

First Sunday of Christmas
Sunday, December 31st, 2023
9:00 a.m.

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church
108 Haarfager Ave. N.; Canby, MN 56220
email: oslcanbymn@gmail.com

www.oslcanby.org
Pastor: Levi Bollerud

****Welcome! We are grateful for the spirit that prompted you to worship with us today and hope you find a meaningful experience in your time with us. We thank you for the prayers you brought and for the witness you made to the world by being in the Lord's house on the Lord's Day. We invite you to worship with us again; our church family will always welcome you!****

To the parents of our young children, may we suggest:

- Relax! God put the wiggle in children; don't feel you have to suppress it in God's house. All are welcome! Sit toward the front where it is easier for children to see and hear.
- Sing hymns loudly, pray, and voice the responses with enthusiasm. Children learn behavior by copying you. If you are fired up about God, they will be too!
- Remember that the way we welcome children in Church directly affects the way they respond to the Church, to God, to Christ, to one another. Let them know that they are at home in the Church.
- Teach children some of the basic prayers, being able to join in with the prayers help them feel they are contributing too. Attend worship often, children like and need routines where they can participate.
- Children are invited to participate in communion, where they learn that God loves them.

To Members of the congregation: A smile of encouragement is always welcome to parents with small, active children. The presence of children is a gift to the church! They give us a future filled with hope.

****Please, Stand As You Are Able—And Sit As You Feel The Need!***

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the Word made flesh, our life and our salvation.

C: Amen.

P: Trusting the goodness and lovingkindness of God our Savior, let us confess our sin.

[Silence for reflection and self-examination.]

P: God of life,

C: you promise good news of great joy for all people, and call us to be messengers of your peace. We confess that too often we hoard our joy, our resources, and our security. We nurture conflict and build barriers. We neglect the needs of our neighbors and ignore the groaning of creation. Have mercy on us. Where we are self-centered, open our hearts. Where we are reluctant, give us courage. Where we are cynical, restore our trust. Renew us with your grace and give us again the hope of eternal life in you. Amen.

P: Hear the good news: We are children of God and heirs of God's promises through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. In † Jesus we are forgiven and redeemed. Sing with joy, for all the ends of the earth shall know the salvation of God.

C: Amen.

***GATHERING HYMN**

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" #270 ELW

CHILDREN'S SERMON

***GREETING**

P: 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.

***SHARING OF THE PEACE**

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Almighty God,

C: you wonderfully created the dignity of human nature and yet more wonderfully restored it. In your mercy, let us share the divine life of the one who came to share our humanity, Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, on God, now and forever. Amen.

"O Come All Ye Faithful" #283 ELW

WELCOME AND COMMENTS ON THE DAY

FIRST READING

Isaiah 31:10-62:3

Psalm 148

***SECOND READING**

Galatians 4:4-7

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** "Alleluia..."

pg. 142

***HOLY GOSPEL**

Luke 2:22-40

Glory to you, O Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ

SERMON

***HYMN OF THE DAY** "In The Bleak Midwinter" #294 ELW

***APOSTLES' CREED**

OFFERING

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

P: God our abundance,

C: receive and bless these gifts we have offered. Join our hearts with the song of the angels, and gather us at your table of celebration. Strengthen us to share with all the world the abundance of your grace upon grace, poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Petitions end: Hear us, O God

Response: your mercy is great.

"Angels We Have Heard on High" 289ELW

***GREAT THANKSGIVING**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

***OUR LORD'S PRAYER**

HOLY COMMUNION

***THE TABLE BLESSING**

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

P: God our redeemer, you have fed us at this table with gifts of grace, truth, and life. As you have gathered us in joy, send us forth as messengers of your peace. Make us shine with the good news of your glory, born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

***RECESSIONAL SONG** "Go Tell It on the Mountain" #290 ELW

***GOD'S BLESSINGS**

P: God bless you and keep you, † Jesus grant you grace and truth, and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts, now and forever.

C: Amen.

***DISMISSAL**

P: So now together, we go out into God's great creation, and with the power of the Holy Spirit, ever present in our hearts, let's change some lives.

C: We will! Alleluia!

SENDING SONG "Go Now In Peace" *Projected*

Postlude

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Please remain in the Sanctuary until all the candles are Extinguished. Thank you.

**Our Saviour's Lutheran Church Invites You To:
Belong – Believe – Become – Be a Blessing**

Custodian: Jesse Engesmoe
Office Manager: Jill Winters
Organist/Handbell Choir: Karen Olsen
Digital Projection: Linda Kockelman & Dawn Ourada

Choir Director: Dawn Ourada
Treasurer: Brenda Lothert
Guest Accompanist:
Lector: Linda Richter
Videographers: Mark Fokken, Rick Bueltel, & Jon Hanson

For *December*, the *Eternal Lights* burn in the Sanctuary and Chapel in loving memory of *Steve Benson's birthday, which would have been on December 1st*. Given by Dee Benson.

December Mission Calendar

7th: In loving memory of *Harold Harding*. Given by Curt & Marilyn Rangaard.
10th: In honor of *Julia Hanson's Baptismal Anniversary*. Given by her family.
17th: In loving memory of *Amy Beutler's passing on December 18th*. Given by Bev, Barb & Brian.
26th: In honor of *Si & Rose Olson's 69th Wedding Anniversary*.

We ask God's guidance and prayers for all those who have special need:

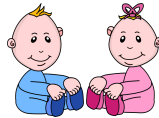
Randy Westphal, Shirley Hanson, Gary Fokken, Fritz Urban, Mandy Kack, David Sorby, Karen Wendroth (Sherri Full's sister), Shirley Markegard, Charlotte Thompson, Nick Benson, Bonnie Olson, Debra (Haugen) Galecki, Troy Hoffman, Kara Mortenson, Fred Full, Patty McLain (Sherri Full's sister), Lyla Nelson, Nina Benz, Katrina Vick, Debbie Cornell, Dane Nordquist, John Cornell, Joyce Brouwer, Mary Adler, Robert Kokesh, Fern Emmons and granddaughter Gabrielle, Fran Beecher, Patricia Hoffman, Bruce Garrels, Karin Livermore, Deanna Stephenson, Dean Hedge, Sandra Nelson, Sherry Olson, Linda Vlaminck and all whom we name before you in our hearts. May God strengthen all who are in need.

We continue to pray for the Leaders of the Nations, for all the Peacekeeping forces and especially for the service men and women connected with OSL, both those who remain deployed and those who now feel the safety of home: Justin Gislason, Andrew Fokken, Anthony Nemitz, Cody Dinius, Ross Larson, Nicole Nelson (granddaughter of Larry & Joanne Nelson), Ethan Webster, Tony Geier, Ryan Stoks, Nicholas Schultz, Tony Nelson, Kirk Larson, Ryan Otto, Tyson Coil, Christopher Oellien, Stephanie Geier. **May God continue to strengthen these committed military personnel and their families.** If anyone has been omitted or you would like to add a name, please contact the church office. We ask God to surround them and their loved ones with His love and presence.

**At Our Saviour's we have many ongoing opportunities to
"BELONG - BELIEVE - BECOME - BE A BLESSING"**

Here are some ways you can do that during the month of December:

A Cry Room is available during the morning worship service for infants to 3 years. It is located off the chapel and is wired for sound enabling you and your child to participate in the service. For older children, we offer special activity bags for them to borrow during the worship service, encouraging them to join the congregation in the pews. These **activity bags** can be found at the back of the sanctuary hanging on the back of the last pew.



Calling any men, women and youth! We are in need of Ushers, some of our Ushers are retiring and we need to fill their spots. If this is something that you would be interested in or if you have questions, please contact the church office.



If you are a Thrivent member and are willing to use your eligibility to apply for a Thrivent Action Grant, please call the church office at 507-223-5528 and leave your name and number and we will be in touch. Thank you!

Coffee Talk

If anyone would like to provide treats for Coffee Talk please let the church office know what Sunday and WELCA will help you get things set up and cleaned up. Your Coffee Talk friends love to help celebrate birthdays, anniversaries or any other occasion.

We are in need of a Cemetery Sexton, if this is something that you would be interested in or if you know of someone who would be interested, please contact the church office or a Board of Trustee member.



Please recycle your nonworking holiday lights and any electrical cords for the Canby DAC. There are collection bins in the hall! We will provide work and wages for our developmentally disabled adults to recycle them. Thank you!

OSL Church Council News.....

We are fast approaching the end of the year and that means we will be having our Annual Meeting soon. We are in need of new members for the Council. If you or someone you know is interested in being on the Council, please contact the office, 223-5528. Members are needed for all positions. The different areas of the Council are Board of Deacons, Board of Trustees and Board of Youth Education. The Deacons take care of the business of the church services, i.e. plan/assist with communion, decorate the sanctuary, deliver Easter plants to shut-ins, yearly service project. The Board of Trustees manage the finances of the Church, approve and pay bills, manage the upkeep of the Church building. The Board of Youth Education manage Sunday School, Confirmation activities, plan for fundraising, VBS. Council meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m.



Please join us as we ring in the New Year!

Sunday, December 31st

St. Michael Church - Madison, MN

4:00 pm mass for the Holy Day

5:00 pm Meal and clinking of the glasses!

'Free will' meal

Meatballs, potatoes and gravy, vegetables, salads desserts, bread, and beverages.

The proceeds from this event, will be used to help those in need during our visit to San

Lucas, Guatemala January 22-30



Youth Fundraiser

The Youth Group has put up a Christmas tree in the Narthex with envelopes of different denominations on each one. If you would like you may take an envelope off the tree, put the designated amount in the envelope and leave it in the office. This will help the youth going to the Youth Gathering in New Orleans, in July 2024. Thank you for your support!

CALENDAR



Sunday, December 31st: First Sunday of Christmas

8:30 a.m. Coffee Bar available prior to worship

9:00 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion

10:10 a.m. Coffee Talk

Monday, January 1st: Pastor's Sabbath Office Hours 9a-3p

Tuesday, January 2nd: Office Hours 9a-3p

Wednesday, January 3rd: Office hours 9a-3p

5:30 p.m. 9th Grade Confirmation

Thursday, January 4th: Office hours 9a-3p

Friday, January 5th: Office hours 9a-3p

Saturday, January 6th:

Sunday, January 7th: Baptism of Our Lord

8:30 a.m. Coffee Bar available prior to worship

9:00 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion

10:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:10 a.m. Coffee Talk

Monthly Giving Report for November

Total Giving Needed Each Month:	\$ 22,586.16
Simply Giving for the Month:	\$ 5,277.44
Weekly offering received for the Month:	\$ 12,446.01
Total Giving for the Month:	<u>\$ 17,723.45</u>
Monthly Surplus/Deficit:	\$ -4,862.71
Thrivent Choice Deposits (YTD 11/30/2023):	\$ 1,182.00
Total Giving (YTD 11/30/2023):	\$ 230,617.63
Noisy Coin Offerings: (YTD 11/30/2023):	\$ 5,771.57

Cornerstone Fund Balance as of 10/31/2023: \$26,525.34

If you would desire a pastoral visit for any reason, please call the **church office at 507-223-5528**. If you have an emergency, i.e, hospital or family issue, please call **Pastor Levi's cell phone at 701-367-7072**.

GIVE+Online.....

We invite you to consider our new **electronic giving program** as a way to automate your **regular weekly offerings**. Electronic giving is convenient for you and provides much-needed consistency for our church. There is no cost for you to participate. To get started you will need to sign up in the link on the front page of our website (oslcanby.org) or you may call the office 223-5528 for assistance.