



CHRISTMAS EVE
10:00 PM 2024

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
359 North Leonard Street, West Salem, Wisconsin
608-786-0030 office@oursaviorswestsalem.org
www.oursaviorswestsalem.org

Pastor Jonathan M. Schmidt
Pastor Jean R. Schmidt

OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

West Salem, Wisconsin

www.oursaviorswestsalem.org

A BLESSED CHRISTMAS TO ALL who gather here for worship from the Staff of Our Savior's Lutheran Church. May the God who comes tonight as the Christmas baby in the manger come into your hearts every day that you may love and serve God each day.

A SPECIAL WELCOME to those who are our guests. Our regular worship times are at 6 p.m. on Saturday and at 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. on Sunday. Sunday School for Pre-K through 5th grade is on Sundays 9:15-10:15 a.m.

OUR WORSHIP CONTINUES tomorrow at 10 a.m. as we worship on Christmas Day.

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL on December 29.

REMEMBER, for those who are members of Our Savior's, that contributions to be credited to 2024 need to be at the church office by 11 am on Tuesday, December 31. Our thanks to all who have supported the life and ministry of Our Savior's in the past year with time, talent, and treasure. May God continue to bless our ministry together in Christ's name in the coming year.

THANK YOU – to Jon and Lynn Labus for choosing the Christmas trees for the sanctuary.

CHRISTMAS EVE

CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

WELCOME

SPECIAL MUSIC "O Holy Night" Eric Sorenson

CHRISTMAS GOSPEL

*HYMN "O Come, All Ye Faithful" #283



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;
sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!
Je - sus, to thee be . . . glo - ry giv'n!

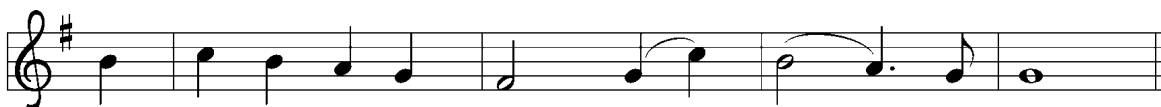


come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:
Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!
Glo - ry to God . . . in . . . the . . . high - est:
Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:

Refrain



Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,
O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,



ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.
O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

READINGS AND CAROLS

Isaiah 9:2-7 and Galatians 4:4-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness — on them light has shined.

**O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.**

You have multiplied exultation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder.

**Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now ye hear of endless bliss:
Jesus Christ was born for this!
He has opened heaven's door,
and we are blest forevermore.
Christ was born for this!
Christ was born for this!**

For the yoke of their burden and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

**For lo! The days are hast'ning on,
by prophets seen of old,
when with the ever-circling years
shall come the time foretold,
when peace shall over all the earth
its ancient splendors fling,
and all the world give back the song
which now the angels sing.**

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders, and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Great will be his authority, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

**Angels we have heard on high, sweetly
singing o'er the plains, and the mountains in
reply, echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo; gloria in excelsis Deo.**

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir through God.

SPECIAL MUSIC *"Breath of Heaven"* Melissa Haldeman

SERMON

*HYMN *"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"* #270



1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born king;
2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
3 Hail the heav'n - born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righ - teous - ness!



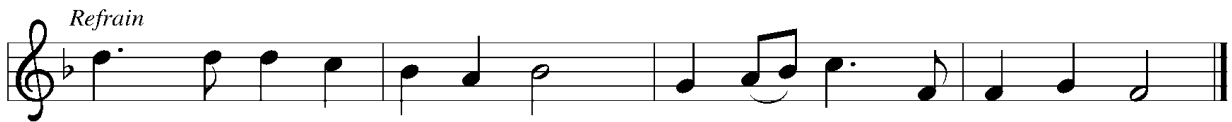
peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled."
late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God - head see! Hail, in - car - nate de - i - ty!
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



with an - gel - ic hosts pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!
born to raise each child of earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.



Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born king!"

***NICENE CREED**

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

***PRAYERS**

***HYMN "From Heaven Above" vv.12 & 14 #268**

**Ah, dearest Jesus, holy child,
prepare a bed, soft, undefiled,
a quiet chamber in my heart,
that you and I may never part.**

**"Glory to God in highest heav'n,
who unto us the Son has giv'n."
With angels sing in pious mirth
a glad new year to all the earth!**

***SHARING OF THE PEACE**

Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given. And he is named Prince of Peace. The peace of the Lord be with you always,

C: And also with you.

OFFERING

For online giving go to the church website: oursaviorswestsaalem.org/giving. Or text your gift amount to 608-471-7267 and follow the instructions on the response you receive. Or use the QR code. Thank you for your generosity and support of our work together.



***OFFERING HYMN** "What Child Is This" #293 v3

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, peasant, king, to own him. The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him. Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby; joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!

***RESPONSE**

P: Glory to God in the highest,

C: and peace to God's people on earth.

P: Blessed are you, Prince of peace. You rule the earth with truth and justice.

C: Send your gift of peace to all nations of the world.

P: Blessed are you, Son of God. You dwell among us as the Word made flesh.

C: Reveal yourself to us in word and sacrament that we may bear your light to all the world.

***WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

*LORD'S PRAYER

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.

*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Glory to God in the highest! Come to the table of peace.

HOLY COMMUNION All who believe that our Lord Jesus Christ is truly present in the bread and wine of Holy Communion, bringing to us the gift of forgiveness and the promise of eternal life, are welcome to gather at the Lord's Table. Younger children are invited to come forward to receive a blessing.

Both wine and grape juice are available – grape juice glasses are purple. Gluten free wafers are also available.

DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION HYMNS

"Away in a Manger"

#277



1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed, the lit - tle Lord
2 The cat - tle are low - ing; the ba - by a - wakes, but lit - tle Lord
3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask you to stay close by me for -



Je - sus laid down his sweet head; the stars in the bright sky looked
Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes. I love you, Lord Je - sus; look
ev - er and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear chil - dren in



down where he lay, the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
down from the sky and stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.
your ten - der care and fit us for heav - en, to live with you there.

"The First Noel"

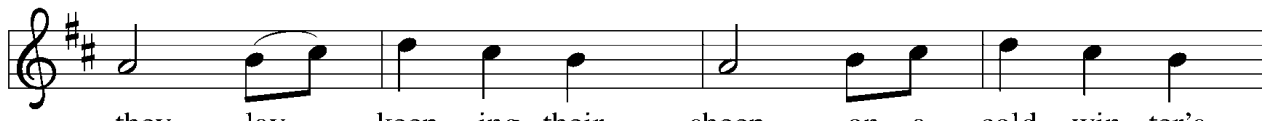
#300



1 The first No - el the an - gel did say was to
 2 They look - ed up and saw . . . a star shin - ing
 3 And by the light of that . . . same star three . .
 4 This star drew near to the . . . north - west, o'er . .
 5 Then en - tered in those wise . . . men three, full . .



cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay; in fields where
 in . . . the east . . . be - yond . . . them far; and to the
 wise . . . men came . . . from coun - try far; to seek for a
 Beth - le - hem . . . it took . . . its rest; and there it
 rev - 'rent - ly . . . up - on . . . their knee, and of - fered



they lay, keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's
 earth it gave . . . great light, and . . . so it con -
 king was their . . . in - tent, and to fol - low the
 did both stop . . . and stay right . . . o - ver the
 there in his . . . pres - ence their . . . gold, and

Refrain



night that was so deep.
 tin-ued both day and night.
 star wher - ev - er it went. No - el, No - el, No -
 place where Je - sus lay.
 myrrh, and frank - in - cense.



el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

*POST COMMUNION PRAYER

We thank you, wondrous God, for Jesus, God with us, in these gifts of bread and wine. As we have shared this feast of love, strengthen us to share your love with all the world. In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

*RESPONSE

P: Jesus, the bright Morning Star, shines light in the world.

C: By day and night he shines for all to see.

P: Jesus was born in the midst of injustice and poverty

C: that the world may see the justice and richness of God.

P: God so loved the world that God sent Jesus,

C: so that all who believe in him may not perish but have eternal life.

P: Jesus is the light of the world.

C: Jesus is the light of our lives.

*LIGHTING OF CANDLES

(Please tip only the unlit candle when lighting your candle from your neighbor.)

*HYMN

"Silent Night, Holy Night!" #281

Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright round you virgin mother and child. Holy Infant, so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight; glories stream from heaven afar, heav'nly hosts sing, alleluia! Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!

Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light radiant beams from your holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at your birth, Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

*READING John 1:1-5, 14,16

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. ... And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. ... From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.

*PRAYER

All-powerful and unseen God, the coming of your light into our world has brightened weary hearts with peace. Call us out of darkness, and empower us to proclaim the birth of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

*BENEDICTION

The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ Jesus, the Word made flesh.

Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN *"Joy to the World"* #267

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive its king; let ev'ry heart prepare him room and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sin and sorrow grow nor thorns infest the ground; he comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the nations prove the glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

***DISMISSAL**

P: Sing to God a new song! A song of hope, joy, and peace around the world!

C: Thanks be to God!

OUR SAVIOR'S WORSHIP TEAM

www.oursaviorswestsalem.org

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Pastor Jean Schmidt, Associate Pastor 608-612-0217
Email: pastorjean@oursaviorswestsalem.org
Wendy Amundson, Youth Director 608-518-9593
Email: youthoursaviorswestsalem@gmail.com
Linda Berg, Organist/Choir Accompanist/Director of Music
Email: linda@oursaviorswestsalem.org
Laurie Noelke, Handbell Choir Director/Assistant Worship Musician
Eric Sorenson, Senior Choir Director

WORSHIP LEADERS

10 p.m.

Worship Assistant Sophia Sprehn
Communion Assistant Corey Sjoquist
Welcoming Team Jeff & Melissa Haldeman

Altar Guild for December Stacey Sjoquist/Tracy Skrentny

Thank you to the following people who shared beautiful poinsettias this Christmas season.

Poinsettias have been given:



In loving memory:

Russell Amundson from Wendy Amundson
Bob & Carol Bridenbaugh and Melvin Schmidt from Pastors Jon & Jean, and Rebecca Harold & Millie Fennigkoh from Brian & Corinne Hanson
Larry Fitch from the Johnsrud and Geiger Families
Larry Gensch from Bonnie Gensch

Helmer & Gladys Hormanson and Don & Lucille Hessler from Larry & Harriet Hessler
Erv Jacobson from Shirley and Family
Jim Johnson from Vicky and Family
Les & Evie Kastenschmidt and Jim & Gladys Johnson from Ginny, Nancy, Barb, Jeff
and Families
Herb Long from his wife, children, and grandchildren
Russell McClintock Sr. from Diane and Family
Homer Moe from Vernetta Moe
Dale Peterson from Carol and Family
Judy Romskog, Arlan Romskog, and Floyd & Vernetta Romskog from Vernon
Romskog
Cory Smith from Marilyn Gnewikow
Jeff Stellick from Sue & Trenton Stellick and Gus Zabel
Gloria Thompson from Ken, Lee, and Brian
Junior & Peggy Turben and Carl Carlson from Don & Sue Carlson
Warren Whitlock from Betty Whitlock and Family
Grandpa Todd White and Great Grandma Joyce Harapat from the Byom Family
Our parents Gene & Bonnie Ender and Barbara Zitzner from Eric & Lynette Ender
Our parents Luke & Dolores Krajewski and David & Vivian Easterday from Mike &
Sue Easterday
Our parents and brothers from Ron & Dorothy Lamkin

In honor:

Our children & grandchildren from Jeff & Melissa Haldeman
Our families from Rich & Carol Westpfahl and Ryan & Christine Westpfahl

In loving memory & In honor of:

Our parents and siblings, and in honor of our children, grandchildren,
and great grandchildren from Judy & Jim Morzinski

