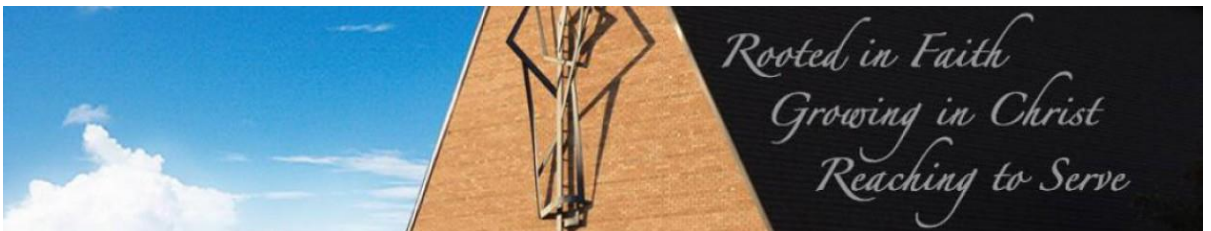


Sunday, January 26th, 2025
3rd Sunday After Epiphany



Our Savior's Lutheran Church
Virginia, MN
Pastor Liz Cheney



WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING HYMN

Arise, Your Light has Come

ELW 314

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life. **Amen.**

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.
Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,

you speak blessing and compassion into the world.

**Forgive us for the ways we act
with judgment, cruelty, or indifference.**

**We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice;
we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another.**

Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp.

Show us your lovingkindness.

**Restore our hearts and repair your world,
that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.**

God proclaims these words of assurance:

“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine.”

In † Christ, you are forgiven.

In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy,
live anew as beloved children of God. **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

When a Star is Shining

ACS 915



1 When a star is shin-ing o - ver east - ern hills,
2 Where the world is wait-ing for an un - known day,
3 Lead us on, O Day-star, in the qui - et night;



when the air is si - lent, and the clam - or stills,
where a voice for - got - ten cries, “Pre - pare the way!”
guide us through the shad-ow with your gen - tle light;



when the night is wait-ing, and the old hopes rise,
Where an earth - ly pow - er makes the heart turn cold,
show us in a man - ger our re - demp - tion's sign;



then the time has rip - ened and the heart grows wise.
there the gifts are of - fered— in - cense, myrrh, and gold.
bring us to a morn - ing where the prom - ise shines.



Lead us on, lead us on, to a morn - ing where the



prom - ise shines. Lead us on, lead us on,



to a morn - ing where the prom - ise shines.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993
Music: WHERE THE PROMISE SHINES, Bob Moore, b. 1962
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Music © 2003 GIA Publications, Inc., giasmusic.com. All rights reserved.

PRAYER OF THE DAY Blessed Lord God, you have caused the holy scriptures to be written for the nourishment of your people. Grant that we may hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that, comforted by your promises, we may embrace and forever hold fast to the hope of eternal life, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

¹ All the people [of Israel] gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had given to Israel. ² Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. ³ He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. ⁵ And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. ⁶ Then Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. ⁸ So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

⁹ And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. ¹⁰ Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our LORD; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

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

PSALM: Psalm 19

¹ The heavens declare the glory of God,
and the sky proclaims its maker's handiwork.

² **One day tells its tale to another,
and one night imparts knowledge to another.**

³ Although they have no words or language,
and their voices are not heard,

⁴ **their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world,
where God has pitched a tent for the sun.**

⁵ It comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

⁶ **It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again;
nothing is hidden from its burning heat.**

⁷ The teaching of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul;
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.

⁸ **The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart;
the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.**

⁹ The fear of the LORD is clean and endures forever;
the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

¹⁰ **More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold,
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.**

¹¹ By them also is your servant enlightened,
and in keeping them there is great reward.

¹² **Who can detect one's own offenses?
Cleanse me from my secret faults.**

¹³ Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me;
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.

¹⁴ **Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight,
O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.**

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

¹² For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³ For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

¹⁴ Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. ¹⁵ If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁶ And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were

hearing, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸ But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. ¹⁹ If all were a single member, where would the body be? ²⁰ As it is, there are many members, yet one body. ²¹ The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." ²² On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³ and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; ²⁴ whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, ²⁵ that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. ²⁶ If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

²⁷ Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. ²⁸ And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. ²⁹ Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰ Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? ^{31a} But strive for the greater gifts.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Refrain

Lead us on, lead us on, to a morn-ing where the
 prom-ise shines. Lead us on, lead us on,
 to a morn - ing where the prom - ise shines.

GOSPEL: Luke 4:14-21. The Holy Gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹⁴ Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. ¹⁵ He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

¹⁶ When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷ and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

¹⁸ "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives

continue

and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free,
¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."
²⁰ And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹ Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

Pastor Liz Cheney

HYMN OF THE DAY

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

ELW 843

APOSTLES' CREED

pg. # 105

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation. We begin with the refrain from Let Justice Roll Like a River. The refrain will be sung after each petition ending with Let Justice Roll. Let us sing and pray...

Let jus - tice roll like a riv - er, and wash all op -
pres-sion a - way. Come, O God, and take us,
move and shake us; come now, and make us a - new,
that we might live just - ly like you.

We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people. **Amen.**

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 PRAYER

God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

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

pg. 191

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

The joy of the Lord is our strength. Come, eat this meal of gladness.

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN

*Come to the Table
One Bread, One Body*

ELW 481
ELW 496

TABLE BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray, Amen.

BLESSING

The Spirit of the triune God † bless you with joy,
anoint you with compassion, and send you in love. Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

ELW 886

DISMISSAL Go in peace. Live in hope. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Kristen Weikum

WE HOLD IN OUR PRAYERS

Please pray for people in need of comfort, hope, healing, or safe transition: families impacted by wildfires, Lorraine M., the Dobson family, Eric, Kyle, Pr. Art, Bob D, Mark O., Janet, John W., 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 Janet Heglund @ 218-749-6143 for prayer needs- the prayer chain leader January through June.**

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

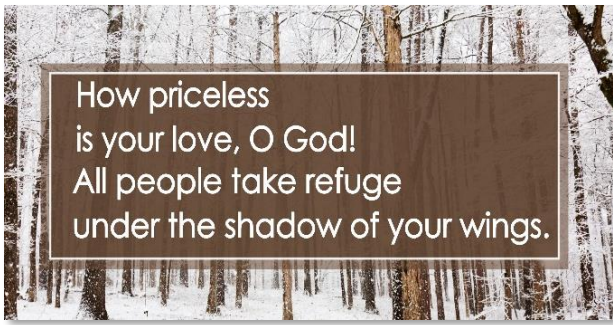
Custodian: Steve Gagnon

Musicians: Kristen Weikum, Mark Ongalo, and Ginny Ahrlin



Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Third week of Epiphany

January 26, 2025

ANNUAL MEETING TODAY Our Annual Congregational Meeting will take place **today** following worship. If you are a member, please stay. If you are not a member you are welcome to come and listen, just can't vote. Please sign in as you enter the fellowship hall.

LIFT CONFIRMATION Lift will meet again this Wednesday, **Jan. 29th 6-8pm**, at Messiah Lutheran.

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.

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS The Annual Contribution Statements will be mailed out the last week of January. If you require your statement before then, just call the office and one can be made for you early.

RADIO BROADCAST Today is the last Sunday the worship will be broadcast on the radio. The council made a decision in the fall to discontinue this service in 2025. We know this decision and change comes with a variety of thoughts and feelings. The decision was made in prayer and discernment. We are happy to assist anyone with accessing the livestream on their computer, laptop, smart phone or smart tv. Call the church office to schedule an appointment.

WORSHIP 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 any amount you choose from \$25 - \$100. The funds will be used to keep our new sound system and electronic equipment up to date and functioning. We need to continue to update other microphones and add additional items that will continue to enhance and expand the experience of worship. **THE SIGN-UP SHEET WILL NOW BE LOCATED ON THE KIOSK – NEW LOCATION!**

EVENTS & MEETINGS THIS WEEK

1/28 5:30 Fun duh mental's Bible Study

1/29 9AM QUILTING

1/29 L.I.F.T. 6-8 @ Messiah



Community CLOSET

OUR SAVIOR'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH
1111 8TH ST. S. VIRGINIA



WEDNESDAYS 12 - 3PM
& 2ND SATURDAY
EACH MONTH
9AM - 12PM

CLOTHING FOR ALL
AGES, FOOD PANTRY
ITEMS, LIMITED
HOUSEHOLD GOODS

Our West Wing Community Closet is opening on **February 5th** for the first time to the public. Please help us spread the word. Want to help? Here is how you can:

- 1) Volunteer to work a day in the closet (every Wednesday and Second Saturday) Sign up sheet on Kiosk in Narthex.
- 2) Bring clothing, shoes, household items, personal hygiene products, bedding, pillows, food pantry items, books, movies, puzzles.
- 3) Post flyers around town.

The community closet is for anyone in need of clothing, food, personal or household items. All items are FREE.

In February we will be collecting personal hygiene items such as

- * Soap
- * Shampoo
- * Toothpaste
- * Deodorant
- * Wash Cloths
- * Towels
- * etc...

Items can be dropped off in the church office or in the West Wing Conference room next to the nursery.

