

Fourth Sunday in Advent
December 22, 2019



<http://www.ncregister.com/images/uploads/dream-of-st-joseph.jpg>

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

223 Silver Lake Road, Eagle River, WI + 479-6226

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Web Site www.oursavioreagleriver.org

Peter Kufahl, Pastor + 507-822-3606

Marlene Rieck, Director of Music and Children's Ministry -715-891-0991

Anna Reineke – DCE Intern

Vonna Goddard - Choir Director

Vicki Holewinski - JuBELLation Director

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

We Welcome All who are worshipping with us today. All guests please fill in your complete address. Peace be with you in Christ.

Attention Visitors: Thank you for joining us in Worship today. We invite you to pick up a gift bag, found by both entrances into our church.

Communion is Served at the 7:30 AM Worship Services on the 1st & 3rd Sundays and at the Sunday 10:00 AM Service on the 2nd & 4th Sundays

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at Our Savior in the belief that here God offers His very Body and Blood in the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of our faith. We are happy to welcome to the Lord's Table those who embrace this understanding of the nature of the sacrament, repent of sins, and seek to forgive and love as Christ forgives and loves us. We believe that such participation is a statement of fellowship and agreement with our church body and its teachings. As the bread and wine are distributed, white grape juice is also available in the individual cup tray for those that prefer an alternative to the red wine. If you have any questions, we ask that you talk with the pastor or one of the elders prior to the service.

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HEARING ASSISTANCE: Our church is equipped with a hearing assistance system. Please ask an elder for a receiver. **Large Print Orders of Service with Hymns** are available.

YOUR CHILDREN MATTER TO GOD AND US! A cry room is available for **infants and toddlers** if needed during worship services. The cry room is located close to the front door of the church next to the sanctuary, with live streaming of the service on a TV screen. **A staffed nursery for ages 6-36 months is available during the education hour in the cry room and during the 10 am worship service in the lower level.** **Young children** can choose one "Jesus Bag" to take with them into church. Please return the bag to the narthex after worship. Children may take a **children's worship bulletin** as they enter church. The yellow bulletin is for ages 3-6 and blue is for ages 7-12.

SUNDAY SCHOOL – All children ages 2 to grade 8 are invited to join us for Sunday school from 8:45 to 9:45 a.m. in our lower level. We look forward to seeing you! For more information call Marlene Rieck at (715) 891-0991.

YOUTH BIBLE CLASS – Youth (9-12th graders) are invited to our youth Bible class in our youth room located in our lower level. For more information see Anna Reineke or Brenda Husing.

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Look at That!

December 22, 2019

AS WE GATHER

Some videos go viral as our friends tell us, “Look at that!” Centuries ago, people would join a parade through city gates so they all could be part of some great event. As we share the news of Jesus entering human history, we bring our friends to that once-for-all yet eternal event. God kept His promise, Joseph named Mary’s son Jesus, and we are called saints by the grace of God. It’s news that can’t be kept to ourselves; we have to tell our friends, “Look at that! Look at what God has done!”

✠ PREPARATION ✠

HYMN “Prepare the Royal Highway” LSB 343

MEMORY VERSE OF THE MONTH

She (Mary) will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.
Matthew 1:21

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:21; Psalm 24: 3–4; Romans 1:3*

Pastor: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,

People: and shall call His name Immanuel.

Pastor: She will bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus,

People: for He will save His people from their sins.

Pastor: Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD?

People: He who has clean hands and a pure heart.

Pastor: Christ Jesus was descended from David according to the flesh

People: and declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by His resurrection from the dead.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Romans 1:1, 5–6; Psalm 24:4*

Pastor: In today’s Reading from Isaiah, when God was about to send the King of Assyria to destroy Judah, King Ahaz didn’t want to hear about it, though the nation deserved destruction.

People: Help us to consider the physical or spiritual consequences of our actions, not taking God’s grace and forgiveness for granted.

Pastor: As Paul begins his Letter to Rome, he writes that he is “called to be an apostle . . . among all the nations, including you.”

People: Help us to make talking about God’s grace in our lives with people different from ourselves a priority. We are by nature sinful and have sinned in our words, in our thoughts, and in our actions. Have mercy on us, Jesus!

Pastor: God’s plan of salvation has been unwavering since creation. The prophecies were kept, the Savior entered human history to pay for all sins, and everyone who believes has been given “clean hands and a pure heart” purely by the grace of God for Jesus’ sake. As a called and

ordained servant of Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

✠ WORD ✠

KYRIE

Pastor: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

People: O Lord, Emmanuel, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

People: O Lord, Wisdom from on high, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

People: O Lord, Branch of Jesse's tree, have mercy.

Pastor: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

People: O Lord, Key of David, have mercy.

Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

People: Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" LSB 357 V. 1 & 2

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might,

People: that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy;

Pastor: for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Isaiah 7:10–17*

(Although a newborn will be called Immanuel, yet the King of Assyria shall destroy Judah.)

¹⁰ Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz: ¹¹ "Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven." ¹² But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test." ¹³ And he said, "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴ Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. ¹⁵ He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good.

¹⁶ For before the boy knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land whose two kings you dread will be deserted. ¹⁷ The Lord will bring upon you and upon your people and upon your father's house such days as have not come since the day that Ephraim departed from Judah—the king of Assyria!"

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM *Psalms 24*

¹The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein, ²for he has founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers. ³Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall

stand in his holy place? ⁴He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to what is false and does not swear deceitfully. ⁵He will receive blessing from the Lord and righteousness from the God of his salvation. ⁶Such is the generation of those who seek him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob. ⁷Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. ⁸Who is this King of glory? The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle! ⁹Lift up your heads, O gates! And lift them up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. ¹⁰Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory!

EPISTLE *Romans 1:1–7* (Paul writes that his readers are loved by God and called to be saints.) Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, ² which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, ³ concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh ⁴ and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, ⁵ through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations, ⁶ including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, ⁷ To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 1:18–25*

(Joseph is instructed to name Mary's son Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the first chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²²All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: ²³"Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel" (which means, God with us). ²⁴When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, ²⁵but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN "Jesus! Name of Wondrous Love" LSB 900

SERMON "Saved One to Save All" Matthew 1:18-25

CREED Early – Apostles' Creed Late – Nicene Creed
(Creeds can be found on the screens and on the back cover of the hymnal.)

OFFERING "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring" (Bach)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

After each petition, please respond with the following:

Pastor: Lord in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

At the end of the prayer:

People: **Amen.**

Late Service please continue with the Sacrament

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace. *Numbers 6:24–26*

People: **Amen.**

HYMN “O God of God, O Light of Light” LSB 810

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you. *2 Timothy 4:22*

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts. *Colossians 3:1*

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *Psalms 136*

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS LSB 161

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

THE LORD'S PRAYER

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **Amen.**

AGNUS DEI LSB 163

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“O Little Town of Bethlehem” LSB 361

“Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord” LSB 352

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace. *Numbers 6:24–26*

People: **Amen.**

HYMN “O God of God, O Light of Light” LSB 810

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

IN HIS SERVICE

Elder/Helper Early – Dan Scafaro
 Late – Steve Kolling, Gary Fawcett

Ushers Early – Don & Kris Secord, Del Keup, Jim Bonson
 Late – Grant Meyer, Jerry Gifford, Glenn Finger, Paul Kurth

Greeters Early –
 Late – Dawn Shantz, Holly Nier

Readers Early – Kris Secord
 Late – Priscilla Ellenberger

Acolytes Early – EJ Apfel
 Late – RJ Behrens

Media Operators
 Early –
 Late – Shele Fawcett

Altar Care – Kathy Greif, Mara Rothenbach

Nursery - Late Service –

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***THE MISSION OF OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH IS TO EQUIP AND ENCOURAGE FOLLOWERS
OF CHRIST TO SHARE THE LOVE OF JESUS WITH PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITY AND IN THE
WORLD SO THAT ALL MAY HAVE ETERNAL LIFE.***
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This week at Our Savior:

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| Monday | 23 | |
| Tuesday | 24 | 5:00 pm Candlelight Service
7:00 pm Candlelight Service |
| Wednesday | 25 | Christmas Day Worship celebrating Holy Communion |
| Thursday | 26 | 5:45 pm Back in the Swing of Things |
| Friday | 27 | Office Closed |
| Saturday | 28 | 7:00 am Men's Interdenominational Bible Study, ER Firestation |
| Sunday | 29 | 7:30 am Worship celebrating Holy Communion
10:00 am Worship celebrating Holy Communion – Nursery Available |

ATTENDANCE: Early: 46, Communion: 44, Late: 174, Sunday School: 40, Saturday Morning Men's Bible Study: 4

RECORD OF OFFERINGS

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|--------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Offerings YTD (thru 11/30/19) | \$ 354,887.39 |
| Budgeted YTD Offerings | \$ 389,190.11 |
| Under Budget | \$ -34,302.72 |



God's richest blessings to you on YOUR special day!

Birthdays:

22 – Denise Riemer, Jay Numrich, Kenneth Alft **23** – Justin Scafaro, Logan Lorenz
24 – Chris Wise **26** – Marilyn Campbell **27** – Beth Wernhart, Gabriel Welch, Jessica Parling
28 – Jessica Shifra

Anniversaries:

22 – Gerald & Margaret Baerenwald **27** – Robert & Beverly Ginnow



Prayers For Our Families – Without a doubt, one of the most important aspects of our relationship with the Lord our God is our prayer life with Him. We are instructed to pray without ceasing (1 Thess. 5:17), and to pray for one another (James 5:16). For we are under attack from the devil and his minions constantly, and we need the best protection we can get! At Our Savior, we are blessed to be surrounded by families whom our Lord has called to walk together in the light of Jesus. Each one of our families has good days and bad, and each one of our families deserves our prayers. Each Sunday we will be praying for members of Our Savior. Those whom we will be praying for are selected at random from our membership roster, and don't be surprised if you will be receiving a phone call from Pastor Kufahl to let you know that your family will be in our prayers this week. We encourage you to use this list in your personal, daily prayers as well. Each one of us is precious in God's sight. May our Lord open our eyes to see the gift that each family is!

*Abigail Alft, Richard & Theresa Cherney, James & Gloria Harper, Roger & Karla Klein,
Joel Ludwig, Ken Nimmer, Allison Sauvola, Pam Tomlanovich*

Our Savior Email List - If you have not yet subscribed to our email list, follow the link on our website to sign up. If you are signed up and did not receive it, please check you spam folder and then make sure oursavioreagleriver@gmail.com is in your address book. Gmail users – these emails will appear in your "promotions" tab.

Purple Wristbands – Harrison (Harry) Meyers, is the grandson of Curt Gerard, Congregation Chairman of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Iron River. Harry has cystic fibrosis. Please take a wrist band (located at the Welcome Center) and pray for Harry. New drugs are currently being discovered but only for children 2-12. If you would like to donate, that is also appreciated. If you would like to donate to offset his medical expenses, please make checks payable to St. Paul's Lutheran Church - Harry Meyers. Thank you, Pastor Chuck Sheffler.

2020 Offering Envelopes – Next years offering envelopes are on the table in the narthex. Please note, we have renumbered the envelopes so please be sure to not use your new envelopes until 2020.

Watch Us On Facebook - With two weeks in the books, our live streaming is good to go! You can find us on the Our Savior Facebook page, and we hope to have a link up soon on our website. We are also in need of someone to assist in running the laptop for this opportunity. If you are interested in learning how to do this, please contact Pastor Kufahl as we are in need of your help!

Sunday School News - Our Sunday school is on break until Sunday, January 5th. Blessings on your Christmas celebrations! In our lower level hallway, check out our wonderful Christmas books and resources to use for family devotions.

Right Now Media - As you prepare for Christmas, don't forget to spend time in God's Word. Right Now Media is a video library full of Bible studies and resources for you and your family! It is free! Simply contact the church office to get signed up.