

OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor Joe Johnson

Pastor Amanda Johnson

Cindy Doeden - Church Office: 636-5701; Hours: 9am-3pm, M-F

Radio Broadcast at 9:30am on KMSR 1520 AM

TV Broadcast at 9:30am on HTC Channel 34

Sunday, December 28, 2025

First Sunday of Christmas

9:30 AM

PRELUDE

Vicky Grothmann, Organist

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN: "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

ELW 283

1) O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant! O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem; come and behold him, born the king of angels:

***Refrain:** O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*

2) The highest, most holy, light of light eternal, born of a virgin, a mortal he comes; Son of the Father now in flesh appearing! (Refrain)

3) Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation, sing, all ye citizens of heaven above! Glory to God in the highest: (Refrain)

4) Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning; Jesus, to thee be glory giv'n! Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing: (Refrain)

CHRISTMAS CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS L (Leader); C (Congregation)

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who came to wake us from sleep, who leads us into the light of grace.

C: **Amen**

L: Let us acknowledge Christ in our presence and ready our hearts for his grace, by confessing our sin against God and neighbor.

C: **Amen**

(Silence for reflection and self-examination.)

L: God of all time,
C: **we confess that we have not prepared for your merciful reign among us. We ignore our neighbors in need and fail in the labor of justice and peace. In your mercy forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your light and to seek the things that will endure until Christ comes again in glory. Amen.**
L: Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. In Jesus Christ your sins are forgiven and all things are made new. Rejoice in this good news!
C: **Amen.**

GREETING

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

HYMN OF PRAISE: "Your Little Ones, Dear Lord" **ELW 286**

- 1) *Your little ones, dear Lord, are we, and come your lowly bed to see; enlighten ev'ry soul and mind, that we the way to you may find.*
- 2) *With songs we hasten you to greet, and kiss the ground before your feet. Oh, blessed hour, oh, sweetest night that gave you birth, our soul's delight.*
- 3) *Oh, draw us wholly to you, Lord, and to us all your grace accord; true faith and love to us impart, that we may hold you in our heart.*
- 4) *Until at last we too proclaim, with all your saints, your glorious name; in paradise our songs renew, and praise you as the angels do.*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Glorious God,
C: **Help us to hear when your chosen voices proclaim the work of your son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns in this world and the next. Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SONG for the WORD: "It Came upon the Midnight Clear" ELW 282 V. 1
It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old, from angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold: "Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav'n's all-gracious king." The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.

GOSPEL READING: John 1:19-34 "A Voice in the Wilderness"

¹⁹This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?"

²⁰ He confessed and did not deny it, but he confessed, "I am not the Messiah." ²¹ And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." ²² Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" ²³ He said,

"I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness,
'Make straight the way of the Lord,' "

as the prophet Isaiah said.

²⁴ Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. ²⁵ They asked him, "Why, then, are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" ²⁶ John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, ²⁷ the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the strap of his sandal." ²⁸ This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

²⁹ The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! ³⁰ This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' ³¹ I myself did not know him, but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel."

³² And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. ³³ I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' ³⁴ And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Chosen One."

L: The gospel of the Lord.

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

MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY: "What Child Is This"

ELW 296

1) What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping? Whom angels greet with anthems 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!

2) 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!

3) 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!

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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.**

**On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

PRAYER SONG: "Away in a Manger"

ELW 277 V. 1

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head; the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay, the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

L: Lord, in your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

PRAYER SONG: "Away in a Manger"

ELW 277 V. 3

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay close by me forever and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear children in your tender care and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING

OFFERTORY: "In the Bleak Midwinter"

ELW 294 V. 3

*What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wiseman I would do my part; yet what I can I give him, give my heart.*

OFFERING PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER *ELW p. 154*

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.

SENDING HYMN: "The First Noel"

ELW 300 vs 1-3

1) The first Noel the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay; in fields where they lay, keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain: *Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel! Born is the King of Israel.*

2) They looked up and saw a star shining in the east beyond them far; and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night. (Refrain)

3) And by the light of that same star three wisemen came from country far; to seek for a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went. (Refrain)

BLESSING / THREE BELLS

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: **Helping people experience the Love of God.**

POSTLUDE

O Lord, Hear Our Prayers

Praise & Thanksgiving to God for...

The people of Our Savior's

Those celebrating birthdays today:

God's Healing Presence for...

Bryan Mueller	Lindsey Gilbertson (Kathy Duval's brother)
Bonnie Spicer	Marilyn Hall (Sarah Lovas' mom)
Jeanie Swenson	Connie Fillion (Phyllis Leraas' sister)
Mya Oelrich	Asher Madsen (Vicki Madsen's great grandson)
Dan Bjorklund	Tim Klocke (Mike Tweten's friend)
Clarice Satrom	Robert Thompson (Isaac, Ava, Mia's grandpa)
Vicki Dahlstrom	Dennis Sollid (Anne Kittelson's dad)
Jerry Boeddeker	Steve Rinke (Stacy Dickhoff's step-dad)
Becky Foss	Todd Donner (Tanya Buethner's brother)
Deb Kritzberger	Scott Berry (Benjamin Strand's uncle)
Carol Christianson	Jon Pawlikowski (Veronika Lee's dad)
Kenna Kappes	Dennis Taus (Phyllis Leraas' brother-in-law)
Peggy Gilbertson	Elaina Mueller (Bonnie Mueller's granddaughter)
Susie Anderson	Marta Datsik (McSparron's Exchange Student-Ukraine)
Charlie Anderson	Barry Sailor (Tara Fandrich's uncle)
	Hunter Gordon (Eunice Morlock's grandson-in-law)

Safety for those serving in the Military... especially those serving in combat areas:

Our Sympathy to... Those in our church family who have experienced the death of a family member or friend:

SENIOR PASTOR: Pastor Joe Johnson, 701-430-3787

EDUCATION PASTOR: Pastor Amanda Johnson, 218.556.8895

VISITATION MINISTER: Joy McSparron, 701.361.9990

HEAD USHER: Ed Laxdal

ANNOUNCEMENTS: (Due in the church office by 9am Thursdays)

ND State Hospital Gifts: Two boxes of gifts were sent to the volunteers at the State Hospital to dispense at Christmas to clients there. THANK YOU to those of you who donated; we had many nice gifts to share. It is our small way of letting them know someone remembers them and cares about them. Thank You, WELCA



SUNDAY, JANUARY 25, 2026

11:30 AM

Our Savior's Lutheran Church's Annual Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 25, 2026 following the 10:30am worship service (approx. 11:30am). All Confirmed OSLC members are voting members and are encouraged to attend this meeting.

Reminder: End of the year Annual Reports (Staff & Committees) are due by Jan. 7th.

QUILTING: We will resume quilting on **Monday, January 5 at 9 AM**. We are always looking for new people to assist with this project. Making kits and quilts is one of our most needed projects. *Lutheran World Relief tells us how receiving a quilt or kit, when in dire need, is a reminder to the recipient that someone is thinking of them.* If you are available on any part of Mondays, January through March, 9am-4pm, consider coming and joining in the fun! Come for all or any part of the day, bring a sack lunch or go out for lunch, bring snacks to share if you wish. No experience necessary. We hope to see you there!

WEEKLY SCHEDULE:

Sunday, December 28

9:30am Worship Service
10:30am Coffee/Fellowship
7:00pm AA Meeting

Tuesday, December 30

7:00am Text Bible Study (Hillsboro Café)

Wednesday, December 31

7:00am Men's Bible Study (Hillsboro Café)
10:45am **Worship service at HMC**

Thursday, January 1

Happy New Year's Day!

Sunday, January 4

8:30am Worship Service w/communion
9:30am Coffee/Fellowship
9:30am Sunday School
10:30am Contemporary Service w/communion
11:30am **Council Meeting**
7:00pm AA Meeting

A graphic for "The Offering" showing hands holding a gold bowl filled with money. The text "The Offering" is in a large, white, serif font.

The Offering

 VANCO
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Engagement

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