



Visions of the Reign of God

First Sunday in Advent
November 30th, 2025

About Us

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, has been firmly planted in the Phillips Community since 1912. A Reconciling in Christ (RIC) congregation, we celebrate our diversity of age, race, gender identities, sexual orientations, culture and citizenship.

Welcome, Visitors!

Welcome to all visitors and guests. If you live here, we hope you'll consider joining. If you are here for a short time, we hope you'll feel at home. Please pick up a copy of our newsletter, *The Sentinel*, from the entry table. **Need hearing assistance or larger print?** Please ask an usher.

Children are welcome to participate fully in worship. We feel strongly that children's spirituality develops through experience. In our community, children lead as ushers, musicians, readers and communion servers. We expect that children will behave as children – giggles, wiggles, and all. We offer a playground in the Sanctuary with books and coloring supplies for kids to use during the service. There are bags that can be brought to your seats with supplies. We also have a reading corner in the Hospitality Center with books and toys. Kids and their parents are invited to go in and out of the Sanctuary as needed.

Safe Church. For the safety of all children, we ask that children be attended at all times. Please accompany your child to the bathroom and reading corner. Copies of our Safe Church Policy are available from the church office.

Transportation and Parking

Parking - Parking is available in the parking lot off the alley behind church, on the local streets (follow signs as some parking is only residential or has hour restrictions) and at the Hope Academy Parking ramp at 24th St and Park Ave. The arms are up on Sunday mornings until 2pm. Parking there other days requires a code. Pick up a card at church with the ramp code. There are handicap parking spots available in the front and back of the church.

Bus - The D line runs every 10 minutes on Chicago Ave. For more options, visit metrotransit.org.

Mission of the month: Indigenous Protector Movement

Indigenous Protector Movement (IPM) is a grassroots non-profit organization located in our neighborhood that is dedicated to protecting Indigenous land and communities through direct action, advocacy, and community building. They have many initiatives that address community safety, healing and cultural wellness, and justice for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives. We at OSLC are on a path to transfer a property to IPM as an act of reparation.

Online giving - If you are interested in giving online to Our Saviour's for the Mission of the Month or general offering, use this QR Code:



First Sunday in Advent

This Advent season, our theme is 'Visions of the Reign of God'. We will use different images and words for the reign of God, including "Kingdom," Kin-dom, "realm" and "reign." These words capture different aspects of God's promised Day of justice, peace and joy for all. We invite you to live into these images as a way of opening our minds and hearts to expanded visions of the reign of God.

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Welcome

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

The community is invited to remain seated as we begin worship in reflection and prayer.

Holy One, your day of justice, peace and joy
For all people it seems so very far away.
Yet your prophets cry out across the centuries,
Sharing visions of beloved community, right relationship, and shalom -
Promising us that you are near.

Open the gates of your kingdom in us.

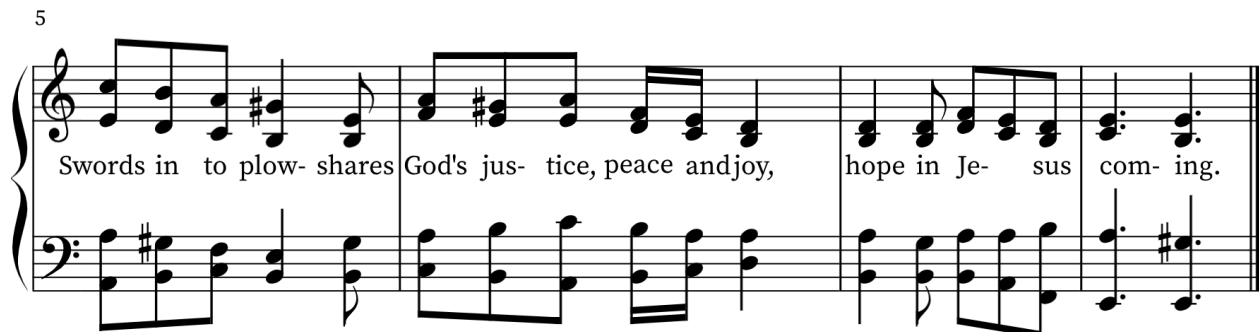
Open our minds to dream

Our hearts to hope

And our hands to share.

Ready us for your coming.

Amen.



Candlelighters share their vision of the Reign of God.

1. Soon and very soon, we are going to see the Christ (3x)
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, we are going to see the Christ
2. Hope is coming soon, we are going to see the Christ (3x)
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, we are going to see the Christ
3. Peace is coming soon, we are going to see the Christ (3x)
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, we are going to see the Christ
4. Soon and very soon, we are going to see the Christ (3x)
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, we are going to see the Christ

***Greeting**

The grace of our Savior Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

***Prayer of the Day**

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading

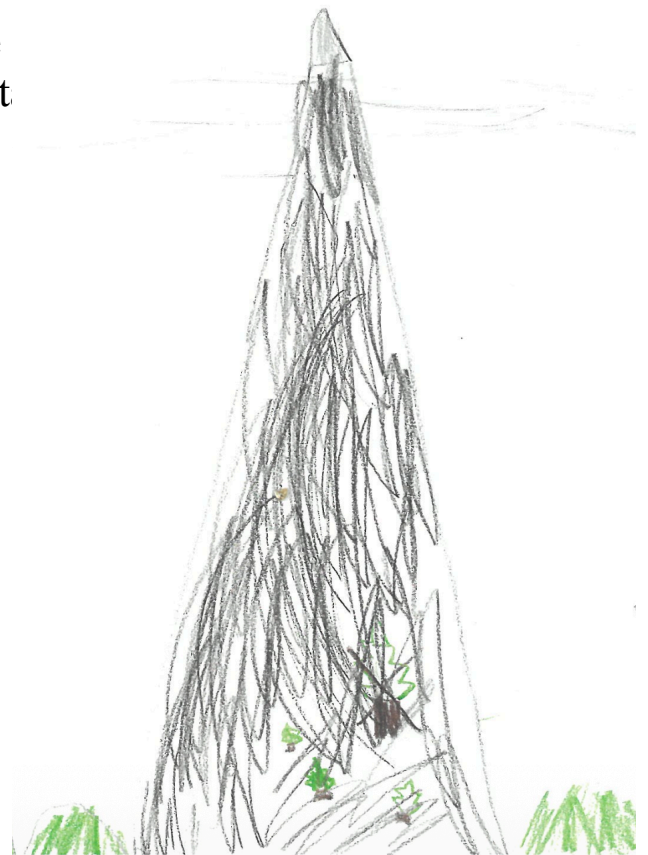
Isaiah 2:1-5

¹The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

²In days to come the mountain of God's house
shall be established as the highest of the mount
and shall be raised above the hills;
all the nations shall stream to it.

³Many peoples shall come and say,
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of God,
to the house of the Jacob's God,
who will teach us the ways of God,
that we may walk in the paths of God."
For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the word of God from Jerusalem.

⁴God shall judge between the nations,
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into plowshares,
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,



neither shall they learn war any more.

⁵ O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk in the light of God!

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God!**

Psalm 122 *All – Refrain; Reader - Verses*

Let us go re - joic-ing to the house of our God. Al - le -
lu - ia! in - to the house of our God.

***Gospel Acclamation**

Stay a - wake! Let us all stay a - wake! Al - le u - ia! -
What is good is still to come. Stay a - wake, Al - le - lu - ia!

***Gospel**

Matthew 24:36-44

The holy gospel according to Matthew, the 24th chapter. **Glory to you, O God.**

[Jesus said,] ³⁶“About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only God. ³⁷For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son-of-Man. ³⁸For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son-of-Man. ⁴⁰Then two men will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴¹Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴²Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your

God is coming. ⁴³ But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, the owner would have stayed awake and would not have let the house be broken into. ⁴⁴ Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son-of-Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

This is the Good News. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

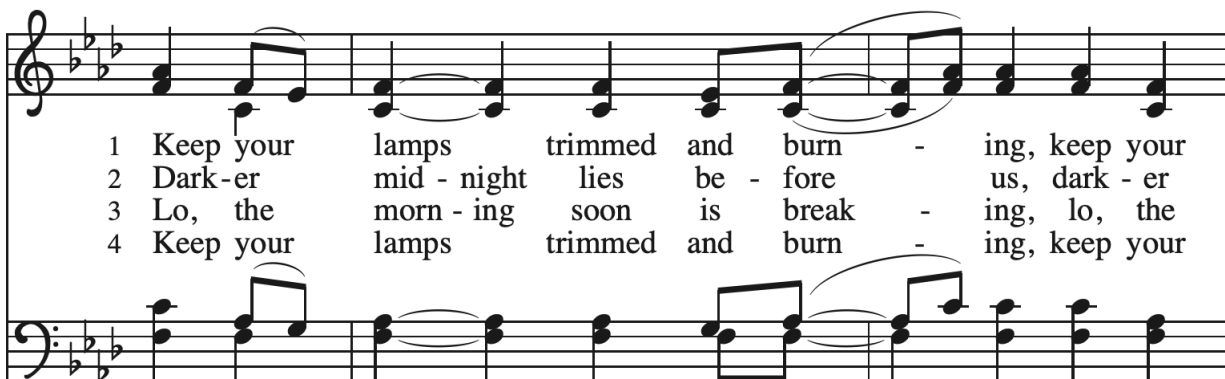
Children's Sermon

After the children's sermon, young children may go with the nursery minister for children's church and be welcomed back during the sharing of the peace. They are also most welcome to stay in the sanctuary.

Sermon

A space for sermon notes can be found in the back of this worship bulletin.

*Hymn of the Day *Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning* ASC 949



1 Keep your lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your
2 Dark-er mid - night lies be - fore us, dark - er
3 Lo, the morn - ing soon is break - ing, lo, the
4 Keep your lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your



lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your lamps
mid - night lies be - fore us, dark - er mid - night
morn - ing soon is break - ing, lo, the morn - ing
lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your lamps



trimmed and burn - ing, for this work's al - most done.
lies be - fore us, for this work's al - most done.
soon is break - ing, for this work's al - most done.
trimmed and burn - ing, for this work's al - most done.

Refrain

Chil-dren, don't grow wea - ry; chil-dren, don't grow wea - ry;

chil-dren, don't grow wea - ry, for this work's al-most done.

*Prayers of the People

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

*Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

Gathering our Gifts *Javen Swanson, special music*

All present, even those who contribute through automatic payments, are invited to lay hands upon the collection plate symbolizing their contributions. Those worshipping online may contribute on our website: oursavioursmples.org.

*Offertory Response

These gifts that we have, the world didn't give them to us (3x)

The world didn't give it, the world can't take it away

This **hope** that we have, the world didn't give it to us (3x)

The world didn't give it, the world can't take it away

*Offertory Prayer

*The Great Thanksgiving

P: God be with you. C: And al-so with you.

P: Lift up your hearts. C: We lift them to our God.

P: Let us give thanks to our tri - une God C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*Sanctus

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly

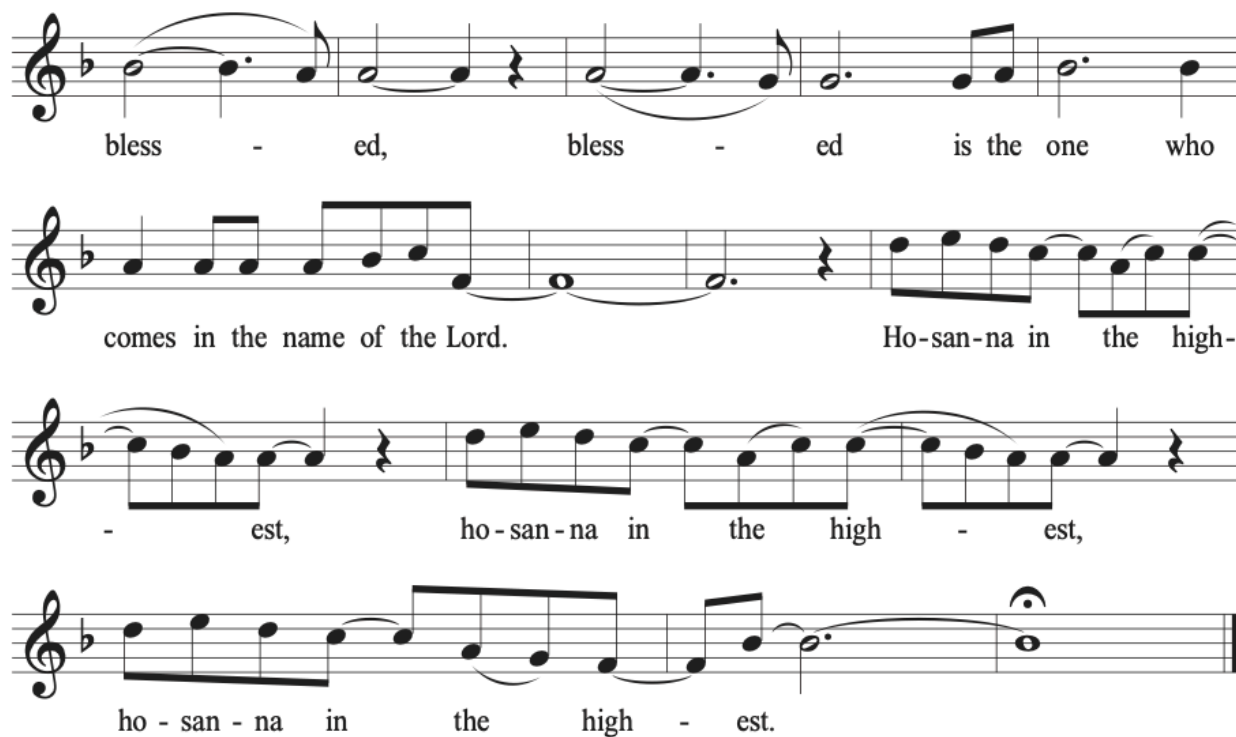
Lord, God of pow - er and might,

heav - en, heav - en, heav - en and

earth are full are full of your glo - ry.

Ho-san-na in the high - est, Ho-san-na in the high - est,

ho-san-na in the high - est. Bless - ed,



***Eucharistic Prayer**

As part of the eucharistic prayer we confess the great mystery of faith to the tune of the Civil Rights Movement anthem, "We Shall Overcome." We learned this from Trinity Lutheran in Manhattan:

**Jesus Christ has died, Jesus Christ is risen,
Jesus Christ will come again.
Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe
Jesus Christ will come again.**

***The Prayer of Jesus**

**Our Mother, our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kin-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kin-dom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

**As part of our commitment to using inclusive and expansive language for God, this season we are modifying the word 'kingdom' which connotes both maleness and a form of government unfamiliar to most of us. Instead, we will use 'kin-dom' which captures the way Jesus radically redefines family and invites everyone into a loving relationship with God and neighbor. Whether saying 'kin-dom' or 'kingdom,' we proclaim the subversive reign of God's love and justice.*

Healing Prayer at the Font

During communion distribution, you are invited to the font for individual prayers.

Distribution

All are welcome at Christ's table. Ushers will guide you. After receiving bread or a gluten-free wafer, hold out your glass for wine (dark) or juice (light). Following communion, deposit your compostable cup with a server. Those who do not commune may indicate a preference for a blessing.

United at the Table **#498**

Each Winter As the Year Grows Older **#252**

Come Now, O Prince of Peace **#247**

*Blessing

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

God Welcomes All

God welcomes all, strangers and friends;
God's love is strong and it never ends.

*Benediction

This is a benediction song that we learned at Luther Crest Bible Camp this summer.

As you go on your way may Christ go with you
May Christ go before you to show you the way
May Christ go behind you to encourage you
Beside you to befriend you, above you to watch over
Within you to give you peace

*Dismissal

This is a benediction song that we learned at Luther Crest Bible Camp this summer.

Alleluia! Go in peace. Love and serve God! **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude

All are invited to the Hospitality Center for announcements and community time.

Acknowledgments

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Information about Our Saviour’s can be found on our website (www.oursavioursmpls.org) and on Facebook (www.facebook.com/groups/OurSavioursMPLS).

Today's Worship

Ministers:	You!
Presiding:	Martha Schwehn Bardwell
Preaching:	Esther Sianipar
Reader:	Deb Swenson-Klatt
Prayers:	Oby Ballinger
Special Music:	Javen Swanson
Musicians:	Alyssa Schwitzer & Kent Goodroad
Sound:	Mike Libby
Livestream:	Jakob Johnson
Communion Recruiters:	5th & 6th graders
Window Blinds:	Remi Hanson
Artwork:	Eli Blumenshine

This week at OSLC:

Wednesday, December 3

8:30AM-9:30AM DABS

10:15AM Bible Study (HC/Zoom)

Friday, December 5

7AM Men's Breakfast @ Butter BakeryCafe

Sunday, December 7

9AM New Member Orientation Forum

Interested in becoming a member of OSLC?

Fall new member Sunday is December 7

Are you interested in becoming a member of OSLC? Wonderful! Please reach out to one of the pastors. We will receive and bless new members on December 7.

SERMON NOTES





OUR SAVIOUR'S Lutheran Church

*Our Saviour's Lutheran Church is a dynamic community,
centered in Christ, called, nurtured and sent –
to celebrate, serve and do justice.*

(612) 871-2967 Office Hours: M-Th, 9-3
2315 Chicago Ave S, Minneapolis, MN 55404
www.oursavioursmpls.org
www.facebook.com/Our.Saviours.Lutheran.Church.Mpls

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	Alyssa Schwitzer alyssa@oursavioursmpls.org	(612) 871-2967 opt 4
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Front Desk & Office Volunteers	Jeanne Asp (Monday)	(612) 871-2967
	Nancy Nygaard Johnson (Monday) Sheryll Mennicke (Tuesday)	
OSCS Executive Director	Mike Huffman mike@oscs-mn.org	(612) 871-5900 opt 1