfulness go before you.

Blessèd are the people who know the festal shout,
who walk, O LORD, in the light of your face,
who exult in your name all the day
and in your righteousness are exalted.

For our shield belongs to the LORD,
our king to the Holy One of Israel.

Communion Theology and Practice

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper is intended for those:

- who have been baptized in the name of the Triune God,
- who have faith in Jesus Christ as God the Son in the flesh and their personal Savior from sin, death, and the devil;
- who believe that they have sin that needs forgiving, hurt that needs healing, and faith that needs strengthening;
- who are committed to amending their sinful ways; and
- who believe that in, with, and under the bread and wine they receive the true body and blood of the risen Christ, together with the forgiveness of all their sins.

If you are a visitor with us this morning and wish to receive the Lord's Supper, please speak with the pastor before the service.

Thank you.

First Sunday in Advent

Divine Service

Welcome

Invocation

Matthew 28:19

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Opening Song

Our God Saves

Baloche, Brown

Verse 1, Verse 2, Chorus, Verse 2, Chorus 2, Instrumental, Verse 2B, Chorus 2

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). It consists of several staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "In the Name of the Fa - ther, in the Name of the Son, in the Name of the Spir - it, Lord, we come; We're gath - er'd to - geth - er to lift up Your Name to call on our Sav - ior, to fall on Your grace. In the Name of the - grace; Hear the joy - ful sound of our". The score includes a "VERSE" section starting at measure 3, a repeat sign at measure 11, and a section marked "2.3" at measure 13. The music ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

continued on next page

15 of - fer - ing as Your saints bow down as Your

17 peo - ple sing; We will rise with You, lift - ed

19 on Your wings, and the world will see that

21 CHORUS
Our God saves, our God saves;

25 There is hope in Your Name. In the Name of the

30 Name; Mourning turns to songs of praise;

35 Our God saves, our God saves. Hear the

41 CODA
Our God saves; Our God saves; Our God saves. Our God saves.

Prayer of Confession

- P** Holy Lord, as we stand in your presence, we are aware of our sins of thought, word, and action.
- C** **We have not always lived our lives according to your will.**
- P** We have often failed to live up to your expectations.
- C** **We all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.**
- P** But we know your promise, that if we confess our sins,
- C** **you will hear our cry, and grant us your forgiveness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination

- P** Hear us now, O Lord, as we confess our failings to you.
- C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Absolution

- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

Psalm

Psalm 25:1–10

Spoken responsively

¹To you, O LORD,
I lift up my soul.

²**O my God, in you I trust;
let me not be put to shame;
let not my enemies exult over me.**

³Indeed, none who wait for you shall be put to shame;
they shall be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

⁴**Make me to know your ways, O LORD;
teach me your paths.**

⁵Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation;
for you I wait all the day long.

⁶**Remember your mercy, O LORD, and your steadfast love,
for they have been from of old.**

⁷Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions;
according to your steadfast love remember me,
for the sake of your goodness, O LORD!

**⁸Good and upright is the LORD;
therefore he instructs sinners in the way.**

⁹He leads the humble in what is right,
and teaches the humble his way.

**¹⁰All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness,
for those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Prayer

P Let us pray.

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 33:14–16

¹⁴"Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David, and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will dwell securely. And this is the name by which it will be called: 'The LORD is our righteousness.'"

A This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Thessalonians 3:9–13

⁹What thanksgiving can we return to God for you, for all the joy that we feel for your sake before our God, ¹⁰as we pray most earnestly night and day that we may see you face to face and supply what is lacking in your faith?

¹¹Now may our God and Father himself, and our Lord Jesus, direct our way to you, ¹²and may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you, ¹³so that he may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel

Luke 21:25–36

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-first chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

²⁵[Jesus said:] “There will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity because of the roaring of the sea and the waves, ²⁶people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. ²⁸Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

²⁹And he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree, and all the trees. ³⁰As soon as they come out in leaf, you see for yourselves and know that the summer is already near. ³¹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³²Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all has taken place. ³³Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³⁴“But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a trap. ³⁵For it will come upon all who dwell on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Nicene Creed

- ☩ I believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ☩ of the world to come. Amen.**




Song of the Day

By Faith

Getty, Getty, Townend

Verse 1, Verse 2, Chorus, Verse 3, Verse 4, Chorus, Verse 5, Chorus x2, Tag

VERSE




1. By faith we see the hand of God in the
2. By faith our fa - thers roamed the earth with the

3




light of cre - a - tion's grand de - sign, in the
pow'r of His pro - mise in their hearts, of a

5



lives of those who prove His faith - ful - ness,
ho - ly cit - y built by God's own hand,


7



who walk by faith and not by sight. reign. We will
a place where peace and jus - tice


10

CHORUS




stand as chil - dren of the pro - mise; we will fix our eyes on Him, our

13



soul's re - ward. 'Til the race is fin - ished and the work is done,

16



we'll walk by faith and not by sight.

19

VERSE



3. By faith the pro - phets saw the day when the
4. By faith the church was called to go in the

21



longed - for Mes - si - ah would ap - pear with the
pow'r of the Spir - it to the lost to de -

continued on next page

23

pow'r to break the chains of sin and death
liv - er cap - tives and to preach good news

25

1. and rise tri - um - phant from the grave. earth. We will
in ev' ry cor - ner_ of the__

2. **D.S. al Coda** Θ

28 Θ Coda (3)

we'll walk by faith and not by sight.

31 VERSE

5. By faith this moun - tain shall be moved and the

33

pow'r of the gos - pel shall pre - vail, for we

35

know in Christ all things are pos - si - ble for all who call up - on His

38 CHORUS

name. We will stand as chil - dren of the pro - mise; we will

41

fix our eyes on Him, our soul's re - ward. 'Til the

43

race is fin - ished and the work is done,

45

we'll walk by faith and not by sight. Oh, ___ we will

47 CHORUS

stand as chil-dren of the pro-mise; we will fix our eyes on Him, our

50 soul's re-ward. 'Til the race is fin-ished and the

52 work is done, we'll walk by faith and not by

55 sight. we'll walk by faith and not by sight.

Sermon

"Straighten Up!"

Luke 21:27-28



Prayers of the Church Family and the Lord's Prayer

P Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Response after each petition

P Lord, in your mercy,
G **hear our prayer.**

P God our Father, You have loved and chosen us according to Your mercy and called us through the living voice of Your Word. Grant to us the Spirit of Your grace, that what You have begun in us may be brought to completion when Christ appears in His glory on the Last Day; for You live and reign, one God, now and forever.

G **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C **Our Father who art in heaven,**
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

Blessing

P The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **Amen.**

Song

How Deep the Father's Love For Us

Townend

Verse 1, Verse 2, Verse 3

1. How deep the Fa-ther's love for us, how
 (2.Be) - hold the Man up - on the cross, my
 (3.1) will not boast in any - y - thing; no

vast be - yond all meas - ure that
 sin up - on His shoul - ders. A -
 gifts, no pow'r, no wis - dome. But

He should give His on - ly Son to
 shamed, I hear my mock - ing voice call
 I will boast in Je - sus Christ: His

5
make a wretch His treas - - - ure. How
out a - mong the scof - - - fers. It
death and res - ur - rec - - - tion. Why

6
great the pain of sear - ing loss. The
was my sin that held Him there un -
should I gain from His re - ward? I

7
Fa - ther turns His face a - way as
til it was ac - com - plished; His
can - not give an an - - - swer. But

8
wounds which mar the Cho - sen One bring
dy - ing breath has brought me life. I His
this I know with all my heart: His

9
man - y sons to glo - - - ry. 2.Be -
know that it is fin - - - ished. 3.I
wounds havepaid my ran - - - som.

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Two from Lutheran Service Book

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“Our God Saves” - words and music by Paul Baloche & Brenton Brown

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“How Deep The Father's Love” - words and music by Stuart Townend

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Resources for Meditation this Week

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

1 December 2024

Readings

Jeremiah 33:14–16

1 Thessalonians 3:9–13

Luke 19:28–40 or Luke 21:25–36

The Lord Jesus Comes in Humility to Redeem Us

The season of Advent focuses on the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and this first Sunday establishes this theme for the rest of the season. The Son of God came long ago to be our Savior, *"a righteous Branch"* descended from David (Jer. 33:15). As He then came into Jerusalem, riding on a lowly donkey to sacrifice Himself for the sins of the world (Luke 19:28–40), so does He come to His Church today in the humility of Word and Sacrament to deliver the fruits of His Passion: the forgiveness of sins and eternal life. He absolves us and establishes our hearts *"blameless in holiness before our God and Father"* (1 Thess. 3:13). The same Lord Jesus, who came to Jerusalem then and who comes to us now in peace, will come again with power and great glory on the Last Day. Then there will be *"distress of nations in perplexity,"* with *"people fainting with fear."* Yet, as we anticipate that great and terrible day, He bids us to rest securely in Him: *"Raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near"* (Luke 21:25, 26, 28).



Readings

Malachi 3:1–7b

Philippians 1:2–11

Luke 3:1–14 (15–20)

The Preaching of Repentance Prepares Us for the Coming of the Lord

The preaching and Baptism *“of repentance for the forgiveness of sins”* (Luke 3:3) prepare us for the coming of the Lord, Jesus Christ. The historic work of John the Baptist was completed with the first advent of our Lord Jesus in the flesh, but the ministry of the forerunner continues in the preaching of Law and Gospel and in Holy Baptism. Through His messengers, the Lord calls people of all nations to *“see the salvation of God”* (Luke 3:6). Our haughtiness is removed and our mountains of pride are brought low, but the Lord humbles us in order to exalt us in His mercy. As the Lord has begun this good work of repentance in us, so also does He perfect it by His Word and Holy Spirit, and He *“will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ”* (Phil. 1:6). He purifies us to be His priestly people, precious in His sight and abounding in faith and love, so that we offer our very lives in righteousness to the Lord (Mal. 3:3–4).



Advent, Christmas & New Year's Worship

Please join us in worship in this new Church Year



Midweek Advent Services

Wednesday, December 4th at 7:00 pm

Wednesday, December 11th at 7:00 pm

Wednesday, December 18th at 7:00 pm

Open Arms Christian Preschool Christmas Program

Sunday, December 15th at 2:00 pm



Christmas Eve Worship

Tuesday, December 24th at 4:00 pm & 7:00 pm

Christmas Day Worship

Wednesday, December 25th at 9:00 am



New Year's Eve Worship

Tuesday, December 31st at 7:00 pm