

**Blessed Savior Lutheran Church**

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

Pastor Tony Troup (618-340-8375), Vacancy Pastor  
Pastor Perry Schefelker (618-322-7498), Vacancy Pastor  
Brett Arrasmith, Field Worker, Liturgist  
Cheryl Vohlken, Organist  
Sunday School & Bible Class: 10:45am

**FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS**

December 29, 2024

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**HYMN No. 370** "What Child Is This"

**What child is this, who, laid to rest,  
On Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthem sweet  
While shepherds watch are keeping?  
This, this is Christ the king,  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
Haste, haste to bring him laud,  
The babe, the son of Mary!**

**Why lies he in such mean estate  
Where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here  
The silent Word is pleading.  
Nails, spear shall pierce him through,  
The cross be borne for me, for you'  
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,  
The babe, the son of Mary!**

**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!**



**INVOCATION**

**P:** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C:** Amen.

**OPENING SENTENCES** *Exodus 13:14; Isaiah 9:6a; Hebrews 8:12; Psalm 111:4a*

**P:** By a strong hand the LORD brought us out of Egypt, from the house of slavery.  
**C:** For to us a child is born, to us a son is given.

P: For I will be merciful, . . . and I will remember their sins no more.  
C: **He has caused His wondrous works to be remembered.**

## **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**      *Genesis 3:19; Isaiah 43:25*

P: God our Creator said to Adam and to us all to remember that “you are dust, and to dust you shall return.” But now He calls all to repentance of sin and faith in His Son, who is the remembrance of God’s mercy and who came to destroy sin and death and restore us to life. Before the newborn Redeemer of the world, let us repent and receive His forgiveness.

C: **O God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, remember not our sins of thought, word, and deed, the sins of our youth or of our old age. Because we often forget Your mercy toward us, we ask for Your forgiveness. Remember Your gracious will that whoever calls on Your name will be saved. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us always to remember Your mercy and Your steadfast love that we may live as Your own children, now and forever. Amen.**

P: Thus says the Lord, “I, I am He who blots out your transgressions for my own sake, and I will not remember your sins.” Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word made flesh, announce the grace of God to all of you. In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

## **SHARING OF THE PEACE**

**A RESPONSE OF PRAISE** No. 387 “Joy to the World” –  
*Psalm 98:1–4; Isaiah 52:10*

**All: Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her 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.**

L: Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for He has done marvelous things!

C: **His right hand and His holy arm have worked salvation for Him.**

**All: Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!  
Let men their songs employ,  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

P: The LORD has made known His salvation;

C: **He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

P: He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

C: **All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.**

**All: No more let sins and sorrows 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.**

**P:** The LORD has bared His holy arm before the eyes of all the nations,  
**C:** **and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.**

**All: 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.**

**P:** Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for He has done marvelous things!  
**C:** **Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!**

## **SALUTATION**

**P:** The Lord be with you.  
**C:** **And also with you.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P:** Let us pray.  
O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**C:** **Amen.**

## **OLD TESTAMENT READING** *Exodus 13:1–3a, 11–15* (Sanctifying of the firstborn)

The LORD said to Moses, “Consecrate to me all the firstborn. Whatever is the first to open the womb among the people of Israel, both of man and of beast, is mine.”  
Then Moses said to the people, “Remember this day in which you came out from Egypt, out of the house of slavery, for by a strong hand the LORD brought you out from this place.

“When the LORD brings you into the land of the Canaanites, as he swore to you and your fathers, and shall give it to you, you shall set apart to the LORD all that first opens the womb. All the firstborn of your animals that are males shall be the LORD’s. Every firstborn of a donkey you shall redeem with a lamb, or if you will not redeem it you shall break its neck. Every firstborn of man among your sons you shall redeem. And when in time to come your son asks you, “What does this mean?” you shall say to him, “By a strong hand the LORD brought us out of Egypt, from the house of slavery. For when Pharaoh stubbornly refused to let us go, the LORD killed all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both the firstborn of man and the firstborn of animals. Therefore I sacrifice to the LORD all the males that first open the womb, but all the firstborn of my sons I redeem.”

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE** *Colossians 3:12–17* (The new nature of love and peace)

Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**VERSE** *Luke 2:30, 32*

P: Alleluia. My eyes have seen Your salvation;

C: **a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to Your people Israel. Alleluia.**

**HOLY GOSPEL** *Luke 2:22–40* (Jesus presented at the temple)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

(The Gospel is read.)

And when the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord") and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons." Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said, "Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel."

And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed. "And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
People: Praise to You, O Christ.

## CHILDREN'S TALK

### HYMN OF THE DAY NO. 379 "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

Oh, come, All ye faithful, joyful and triumphant  
Oh come Ye, Oh come ye to Bethlehem  
Come and behold Him, born the King of angels  
O Come let us adore Him,  
O Come let us adore Him,  
O Come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

Highest, most holy, Light of light eternal,  
Born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;  
Son of the Father Now in flesh appearing!  
Oh, come, let us adore Him,  
Oh, come, let us adore Him  
Oh, come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

Sing Choirs of angels, sing in exultation  
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God... In the highest:  
Oh, come, let us adore Him,  
Oh, come, let us adore Him  
Oh, come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, Born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to Thee.. be .. glo....ry giv'n!  
Word of the Father, Now in flesh appearing!  
Oh, come, let us adore Him,  
Oh, come, let us adore Him,  
Oh, come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

**SERMON** "Ready to Go". Luke 2:22-40 Pastor David Pelsue

**CREED** *Apostles Creed (Please stand)*

**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**

**P:** Let us pray.

Almighty God, great are Your works of the creation of all things. Greater still is Your mighty work of the redemption of the world from the ravages of sin and death brought on by the rebellion of those created in Your own likeness. We praise You for all Your promises of salvation fulfilled in the sending of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Remember Your promise of love that whoever believes in Him will have eternal life. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

**P:** Grant Your strength and blessing to Your whole church as we live, pray, and work in the remembrance of Your grace and gifts. Bless all pastors and workers in Your church never to forget their calling to faithfully proclaim Your Word and will to a world still struggling against the darkness of sin and unbelief. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

**Pastor:** Remember in Your mercy all leaders and servants in government that they may be endued with a love of peace and the way of justice and righteousness for all people. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

**Pastor:** Remember in Your mercy all Your people in their various vocations and stations in life, that they may prosper in their lives motivated by Your love. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

**Pastor:** Remember in Your mercy all who are sick or injured, the homebound and the infirm. Grant Your peace, rest, and healing, keeping them in constant faith in Your promises. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

**P:** Grant peace, we pray, in mercy, Lord, to all who mourn the death of loved ones. Grant that our remembrance of their faith causes us to remain closer to You in the sure and certain hope of the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

**P:** Graciously receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## **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.

**BENEDICTION**      *Numbers 6:24–26*

**P:**      The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.  
**C:**      Amen.

**HYMN NO. 384**      “Of the Father’s Love Begotten” (vs 1,2, 5) (Please stand)

**Of the Father’s love begotten  
Ere the worlds began to be,  
He is Alpha and Omega,  
He the source, the ending He,  
Of the things that are, that have been,  
And that future years shall see  
Evermore and evermore.**

**Oh, that birth forever blessed,  
When the virgin full of grace,  
By the Holy Ghost conceiving,  
Bore the Savior of our race,  
And the babe, the world’s Redeemer,  
First revealed His sacred face  
Evermore and evermore.**

**Christ, to Thee, with God the Father  
And, O Holy Ghost, to Thee  
Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving  
And unending praises be,  
Honor, glory, and dominion  
And eternal victory  
Evermore and evermore!**

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 1.  
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