

## Blessed Savior Lutheran Church

1205 North Lincoln Ave O'Fallon, IL  
(618) 632-0126  
www.mybslc.org  
Worship –9:30 am.

Rev. Vernon Lintvedt, Pastor  
Assisting: Seminarian Matt Martin  
Cheryl Vohlken, Organist  
Sunday School & Bible Class 10:45 am

**Epiphany (Observed)**

**January 8, 2023**

### WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jan 04 - Jerold Clausius went to his eternal rest this past Wed.

Check back on our website: [www.mybslc.org](http://www.mybslc.org) for information on the Visitation and Celebration of Life.

Jan 15 – Life Sunday with Pastor Perry Schefelker. Mosaic Baby

Bottles will be available to begin collecting coins to support the Crisis Pregnancy Center.

Jan 21 – Youth Laser tag. Contact Tyler Owens for details.



### INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father and of the ✕ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

**HYMN No. 412** “The People That in Darkness Sat” (1,3,4,6)

**The people that in darkness sat  
A glorious light have seen;  
The light has shined on them who long  
In shades of death have been,  
In shades of death have been.**

**To us the Child of hope is born,  
To us a Son is given,  
And on His shoulder ever rests  
All power in earth and heaven,  
All power in earth and heaven.**

**His name shall be the Prince of Peace,  
The Everlasting Lord,  
The Wonderful, the Counselor,  
The God by all adored,  
The God by all adored.**

**Lord Jesus, reign in us, we pray,  
And make us Thine alone,  
Who with the Father ever art  
And Holy spirit, one,  
And Holy spirit, one.**

**OPENING SENTENCES** *Based on Psalm 117:2; Isaiah 60:3*

L: Great is the steadfast love of the LORD toward us;  
C: **and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever.**

L: Nations will come to His light  
C: **and kings to the brightness of His rising.**

### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

*Silence for reflection on God's Word.*

L: Let us confess our sins unto the Lord.

C: **I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.**

L: Fellow Saints, “Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.” From the star and the cross of Jesus radiates the light of God's love and from Him pours out His gifts of pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins. Having repented and exposed yourselves to the light of Christ trusting in, God grants you forgiveness of all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✕ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

L: Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord. (Isaiah 2:5)

C: **Grant us Your peace, O Lord. Amen.**

## SHARING THE PEACE

**HYMN OF PRAISE No. 400** “Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning”

**Brightest and best of the stars of the morning,  
Dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid.  
Star of the east, the horizon adorning,  
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.**

**Cold on His cradle the dewdrops are shining;  
Low lies His head with the beasts of the stall;  
Angels adore him in slumber reclining,  
Maker and Monarch and Savior of all.**

**Shall we not yield Him, in costly devotion,  
Fragrance of Edom and offerings divine,  
Gems of the mountain and pearls of the ocean,  
Myrrh from the forest and gold from the mine?**

**Vainly we offer each ample oblation, (sacrifice, offering)  
Vainly with gifts would his favor secure;  
Richer by far is the heart’s adoration,  
Dearer to God are the prayers of the poor.**

**Brightest and best of the stars of the morning,  
Dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid.  
Star of the East, the horizon adorning,  
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Let us pray.

O God, by the leading of a star You made known Your only-begotten Son to the Gentiles. Lead us, who know You by faith, to enjoy in heaven the fullness of Your divine presence; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

**OLD TESTAMENT LESSON** *Isaiah 60:1–6*

(Arise, shine, for your light has come.)

**EPISTLE** *Ephesians 3:1–12*

(The mystery long hidden has been revealed in Jesus Christ.)

**VERSE** *Matthew 2:2b*

L: Alleluia. Where is He who has been born king of the Jews?

C: **For we saw His star when it rose and have come to worship Him.  
Alleluia.**

**HOLY GOSPEL** *Matthew 2:1–12*

(The star leads the Magi to the place where Jesus Christ was born for all.)

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the second chapter.

C: **Glorify to You, O Lord.**

(The Gospel is read.)

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

**HYMN No. 882** “O Christ, Who are the Light and Day”

**SERMON** “A Star Rising” Matthew 2:1-12 Pastor Vern

## CONFESSION OF FAITH

THE APOSTLES' CREED *stand*

**ALL:** I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

## OFFERING

### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

(Final Petition)

L: Grant to us all things needful and keep from us all things harmful, O Lord, for we trust in Your goodness and in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who taught us to pray, saying:

### LORD'S PRAYER *(Matthew 6:9-13)*

**All:** 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 OF THE LORD *Numbers 6:24-26*

**HYMN No. 397** "As With Gladness Men of Old" (vss. 1,4,5)

As with gladness men of old Did the guiding star behold;  
As with joy they hailed its light, Leading onward, beaming bright;  
So, most gracious Lord, may we Evermore be led by thee.

Holy Jesus, ev'ry day Keep us in the narrow way;  
And when earthly things are past, Bring our ransomed souls at last  
Where they need no star to guide, Where no clouds thy glory hide.

In the heav'nly country bright Need they no created light;  
Thou its light, its joy, its crown, Thou its sun which goes not down;  
There forever may we sing Alleluias to our King.

### SENDING

L: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

C: Thanks be to God!