



*Our Savior Lutheran*

# *First Sunday in Advent*

*Order of Matins*

*In Nomine Jesu*



*Preservice Music*

*Ring of the Bells*

*Prelude*

Nun Komm, Der Heiden Heiland

By P. Manz

*Greetings & Announcements*

# *Hymn of Invocation*

## Savior of the Nations, Come

Text: Ambrose of Milan; Tune: "Nun Komm, Der Heiden Heiland"; LSB #332, sts. 1–4, 7–8 © 2006 CPH



1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come, Vir - gin's Son, make  
2 Not by hu - man flesh and blood, By the Spir - it  
3 Here a maid was found with child, Yet re - mained a  
4 Then stepped forth the Lord of all From His pure and



here Your home! Mar - vel now, O heav'n and earth,  
of our God, Was the Word of God made flesh—  
vir - gin mild. In her womb this truth was shown:  
king - ly hall; God of God, yet ful - ly man,



That the Lord chose such a birth.  
Wom - an's off - spring, pure and fresh.  
God was there up - on His throne.  
His he - ro - ic course be - gan.

7 From the manger newborn light  
Shines in glory through the night.  
Darkness there no more resides;  
In this light faith now abides.

△8 Glory to the Father sing,  
Glory to the Son, our king,  
Glory to the Spirit be  
Now and through eternity.

Text: attr. Ambrose of Milan, 340–397; German version, Martin Luther, 1483–1546; (sts. 1–2): tr. William M. Reynolds, 1812–76;  
(st. 3): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006; (sts. 4, 8): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001; (st. 7): tr. Gifford A. Grobien, 1973

Tune: Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn, 1524, Wittenberg, ed. Johann Walter

Text (sts. 3, 7): © 2006 Concordia Publishing House; (sts. 4, 8): © 1978 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005129

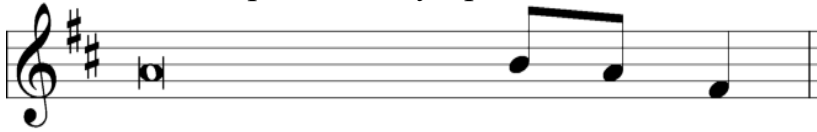
Text (sts. 1–2) and tune: Public domain

(Stand)

## *Versicles*

**P** O Lord, open thou my lips,

(Psalm 51:15)



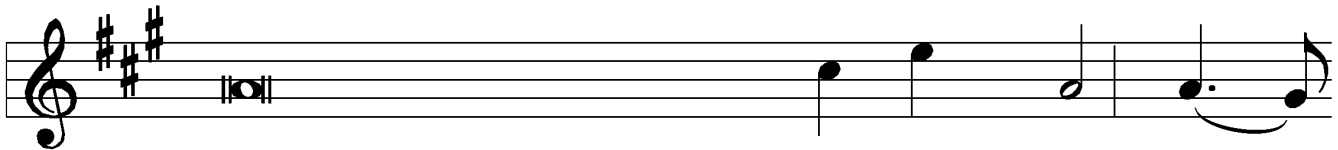
**C** And my mouth shall show forth thy praise.

**P** Make haste, O God, to deliver me;

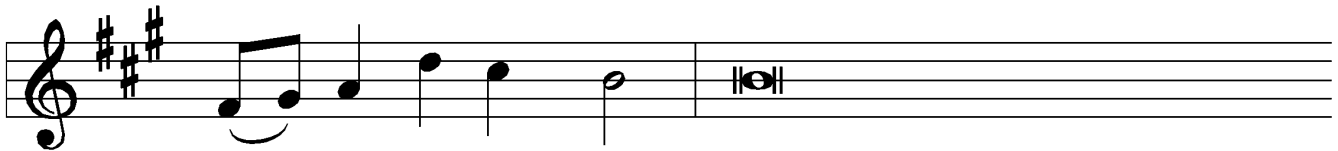
(Psalm 70:1)



**C** Make haste to help me, O Lord.



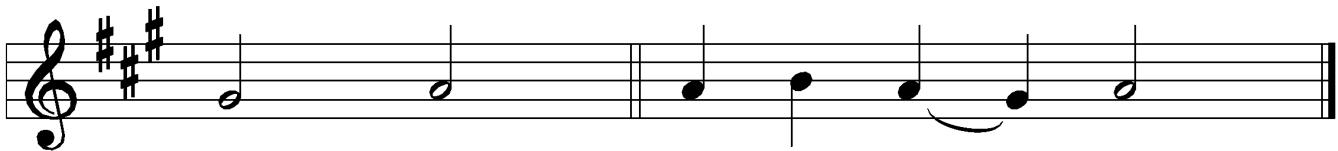
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and



to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is



now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end.

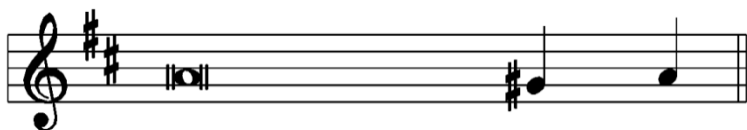


A - men. Al - le - lu - ia!

# Invitatory

**P** Oh, come, let us worship the Lord:

(Psalm 95:6)



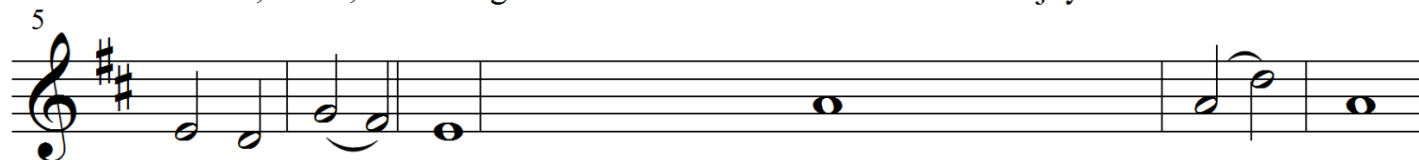
**C** For He is our Mak - er.

## Venite Exultemus Domino

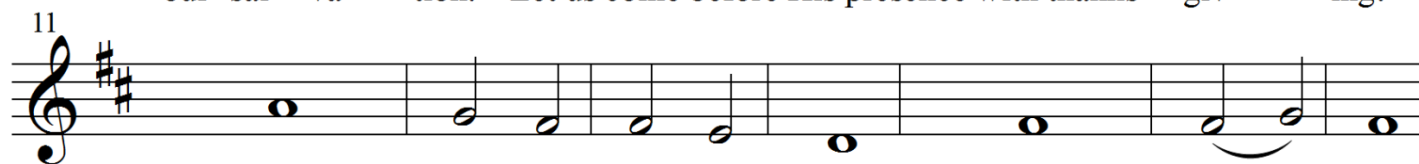
(Psalm 95:1-7)



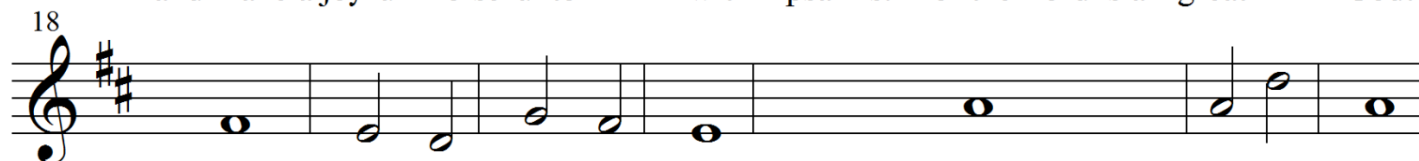
Oh, come, let us sing unto the Lord: let us make a joyful noise to the Rock of



our sal - va - tion. Let us come before His presence with thanks - giv - ing:



and make a joyful noise unto Him with psalms. For the Lord is a great God:



and a great King a - bove all gods. In His hand are the deep places of the earth:



the strength of the hills is His al - so. The sea is His, and He made it:

32 and His hands formed the dry land. Oh, come, let us worship and bow down:

39 let us kneel before the Lord, our Mak - er. For He is our God:

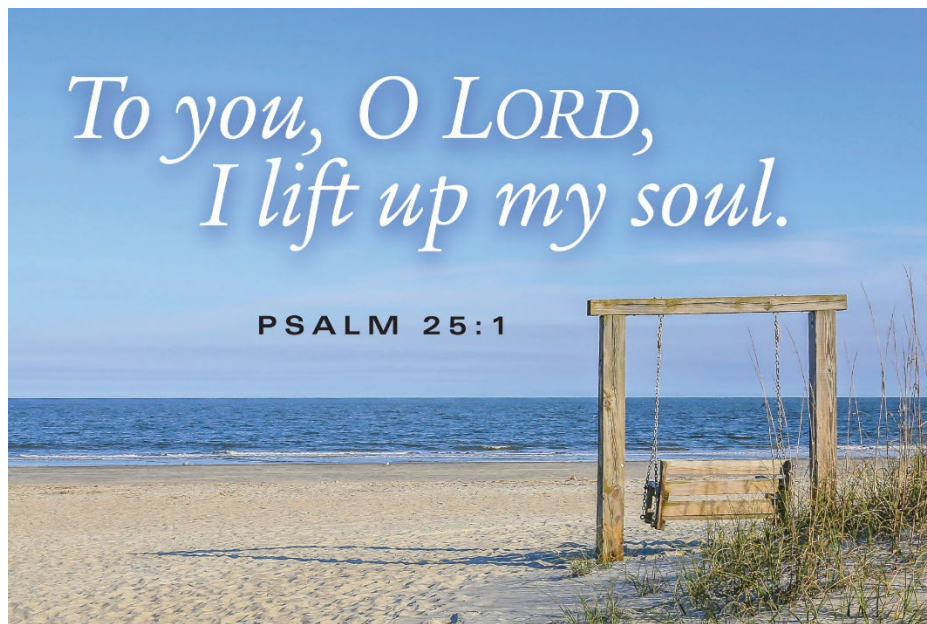
46 and we are people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.

50 Glory be to the Father and to the Son: and to the Ho - ly Ghost;

57 As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world with-out end. A - men.







## *Psalmody*

### "Ad Te Levavi"

*(Intoned by Pastor with Congregation on Gloria Patri; Psalm 25:4–5, 21–22; antiphon: vv. 1–3a)*

To you, O Lord, I lift | up my soul.\*

O my God, in you I trust; let me not be | put to shame.

Let not my enemies exult | over me.\*

Indeed, none who wait for you shall be | put to shame.

Make me to know your ways, | O Lord;\*

teach me | your paths.

Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my sal- | vation;\*

for you I wait all the | day long.

May integrity and uprightness pre- | serve me,\*

for I | wait for you.

Redeem Israel, | O God,\*

out of all his | troubles.

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\***

**and to the Holy | Spirit;**

**as it was in the be- | ginning,\***

**is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

To you, O Lord, I lift | up my soul.\*

O my God, in you I trust; let me not be | put to shame.

Let not my enemies exult | over me.\*

Indeed, none who wait for you shall be | put to shame.

(Be Seated)

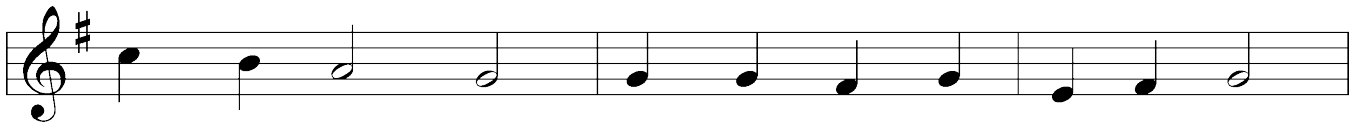
# Hymn of the Day

## Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come

Text: Johann Gottfried Olearius; Tune: "Meinen Jesum Lass' Ich Nicht (Darmstadt); LSB #350 © 2006 CPH



1 Come, Thou pre - cious Ran - som, come, On - ly hope for  
2 En - ter now my wait - ing heart, Glo - rious King and  
3 My ho - san - nas and my palms Gra - cious - ly re -  
4 Hail! Ho - san - na, Da - vid's Son! Je - sus, hear our



sin - ful mor - tals! Come, O Sav - ior of the world!  
Lord most ho - ly. Dwell in me and ne'er de - part,  
ceive, I pray Thee; Ev - er - more, as best I can,  
sup - pli - ca - tion! Let Thy king - dom, scep - ter, crown,



O - pen are to Thee all por - tals. Come, Thy beau - ty  
Though I am but poor and low - ly. Ah, what rich - es  
Sav - ior, I will hom - age pay Thee, And in faith I  
Bring us bless - ing and sal - va - tion, That for - ev - er



let us see; Anx - ious - ly we wait for Thee.  
will be mine When Thou art my guest di - vine!  
will em - brace, Lord, Thy mer - it through Thy grace.  
we may sing: Hail! Ho - san - na to our King.

Text and tune: Public domain





# Old Testament Lesson

## Jeremiah 23:5–8

[5] “Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. [6] In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely. And this is the name by which he will be called: ‘The Lord is our righteousness.’ [7] “Therefore, behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when they shall no longer say, ‘As the Lord lives who brought up the people of Israel out of the land of Egypt,’ [8] but ‘As the Lord lives who brought up and led the offspring of the house of Israel out of the north country and out of all the countries where he had driven them.’ Then they shall dwell in their own land.”

*In the shambles of their collapsing kingdom Jeremiah foretold the coming of a Messianic King who would bring eternal life and peace to His people. Unlike their failed and flawed human rulers, this King would rule in righteousness and wisdom. He would fulfill the promise of royal David’s line and bring salvation to the people of God from every nation. The Messiah will truly be “The Lord Our Righteousness” because by His perfect life and innocent death he will bestow the forgiveness of sins upon believers by grace through faith.*

**P** But Thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us.



**C** Thanks be to Thee, O Lord.

## Ministry of Music

### Prepare the Royal Highway

Setting by Hal H. Hopson

OSL Kindergarten Classes

*Prepare the royal highway; The King of kings is near!  
Let ev'ry hill and valley A level road appear!  
Then greet the King of Glory Foretold in sacred story:  
Hosanna to the Lord, For He fulfills God's Word!*

*Oh, sing a joyful song. Sing alleluia, praise the Lord.  
Oh, sing a joyful song. Sing alleluia, praise the Lord.  
Sing praise, sing praise to the Lord. Alleluia, praise the Lord.  
Alleluia, praise the Lord. Praise the Lord.*

*Prepare, prepare the way. Sing alleluia, he is near.  
Prepare, prepare the way. Sing alleluia, he is near. Prepare, sing alleluia.  
Alleluia, he is near. Alleluia, he is near. He is near.*

# Epistle Reading

## Romans 13:8–14

[8] Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. [9] The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” [10] Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law. [11] Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. [12] The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. [13] Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy.

[14] But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

*Those who have experienced the love of God in Christ can never be content with the minimums of legalism. There are no limits to God’s love for us and accordingly there can be no limits to our desire to love one another as the reflection of God’s love. The time is short. The night is almost over. Living in eager expectation of Christ’s return we are set free to make the most of each and every day as a precious opportunity to demonstrate the wondrous love of God. The darkness of selfishness and sin have no place in the lives of those who have put on the armor of light.*

**P** But Thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us.



**C** Thanks be to Thee, O Lord.



(Stand)

# *Gospel Reading*

St. Matthew 21:1-9

[1] Now when they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, [2] saying to them, “Go into the village in front of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me. [3] If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, ‘The Lord needs them,’ and he will send them at once.” [4] This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying, [5] “Say to the daughter of Zion, ‘Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.’” [6] The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. [7] They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them. [8] Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. [9] And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!”

**P** But Thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us.



**C** Thanks be to Thee, O Lord.

*Christ's final entry into Jerusalem on the eve of His passion was a triumphant acknowledgment of His role as the Son of David, the Messiah King. He knew full well that His royal throne would be the cross and yet He rode on in majesty because of His love for us and His compelling desire to save us from sin and death. These same crowds, who now sang hosanna to the Son of David, would soon be crying for His blood. But still He comes, despite who we are because of who He is.*

**"BEHOLD,  
YOUR KING  
IS COMING TO YOU ..."**

MATTHEW 21:5, ESV

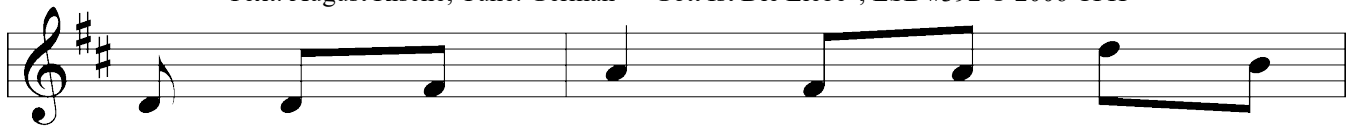


(Be Seated; Children may gather in front of the altar at this time)

## Children's Hymn

### God Loves Me Dearly

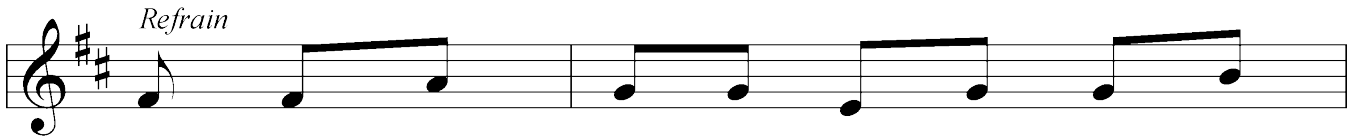
Text: August Rische; Tune: German – "Gott Ist Die Liebe"; LSB #392 © 2006 CPH



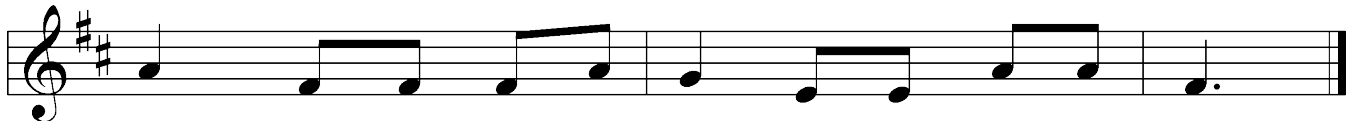
1 God loves me dear - ly, Grants me sal -  
2 I was in slav - 'ry, Sin, death, and  
3 He sent forth Je - sus, My dear Re -  
4 Je - sus, my Sav - ior, Him - self did  
5 Now I will praise You, O Love E -



va - tion, God loves me dear - ly, Loves e - ven me.  
dark - ness; God's love was work - ing To make me free.  
deem - er, He sent forth Je - sus And set me free.  
of - fer; Je - sus, my Sav - ior, Paid all I owed.  
ter - nal; Now I will praise You All my life long.



There - fore I'll say a - gain: God loves me



dear - ly, God loves me dear - ly, Loves e - ven me.

Text and tune: Public domain

## Children's Sermon



# *Sermon Hymn*

## The Advent of Our King

Text: Charles Coffin; Tune: Aaron Williams – “St. Thomas”; LSB #331 © 2006 CPH



- 1 The ad - vent of our King Our prayers must now em - ploy,  
2 The ev - er - last - ing Son In - car - nate deigns to be,  
3 O Zi - on's daugh - ter, rise To meet your low - ly King,  
4 As judge, on clouds of light, He soon will come a - gain



And we must hymns of wel-come sing In strains of ho - ly joy.  
Him-self a ser-vant's form puts on To set His ser-vants free.  
Nor let your faith-less heart de-spise The peace He comes to bring.  
And His true mem-bers all u - nite With Him in heav'n to reign.

- 5 Before the dawning day Let sin's dark deeds be gone,  
The sinful self be put away, The new self now put on.

- △ 6 All glory to the Son, Who comes to set us free,  
With Father, Spirit, ever one Through all eternity.

Text and tune: Public domain



(Stand for Text)

## *Sermon*

Text: St. Matthew 21:1–9  
“Advent – Set Donkeys Free!”  
Pastor May, Lutherans In Africa

(Stone-rubbing Image)

“The Alexamenos Graffito,” estimated AD 200

(Stand)

## *Votum*



## Offertory

(Psalm 51:10-12)

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it  
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -  
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

## Offering Prayer

(Be Seated)

## Offering

## Voluntary

The Advent of our King

# Catechism Hymn

## Our Father, Who from Heaven Above

Text: Martin Luther; Tune: attr. Martin Luther – “Vater Unser”; LSB #766 st. 3 © 2006 CPH



3 Your king-dom come. Guard Your do - main And Your e - ter - nal  
righ - teous reign. The Ho - ly Ghost en - rich our day With  
gifts at - ten - dant on our way. Break Sa - tan's pow'r, de - feat his  
rage; Pre - serve Your Church from age to age.

Text: © 1980 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005129  
Tune: Public domain

*The weekly recitation of the scripture and catechism lessons in the Divine Service helps to link us together with the children of our congregation and school who work weekly on the memorization of these texts. In the Divine Service we gather and recall the words of our youth, the words of our confirmation, the words of eternal life. The Catechism is more than a text book. The Catechism is a prayer book which is used throughout our life. The Catechism as a prayer book speaks to all our needs, giving us God's promises so that we might learn to “ask Him as dear children ask their dear Father.” The Catechism even gives us the very words with which to pray.*

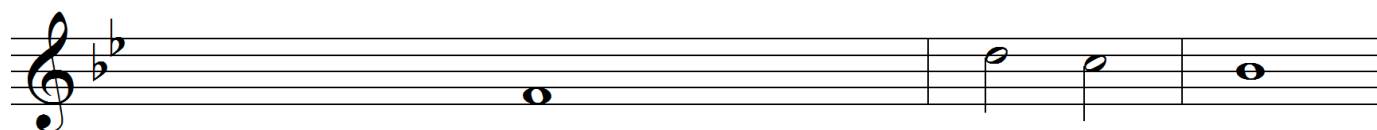
## Catechism Lesson

- P** A lesson from 1 Timothy 2:1-3 –
- C** *I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercessions and thanksgiving be made for everyone—for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceable lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and it pleases God our Savior.”*
- P** What is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Petition of The Lord's Prayer?
- C** *Thy kingdom come.*
- P** What does this mean?
- C** *The kingdom of God certainly comes by itself without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it may come to us also.*
- P** How does God's kingdom come?
- C** *God's kingdom comes when our heavenly Father gives us His Holy Spirit, so that by His grace we believe His holy Word and lead godly lives here in time and there in eternity.*

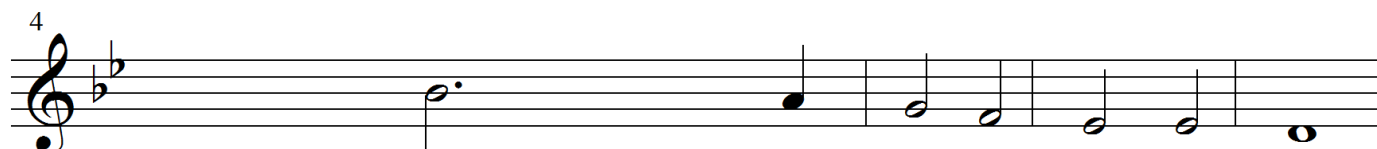
(Stand)

## Canticle - Te Deum Laudamus

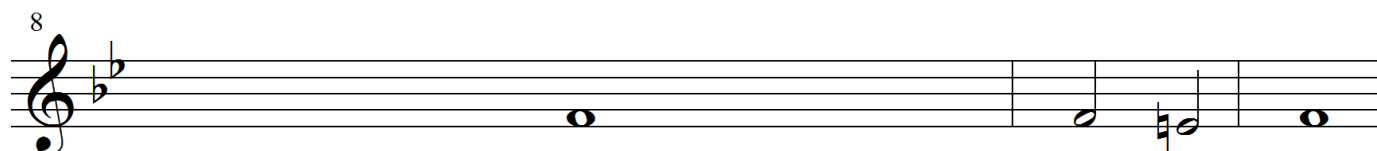
("We Praise Thee O Lord" is one of the most ancient and glorious hymns of the Church. Tradition indicates that it was composed by Ambrose of Milan on the occasion of the baptism of St. Augustine in A.D. 387. The "Te Deum" is an exalted song of praise and thanksgiving to God the Father and God the Son, based upon the outline of the Apostle's Creed. Martin Luther thought so highly of this great hymn that he suggested it be included among the basic creedal statements of Christendom. This morning we are blessed to add our voices to a grand chorus of saints and angels across the centuries in singing the praises of our wondrous God.)



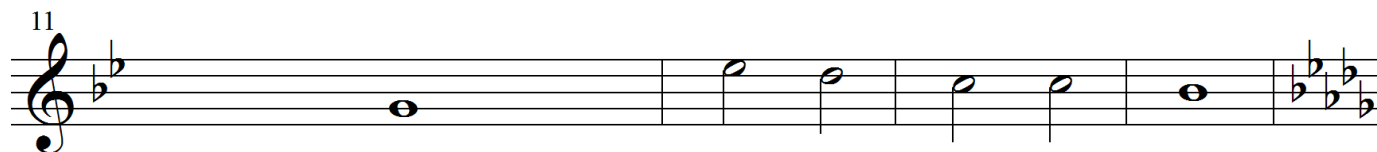
1. We praise Thee, O God; we acknowledge Thee to be the Lord.  
3. Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sab - a - oth;  
5. The noble army of martyrs praise Thee;



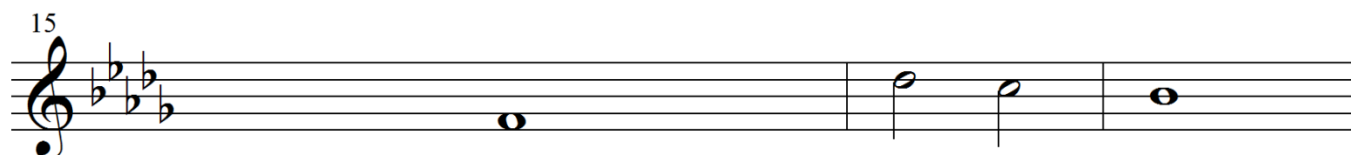
1. All the earth doth worship Thee, the Fa - ther ev - er - last - ing.  
3. Heaven and earth are full of the majes - ty of Thy glo - ry.  
5. The holy Church throughout all the world doth ac - knowl-edge Thee:



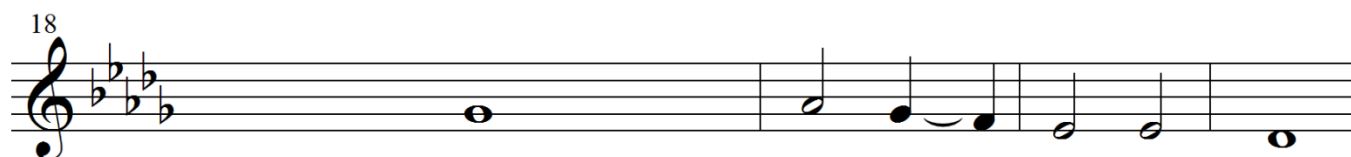
2. To Thee all angels cry aloud, the heavens and all the powers there - in;  
4. The glorious company of the Apostles praise Thee;  
6. The Father of an infinite majesty; Thine adorable true and on - ly Son,  
7. Thou art the King of Glory, O Christ.



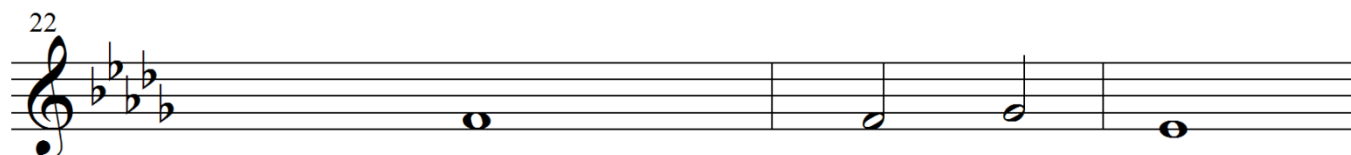
2. To Thee cherubim and seraphim con - tin - ual - ly do cry:  
4. The goodly fellowship of the proph - ets praise Thee;  
6. also the Holy Ghost, the Com - fort - er.  
7. Thou art the everlasting Son of the Fa - ther.



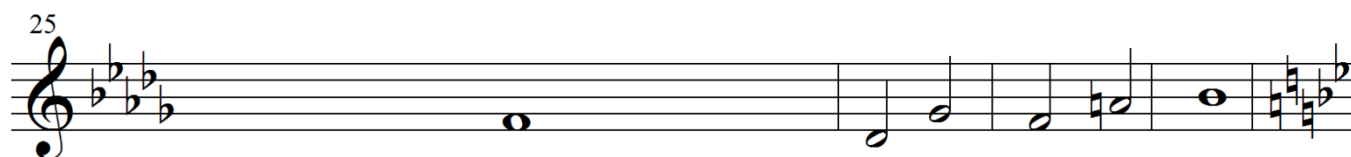
8. When Thou tookest upon Thee to de - liv - er - man,  
 10. Thou sittest at the right hand of God  
 12. We therefore pray Thee, help Thy ser - vants,



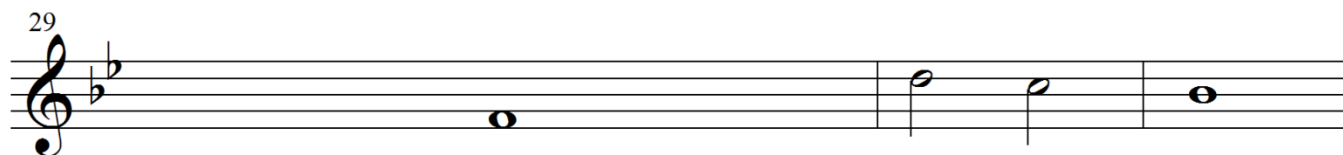
8. Thou didst humble Thyself to be born of a vir - gin.  
 10. in the glory of the Fa - ther.  
 12. whom Thou hast redeemed with Thy pre - cious blood.



9. When Thou hadst overcome the sharpness of death,  
 11. We believe that Thou shalt come  
 13. Make them to be numbered with Thy saints



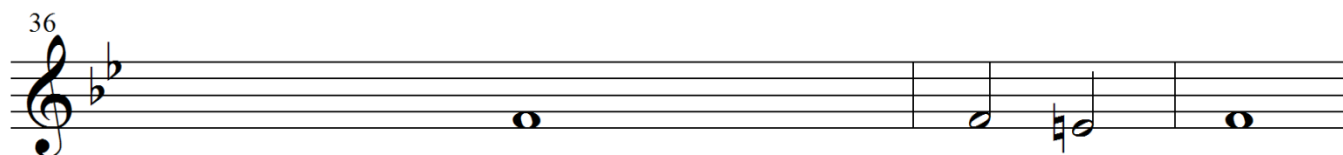
9. Thou didst open the kingdom of heaven to all be - liev - ers.  
 11. to be our Judge.  
 13. in glory ev - er - last - ing.



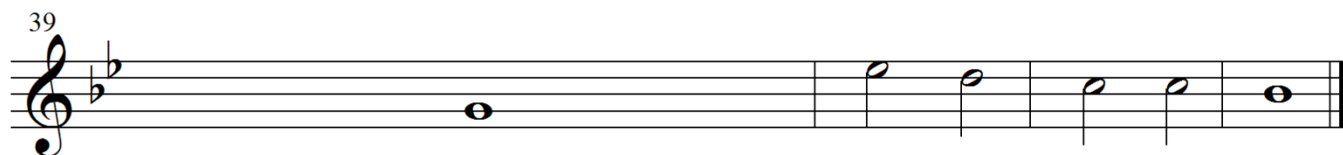
14. O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine her - i - tage.  
 16. Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this day with - out sin.



14. Govern them and lift them up for - ev - - er.  
 16. O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mer - cy up - on us.



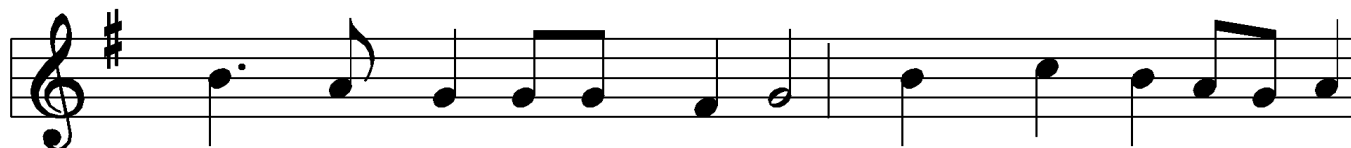
15. Day by day we magni - fy Thee.  
 17. O Lord, let Thy mercy be upon us, as our trust is in Thee.



15. And we worship Thy name ever, world with - out end.  
 17. O Lord, in Thee have I trusted; let me never be con - found - ed.

## *Kyrie*

(Mark 10:47)



**C** Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer cy up-on



us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.



# Lord's Prayer

(Matthew 6:9-13)

**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*

## Salutation

(2 Timothy 4:22)

**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And with thy spir - it.

## Intercessory Prayer

### Benedicamus

(Psalm 103:1)

**P** Let us bless the Lord.



**C** Thanks be to God.

### Benediction

(2 Corinthians 13:14)

**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** A - men.

# Closing Hymn

## Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

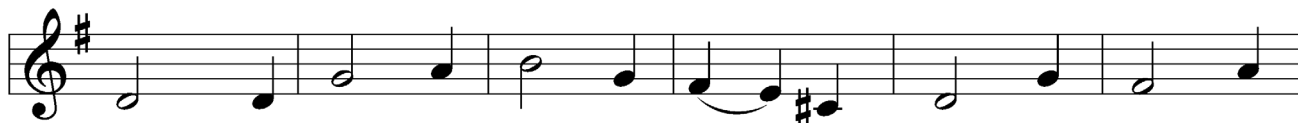
Text: Georg Weissel; Tune: August Lemke – “Milwaukee”; LSB #341 © 2006 CPH



1 Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates! Be - hold, the  
2 A righ - teous Help - er comes to thee; His char - iot  
3 How blest the land, the cit - y blest, Where Christ the  
4 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; Make it a  
5 Re - deem - er, come and o - pen wide My heart to



King of glo - ry waits. The King of kings is draw - ing  
is hu - mil - i - ty, His king - ly crown is ho - li -  
rul - er is con-fessed! O peace - ful hearts and hap - py  
tem - ple set a - part From earth - ly use for heav'n's em -  
Thee; here, Lord, a - bide! O en - ter with Thy grace di -



near; The Sav - ior of the world is here. Life and sal -  
ness, His scep - ter, pit - y in dis - tress. The end of  
homes To whom this King in tri - umph comes! The cloud - less  
ploy, A - dorned with prayer and love and joy. So shall your  
vine; Thy face of mer - cy on me shine. Thy Ho - ly



va - tion He doth bring; There-fore re - jice and glad - ly sing.  
all our woe He brings; There-fore the earth is glad and sings.  
sun of joy is He Who comes to set His peo - ple free.  
Sov - 'reign en - ter in And new and no - bler life be - gin.  
Spir - it guide us on Un - til our glo - rious goal is won.



To God the Fa - ther raise Your joy - ful songs of praise.  
To Christ the Sav - ior raise Your grate - ful hymns of praise.  
To God the Spir - it raise Your hap - py shouts of praise.  
To God a - lone be praise For word and deed and grace!  
E - ter - nal praise and fame We of - fer to Thy name.

## Postlude – Lift Up Your Heads

Acknowledgments: The Order of Matins from The Lutheran Hymnal © 1941 Concordia Publishing House.

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Dr. Laurence L. White, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Steven Cholak, Assistant Pastor  
Jeff Armstrong, Minister of Music  
Kate Thaelke, Principal

5000 W. Tidwell Rd, Houston, Texas 77091

Church: 713-290-9087 • School: 713-290-8277 • Email: [church@osl.cc](mailto:church@osl.cc) • Web: [www.osl.cc](http://www.osl.cc)

# Welcome!

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**Volume LXXVI**

**December 3, 2023**

**Number 49**

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*Enter reverently, meditate quietly, worship sincerely, serve Christ faithfully.*

It is our heartfelt prayer that all who worship here this day may encounter the love of our Savior. According to His promise, He is here today reaching out to us in love through Word and Sacrament. If you are seeking a church home, we hope that you have found it here so that we may rejoice in serving the Lord together. If we can be of service to you or your family in any way please do not hesitate to ask.

**LIFE THOUGHTS/PRAYER:** Advent I – “The Lord is our righteousness” (Jeremiah 23:6b). What comforting truth for hearts troubled with sin’s guilt that keeps resurfacing. Sometimes a past sin can be so haunting that we do not always feel forgiven, or we cannot forgive ourselves. The sin of abortion is a prime example. But our righteousness does not depend upon us or our feelings. Our righteousness is Christ! *Prayer: O Lord our Righteousness, may my comfort and hope be anchored in You and not my feelings. Amen.*

**ATTENDANCE CARDS – MEMBERS (yellow) & VISITORS (blue),** remember to fill out an attendance card listing all in attendance for your family. Please note any changes, otherwise you do not have to fill in the address information each week. It is appreciated if first-time visitors would include their address and phone number. Email and work numbers are helpful for inner-office needs. By filling out a card, your attendance and communing is recorded, and your comments are addressed. It is not necessary to indicate common or individual cup. Place cards in the offering plate or give to an usher on your way out. Thanks!

- *The Cry-Room and the four row spans directly in front of it are reserved for parents with small children. Thank you.*
- *Hearing devices are available from the ushers if you need this assistance.*



**HOLY COMMUNION** will be celebrated next on **Sunday, December 10 at 9:30 AM.** “Let a man examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup.” *1 Corinthians 11:28*

The Word of God teaches that the bread and wine of the Sacrament are the true Body and Blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. This precious gift of God’s grace is to be received in a sense of reverent awe after careful self-examination. The Bible defines that self-examination as a personal recognition of the real presence of Christ’s Body and Blood in the Sacrament, and a repentant acknowledgment of my own sinfulness recognizing my absolute dependence upon Christ as the only source of forgiveness for my sin. Scripture further instructs that our participation in Christ’s Body and Blood together is the most profound and powerful way for Christians to acknowledge their unity in the faith. That is to say, when we share in the Body and Blood of Jesus at this altar, we are thereby indicating our common commitment to all of the doctrines of God’s Word as they are taught in this congregation. Because of these Biblical convictions, we respectfully request that visitors, who wish to join us in receiving the Body and Blood of Christ and thereby identify with our confession of Bible truth, speak with one of our pastors before attending the Lord’s Supper.

## Get the OSL App...

**SERMON VIDEOS** are on our app or website at [www.OSL.cc](http://www.OSL.cc) (click MEDIA at the top). CDs of sermons are available for \$2 each. You may also request past sermons and special services on your attendance card.



## Bible Class & Sunday School Options for all:

### 8:15 AM –

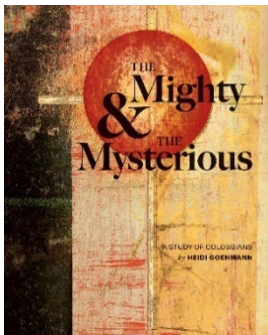
7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade Catechism/Confirmation: Confirmation students learn together as they develop their faith, learning how to pray, read and study Scripture, and defend their faith. (Pastor Cholak – Youth 4:12 Room)

Genesis: The Beginning of All Things – A study of Creation in Scripture, chapters 1-11 (Pastor White - Bible Class Room)

### 10:45 AM – Adults

**The Cost of Discipleship:** This will be an intense study to help each of us understand what it truly means to be a Christian according to the Word of God. Our outline will be based on the life and the writings of Dietrich Bonhoeffer. Pastor Bonhoeffer was brutally martyred by the Nazis for his courageous stand against the evil which had engulfed his country. Most Christians remained silent while everything they professed to believe was denied and destroyed. Join us for this important Bible study because it is happening again all around us. Let God call us back to real discipleship. (Pastor White - Bible Class Room)

**Lutheran Confessions:** Our Lutheran Confessions were developed out of a genuine concern with false teachings obscuring the glory and merit of our Savior. These unconditional affirmations are as understandable and poignant today as when they were written. Learn their history and development, as well as their relevance in the daily life of a Christian. Through discussion, you will see how others are asking the same questions and how Scripture offers solid, reliable answers. (James Kriegel, C101)



**NEW Women's Bible Study – *The Mighty and the Mysterious*:** We have started our walk with author Heidi Goehmann through God's Word to the Colossians. Though many things will remain a mystery until we see our Savior face-to-face, readers will discover that God fills them right now in every way, through the mighty and mysterious Body of Christ, the Church. (Family Rm, Church)

**Applying Scripture to Current Events:** This class for young adults will focus on today's headlines and current events and discuss these topics in light of scripture and how the verses covered each week apply to everyday life. (Adam White, C106)

**The Church Militant: God's Work in History:** Picking up from the history of the early Church, we continue the history of how God preserved His Word within the medieval Church and brought about the Reformation in the 16th century. Combining history and theology, we will explore the connections of the Church past and present. (Karl Baughman, Cafeteria)

**Mommy & Me Bible Class (for Moms & babies)** in Room B112 of the ECE building, led by Nicole Spangler.



### **YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL MEETS AS LISTED – 10:45 AM –**

High School – 4:12 Youth Room  
7<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade – C105  
6<sup>th</sup> Grade – C103

5<sup>th</sup> Grade – C113  
3<sup>rd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade – C116  
1<sup>st</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade – C115

Kindergarten – B107  
3 & 4 yrs – B108  
18 mos. – 3 yrs – B111

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Allison, Chad & Ava Symcox in celebration of Jo-Caroll Mueller's birthday; and by Karen & John Listi in honor of their 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary, December 11<sup>th</sup>.

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## 2024 Flower Chart is available to sponsor the church flowers for your special occasions!

Each flower arrangement is \$45. You will find the flower clipboard on the hutch in the narthex. Remember to write a "W" if you want the flowers, or "S" to send them to the sick. Thank you!

**UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION:** Remember to log in to your **Breeze** account, and make sure all your contact information is correct – phone numbers, address, email accounts, etc. You can even **add your own PHOTO**. Call the church office if you need help: 713-290-9087.

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### Non-OSL 7th/8th GRADE CONFIRMATION ZOOM—Sundays at 6:00 PM

**Young Adults Bible Study—Mondays—6PM—OSL Youth Room:** This group is young adults (both married and single). We meet on Monday evenings at 6PM in the 4:12 Lounge (the Youth Room). We'll have snacks and refreshments as we gather to study and visit. Please tell your friends!

**Life With God: New Member Classes on Mondays @ 7pm** – Our adult information class covers the most important teachings of the Bible as they are believed, taught, and confessed in this Lutheran Congregation. The class is designed for anyone considering membership in Our Savior Lutheran Church and for members of the congregation who would like a great review of basic Bible doctrine. It should be particularly interesting for both member and non-member school parents to familiarize yourself with what your kids are learning in class every day. **Class is on Mondays, from 7:00-8:30pm. Babysitting and refreshments are provided.**



**WEEKLY MEN'S BIBLE STUDY** –All men are invited on **Wednesday** mornings in the Bible Class Room, at 6:30-7:30 a.m. Contact Channing Wood at [channing@toddyblends.com](mailto:channing@toddyblends.com).

**PASTOR WHITE'S WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS** meets from 10:00-12:00, and we are studying *Romans, Chief Part of the New Testament and the Very Purest Gospel*. Make Bible study a regular part of your schedule. Food and fellowship provided of course!

**ZOOM BIBLE STUDY THURSDAYS** – Join us for the Word on the Web as we study Mark's Gospel on Thursdays at 7PM. Go to: <https://osl.cc/the-word-on-the-web> to join the study. You need Zoom installed on your phone or computer with microphone and camera to participate.

**OSL is looking for some new EXTENDED CARE STAFF for next semester.** Interested persons can call Mrs. Cherington at 713-290-8277, or email: [lcherington@oslschool.org](mailto:lcherington@oslschool.org).

#### ***Qualifications for Extended Care Staff:***

- Need to be at least 18 years old.
- High School Graduate
- Some experience with childcare would be valuable but not completely necessary.
- A desire to work with children and be a Christian role model to them.
- Willing to learn and be trained in childcare.
- About 15-18 hours a week - after school hours



**Order Legacy Bricks!** All orders closing on December 31. Bricks will be installed in May. Proceeds benefit the 8<sup>th</sup> grade trip to Washington DC where they learn their responsibilities as Christian citizens.





**SHUT-IN MEMBER VISITS** – *Do you know of someone that is not able to make it to church and wants a visit?* Please contact **Pastor Cholak**: 713-290-9087 or [scholak@osl.cc](mailto:scholak@osl.cc).

**Calling for Cross-stitchers!** If you are interested in helping make the Chrismon ornaments for our Sunday School children, we are looking for stitchers! The patterns are simple and we will provide you with the materials. If interested, please contact Sarah in the church office.



**Do you crochet or hem?** The Blue Buses are seeing so many moms, we're handing out baby blankets like crazy! If you can help crochet or hem blankets, please contact **Ethelene Marshall**: 713-849-9266 or 713-542-7534.

**CART CREW DRIVERS NEEDED!** Please consider joining a Cart Crew Team! You must be 16 or older and have a valid driver's license. Please contact the church office 713-290-9087, or Andy Adams [aadams@adamsins.com](mailto:aadams@adamsins.com), to add your name to the list.

**GREETERS NEEDED** to serve the Lord with gladness! Get to know your fellow church family. Call Garry Stuhr for information: 281-704-7129.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** for audio-visual ministries: If you would like to learn from a "hands on" perspective, call 713-290-9087, leave your name, number, and we will contact you. No experience needed.

**RECYCLE** Paper in the bin which is in the back parking lot to the north.

**STAMPS** – Cheerful Helpers are collecting stamps trimmed to ¼". Please put them in the mailbox in Pastor White's Bible Class Room. – Sandi Hall, Human Care Chairman.

**Greeting Cards** are available in the Bible Class Room. Each box is \$6 or \$7. Make checks payable to OSL, with Circle of Grace in the memo.

**SAVE THE DATE**  
SATURDAY, 12.16.23

**OSL MEN ALIVE!**  
20TH ANNUAL CHARITY  
GOLF TOURNAMENT  
8:30AM START



8502 RIO GRANDE ST,  
JERSEY VILLAGE, TX 77040

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL:  
CHANNING WOOD (281)236-8105  
[MENALIVE@OSL.CC](mailto:MENALIVE@OSL.CC)



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**MEASURE OF DEVOTION:** Last Sunday, we had 343 people in attendance (last year 363), 330 viewers online; Thanksgiving Eve 219 (last year 168); Thanksgiving Day 65 (last year 45).

### Our Ministry Challenge

Tithes & Offerings for last week .....	\$ 24,818.33
Tithes & Offerings to date – week 48 .....	\$ 1,659,766.80
Tithes & Offerings needed each week .....	\$ 40,600.00
Tithes & Offerings needed to date – week 48 .....	\$ 1,948,800.00
General Fund Income to date .....	\$ 4,368,918.06
Special Contributions to date .....	\$ 440,302.03

*“Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,” says the Lord Almighty, “and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it.” Malachi 3:10*

### Those To Serve:

#### Today, Sunday, December 3, at 9:30 AM

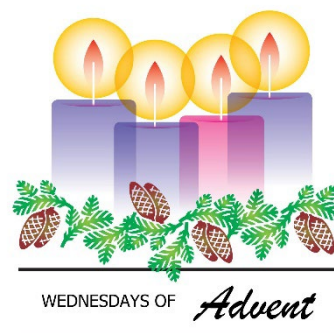
**ELDERS:** James Kriegel/ Alvin Fritsche/ Ken Wright/ Brandon Shipes  
**USHERS:** Downie Team  
**SOUND:** Greenwood  
**CARTS:** Adams Team  
**ACOLYTES:** Livy Adams / Lily Luna  
**ALTAR GLD:** —  
**COMM. ASST:** —  
**EVANGELISM:** Team 2 Garry  
**GREETERS:** TEAM 6: Nalley / Edwards  
**MUSIC:** Kindergarten  
**VIDEO:** Amélie Boerger / Chad Greenwood / Mitchell Stephens / Adam White / Wesley White

#### Next Week, Sunday, December 10, at 9:30 AM

James Kriegel/ Alvin Fritsche/ Ken Wright/ Brandon Shipes  
 Gobrogge Team  
 Blake  
 Downie Team  
 George Baughman / Blake Farr  
 Lorie Moehlman Team  
 James Kriegel/Ken Wright/Brandon Shipes/Dennis Mueller  
 Team 3 James  
 TEAM 8: Greenwood / Domann / Peterson

#### Advent Wednesday, December 6, at 7:00 PM

**ELDERS:** James Kriegel/ Alvin Fritsche/ Ken Wright/ Brandon Shipes  
**USHERS:** Downie Team  
**SOUND:** Greenwood  
**CARTS:** Pampell Team  
**ACOLYTES:** Huck Bender / Austin Pugh / Caden Williams  
**EVANGELISM:** Team 2 Garry  
**GREETERS:** TEAM 7: Fehrenkamp / Fritsche  
**MUSIC:** Laudate Choir  
**VIDEO:** Amélie Boerger / Chad Greenwood / Mitchell Stephens / Adam White / Wesley White



### Don't Forget To Tithe!



*Use the OSL app, free in the App Store. No monthly fee -No set up fee -No hidden fees; Lowest processing rates that continue to drop as your giving increases. All credit and debit cards (including AMEX) are processed at 2.3% + .30 cents per transaction. All ACH donations are 1% with no cents. There is also a “GIVE” link at the top of our website: [www.OSL.cc](http://www.OSL.cc)*

# OSL at a Glance

## Sunday, December 3, 2023 ~ Advent

<i>Event</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Location</i>
Bible Class	8:15am	Bible Class Room
Confirmation Class-YR	8:15am	Youth Room
<b>Matins</b>	<b>9:30am</b>	<b>Church &amp; online</b>
Sunday School	10:45am	
Exultae Brass-Choir Rm	12:00pm	Choir Room
Hanging of the Greens	12:00pm	Church
Sr Youth Meeting-YR	4:00pm	Youth Room
Non-OSL Confirmation-Zoom	6:00pm	Zoom online



## Monday, December 4, 2023

Young Adults Bible Study-YR	6:00pm	Youth Room
Potter's Vessel-FR	6:30pm	Family Room
New Member Class-BC	7:00pm	Bible Class Room

## Tuesday, December 5, 2023

Church Council-BC	7:00pm	Bible Class Room
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## Wednesday, December 6, 2023

Men's Bible Study-BC	6:30am	Bible Class Room
Bible Class-BC	10:00am	Bible Class Room
Bulletin Deadline	12:00pm	Church Office
Advent Meal-BC	5:30pm	Bible Class Room
<b>Advent Service</b>	<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>Church &amp; online</b>



## Thursday, December 7, 2023

Prayer Request printing deadline	3:00pm	Church office
<i>UH Campus Ministry</i>	<i>6:00pm</i>	<i>University of Houston</i>
Carillon Ringers	6:15pm	Choir Loft
Jubilate Choir	7:00pm	Choir Loft
Lutheran Confessions Bible Study-BC	7:00pm	Bible Class Room
Word Web Bible Study-Zoom	7:00pm	<a href="https://osl.cc/the-word-on-the-web">https://osl.cc/the-word-on-the-web</a>

## Friday, December 8, 2023

Joseph's Guild of Colors-LWML	9:00am	LWML
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## Saturday, December 9, 2023

GEMS YOUth in Mission-LWML -YR	10:00am	Youth Room
<b>Live Nativity</b>	<b>5:00pm</b>	<b>Outside &amp; Sanctuary</b>



## Sunday, December 10, 2023

Bible Class	8:15am	Bible Class Room
Confirmation Class-YR	8:15am	Youth Room
<b>Communion</b>	<b>9:30am</b>	<b>Church &amp; online</b>
Sunday School	10:45am	
Laudate-Choir Rm	12:00pm	Church Choir Room
<b>LWML Christmas Party-BC</b>	<b>12:30pm</b>	Bible Class Room
Non-OSL Confirmation-Zoom	6:00pm	Zoom online







You're invited to our interactive, **LIVE** nativity:  
**Bethlehem Village & Scripture Scene**  
Meditative Walk

**Saturday, December 9, 2023**

**5:00 - 7:00 pm**

**Our Savior Lutheran Church • 5000 W Tidwell Rd, Houston TX 77091**

Rain-out Date: 12.16.23



# Advent Wednesdays

**Services begin December 6 @ 7:00 pm**

*I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near: a star shall come out of Jacob,  
and a scepter shall rise out of Israel. Numbers 24:17*

**ADVENT MEALS Begin THIS Wednesday!** We will have a fellowship meal in the Bible Class Room at 5:30 PM, before the service at 7PM. All the cooking will be done by our chef, Diana DeForest, and the following groups will setup, serve, and cleanup:

**December 06 – Parish Ed:** *Loaded Baked Potatoes*

**December 13 – LWML Cheerful Helpers:** *Spaghetti Dinner*

**December 20 – Men Alive:** *Pulled Pork Sandwiches*

*Anyone is welcome to help these groups, too! Thanks for your service to our Lord this Advent Season!*

## *Order Your Poinsettias*

The Altar Guild will be decorating our church with poinsettias to celebrate the joy of our newborn Savior in memory of loved ones or a special occasion. Your dedication will be printed in a special book that will be handed out at the Christmas services. Use this form and place in the offering plate, mail to us, or email to Jackie at [jlowery@osl.cc](mailto:jlowery@osl.cc). Each poinsettia plant is \$15.00. Checks made out to OSL. Poinsettias will be available for pick up after the New Year's Eve Service. Poinsettia dedication deadline for the book is December 17th.



Yes, I want \_\_\_\_\_ poinsettias @ \$15.00 each = \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Dedication: \_\_\_\_\_