

First Sunday of Christmas

December 29th



Our Savior's Lutheran Church

Virginia, MN

Pastor Liz Cheney



PRELUDE

Kristen Weikum, Organist

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING HYMN

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

ELW 288

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose steadfast love is everlasting. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God
and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God-with-us,

**we confess that we have turned away those seeking shelter,
claiming there is no room when we have plenty.**

**We have made power and wealth our idols,
while you show us true glory: a baby in a manger.**

**We have overlooked the shepherds,
expecting good news in prettier packaging.**

Too often, we have valued violence instead of your peace.

Turn us from our ways to your ways.

Grant us the grace to begin again.

**Free us from all that keeps us bound, and forgive our sin,
through Jesus Christ, who gives himself for us. Amen.**

Hear the good news and rejoice!

You are God's chosen ones, holy and beloved,

† forgiven in Christ, and freed to respond in joy. **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

ELW 275

PRAYER OF THE DAY Shine into our hearts the light of your wisdom, O God, and open our minds to the knowledge of your word, that in all things we may think and act according to your good will and may live continually in the light of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26

¹⁸ Samuel was ministering before the LORD, a boy wearing a linen ephod. ¹⁹ His mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year, when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. ²⁰ Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say, “May the LORD repay you with children by this woman for the gift that she made to the LORD”; and then they would return to their home.

²⁶ Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favor with the LORD and with the people.

Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 148

¹ Hallelujah! Praise the LORD from the heavens;
praise God in the heights.

² **Praise the LORD, all you angels;
sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.**

³ Praise the LORD, sun and moon;
sing praise, all you shining stars.

⁴ **Praise the LORD, heaven of heavens,
and you waters above the heavens.**

⁵ Let them praise the name of the LORD,
who commanded, and they were created,

⁶ **who made them stand fast forever and ever,
giving them a law that shall not pass away.**

⁷ Praise the LORD from the earth,
you sea monsters and all deeps;

⁸ **fire and hail, snow and fog,
tempestuous wind, doing God’s will;**

⁹ mountains and all hills,
fruit trees and all cedars;

¹⁰ **wild beasts and all cattle,
creeping things and flying birds;**

¹¹ sovereigns of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the world;

¹² **young men and maidens,
old and young together.**

¹³ Let them praise the name of the LORD,
whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over earth and heaven.

¹⁴ **The LORD has raised up strength for the people and praise for all faithful servants,
the children of Israel, a people who are near the LORD. Hallelujah!**

SECOND READING: Colossians 3:12-17

¹² As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. ¹³ Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴ Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵ And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. ¹⁷ 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.

Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

My Lord, What a Morning

ELW 438

GOSPEL: Luke 2:41-52. The Holy Gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

⁴¹ Now every year [Jesus'] parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. ⁴² And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. ⁴³ When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. ⁴⁴ Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. ⁴⁵ When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. ⁴⁶ After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷ And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸ When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." ⁴⁹ He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰ But they did not understand what he said to them. ⁵¹ Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

⁵² And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

Pastor Liz Cheney

HYMN OF THE DAY

In a Lowly Manger Born

ELW 718

APOSTLES' CREED

pg. # 105

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Filled with good news of great joy, let us offer our prayers for the church, the earth, and all people.
Please respond to "God of grace," after each petition with "receive our prayer."

SHARING THE PEACE The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

Please share a sign of God's peace with one another.

OFFERING

Thank you for your continued financial support of OSLC! Whether you join us in person or online, the ministry and missions of Our Savior's depend on faithful giving.

+ online links can be found by accessing our website at <https://www.oslcmn.com/>

+ Using the QR code found here:

+ Contacting the church office to set up regular automatic giving

+ Dropping off or mailing in your offering



OFFERING HYMN

What Child is This

ELW 296

OFFERING PRAYER God of heaven and earth, from the beginning, you have called forth life, in which you take delight. The trees, the fields, and the seas sing for joy. Bless now these gifts, received from your bounty, that we may join the chorus of creation to tell of your salvation from day to day. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

pg. 191

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

A child has been born for us, a Son given to us. Come, receive the gift of Jesus.

COMMUNION HYMN

Love Has Come

ELW 292

TABLE BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION Merciful God, we thank you for Jesus, who is our heavenly food.

Strengthened by this goodness, send us forth to announce your peace, comfort the afflicted, and share the good news of great joy. Amen.

BLESSING The God of love, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, lavish you with grace, illumine your path, and increase your joy, today and always. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

Once in Royal David's City

ELW 269

DISMISSAL Go in peace. The Word of God dwells in you richly. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Kristen Weikum, Organist

WE HOLD IN OUR PRAYERS

Please pray for people in need of comfort, hope, healing, or safe transition: Bob D, Mark O., Ada-praise, is now home, John W., Tanner 17yr old needs a heart transplant, Ross-(needs transplant of kidneys & pancreas), Joy T., Deb, Cliff, Margaret, Shannon P., Amanda, Jan, Nicole, Deb, Luddy, Bruce & family, Andrew T., Sharon P., Sue, Gerilyn, Andrew, Alexandria, Courtney, Jill & husband, Amelia, Archer, Jarie, Phyllis, Wally, Deb, Adeline, Tedd, Ed & Karen, Ralph, Chuck, Sue. Call Ginny Ahrlin @ 218-749-0056, for prayer needs

If you are in need of any pastoral care or if you or someone you know would like a visit, please call Pastor Liz Cheney at 218-780-8907 or the church office at 218-741-6207.

CONTACT US

OSLC, 1111 8th St. South, Virginia, MN Church Office: 218-741-6207

Email: office@oslcmn.com

Online: www.oslcmn.com

www.facebook.com/oslcmn

YouTube Page "Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Virginia MN Office"

OFFICE HOURS

Office Admin hours are 9am - 5pm, Tuesday - Friday.

There will be times we're away from the office doing errands, for this reason, please call ahead if you plan on coming to the church or need assistance!

PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS

Pastor Liz will be here Tues. - Thurs. & off Fridays.

Call @ 218-780-8907

or email at lizcheney44@gmail.com

STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Liz Cheney

Secretary: Colleen Brown Jacobson

Bookkeeper: Carole Rutka

Custodian: Steve Gagnon

Musicians: Kristen Weikum, Mark Ongalo, and Ginny Ahrlin



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.



ANNOUNCEMENTS
The First Sunday of Christmas
December 29, 2024

ANNUAL REPORTS If you are a leader of a committee, you will need to email a word document of your report **BY DEC. 31ST** so the office can finish the Annual Report. If able, please send it to the office email in the Word Document format you wrote it in (not PDF) so it can be formatted properly in the completed report. Thank you! office@oslcmn.com.

LIFT CONFIRMATION Lift will resume **Jan. 8th, 15th, & 29th 6-8pm**, at Messiah Lutheran.
COMMUNITY BREAKFAST Jan 11th

KITCHEN WORK DAY We could use a few volunteers, and those good at organizing, **Jan. 17-18th**

ALL CHURCH EVENT! Join us **Wed., Jan. 22nd 5-7pm** for **Pizza & Bingo** in the Fellowship Hall – with prizes! It will be a fun way to bring in the New Year~

ANNUAL MEETING Our Annual Congregational Meeting will take place **Sunday, January 26th**. If you are a member, please commit yourself to coming. It will take place after the Worship Service.

NEW CONSTITUTION There are copies of the new Constitution in the office if you would like to look it over before the Annual Meeting.

TASK FORCE TEAM We are building a team to look into the **sanctuary windows** and take the next steps for a springtime project. Quotes will be requested from three different local contractors. Please see Pastor Liz or Mark Ongalo if you are interested in serving on this Task Force team.

LIVESTREAM & RADIO SPONSORSHIP If you are interested in sponsoring a Sunday Worship in honor of someone or a special event (wedding anniversary, birth of children, baptism date) or in memory of a loved one who has passed, you may do so in full for \$90 or shared/partial at \$45. This supports our tech & sound equipment. **Sign up on the sheet provided on the bulletin board by the fountain.**



ELCA's "Good Gifts" **catalogs**, Christmas **Cards** and Christmas **ornaments** make it easy to donate with a big impact! Take a catalog, card and ornament home (by the tv monitor in the narthex), look over what item/items you would like to donate to and follow the directions to send it in. Keep the card or ornament coinciding with what you are sending your donation for. It's a good way to honor someone, or decorate your tree with, letting others know about ELCA's "Good Gifts."

EVENTS & MEETINGS THIS WEEK

12/30-12/31 OFFICE HOURS: MON. 12/30, 9AM – 12NOON. TUE. 12/31, 9AM – 3PM.

CLOSED WED., THURS., FRI. FOR THE HOLIDAY.

12/31 ANNUAL MINISTRY/COMMITTEE REPORTS DUE

1/05 WORSHIP

1/08 FINANCE TEAM MTG 10AM

1/09 COUNCIL MTG 11AM



L.I.F.T. will now take place at Messiah Lutheran Church for the Winter!
Jan. 8, 15, 29 6:00-8:00pm
February tentative dates:
Feb. 5, 12, 19

Faith Formation Program
for 4th -12th graders!

GETSEMANE LUTHERAN MESSIAH LUTHERAN OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN

Join us for our
Winter All Church Event

**PIZZA
& bingo**

Wed., January 22nd
5-7pm
fun prizes!



OSLC Annual
Congregational
Meeting

**SUNDAY, JAN. 26TH
AFTER WORSHIP**