

Our Saviour Lutheran Church

56 Cleveland Drive Croton on Hudson New York 10520

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January 5, 2025

SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

Order of Worship

The order of worship is set out in this bulletin. The congregation responds in parts marked in bold. Hymns are taken from our hymnal, the *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (ELW).

WE GATHER

Centering Music

The ringing of *the Morningstar*

Prelude

Confession and Forgiveness

We admit our sins

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. **Amen.**

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

Good Christian Friends Rejoice

ELW#288

1 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
 2 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
 3 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;

give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
 now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!
 now ye need not fear the grave; Je - sus Christ was born to save!

ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man-ger now.
 He has o - pened heav-en's door, and we are blest for - ev - er - more.
 Calls you one and calls you all to gain the ev - er - last - ing hall.

Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!
 Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
 Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Apostolic Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all

And also with you.

Gloria



Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion



sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!



1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.



2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and



glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.



3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of



God; to make all things new.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Lesson

Jeremiah 31:7-14

7 Thus says the Lord:

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,
and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;
proclaim, give praise, and say,

“Save, O Lord, your people, the remnant of Israel.”

8 See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north,
and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,
among them the blind and the lame,
those with child and those in labor, together;
a great company, they shall return here.

9 With weeping they shall come,
and with consolations I will lead them back,
I will let them walk by brooks of water,
in a straight path in which they shall not stumble;
for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

10 Hear the word of the Lord, O nations,
and declare it in the coastlands far away;
say, “He who scattered Israel will gather him,
and will keep him as a shepherd a flock.”

11 For the Lord has ransomed Jacob,
and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.

12 They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion,
and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord,
over the grain, the wine, and the oil,
and over the young of the flock and the herd;
their life shall become like a watered garden,
and they shall never languish again.

13 Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance,
and the young men and the old shall be merry.

I will turn their mourning into joy,
I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow.

14 I will give the priests their fill of fatness,
and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the Lord.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm

Psalm 147:12-20

12 Worship the Lord, O Jerusalem;
praise your God, O Zion,

**13 who has strengthened the bars of your gates
and has blessed your children within you.**

14 God has established peace on your borders
and satisfies you with the finest wheat.

**15 God sends out a command to the earth,
a word that runs very swiftly.**

16 God gives snow like wool,
scattering frost like ashes.

17 God scatters hail like bread crumbs.

Who can stand against God's cold?

18 The Lord sends forth the word and melts them;
the wind blows, and the waters flow.

**19 God declares the word to Jacob,
statutes and judgments to Israel.**

20 The Lord has not done so to any other nation;
they do not know God's judgments. Hallelujah!

Second Reading

Ephesians 1:3-14

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, 4 just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. 5 He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, 6 to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. 7 In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace 8 that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight 9 he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, 10 as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. 11 In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, 12 so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. 13 In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; 14 this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Alleluia Verse

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

The Holy Gospel

Gospel Reading

Matthew 2:1-12

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 2nd chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

2In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." 3When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; 4and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. 5They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 6'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" 7Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. 8Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage."

9When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. 10When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. 11On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. 12And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

The Gospel of the Lord.

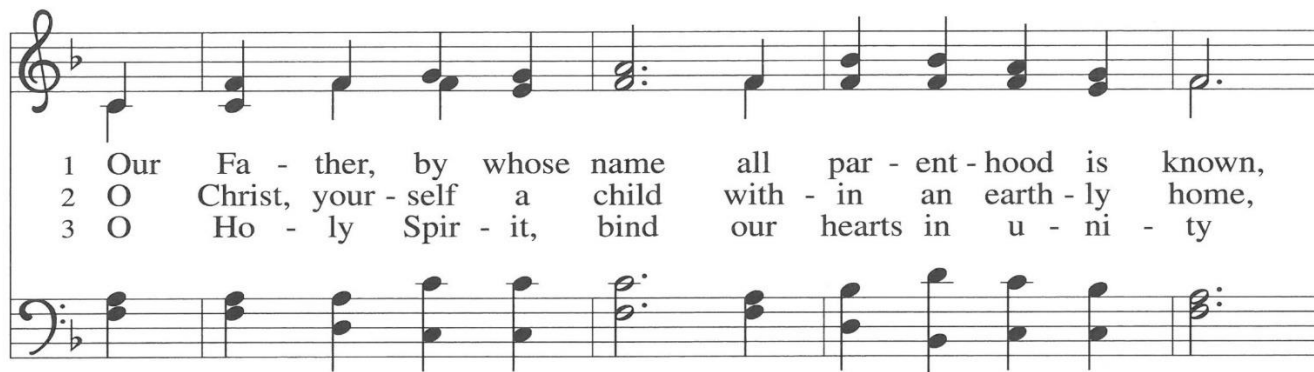
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn

Our Father, By Whose Name

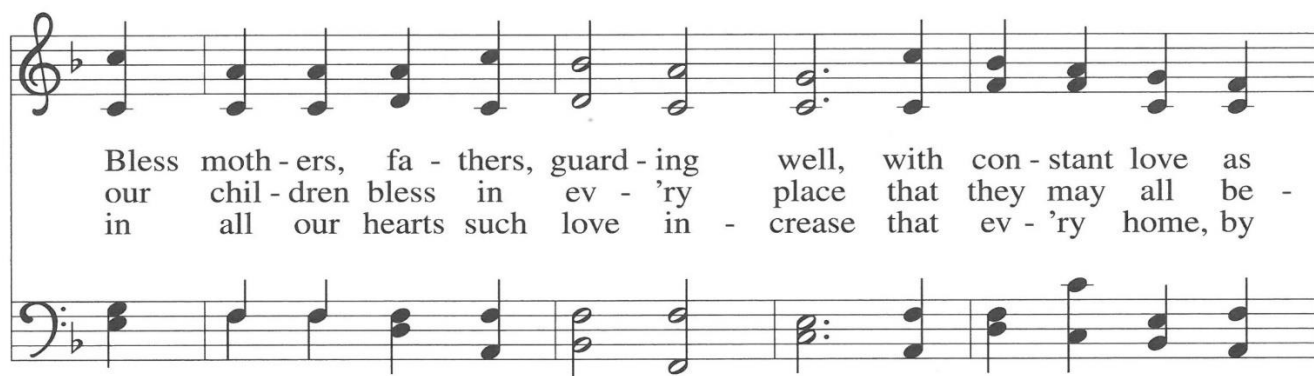
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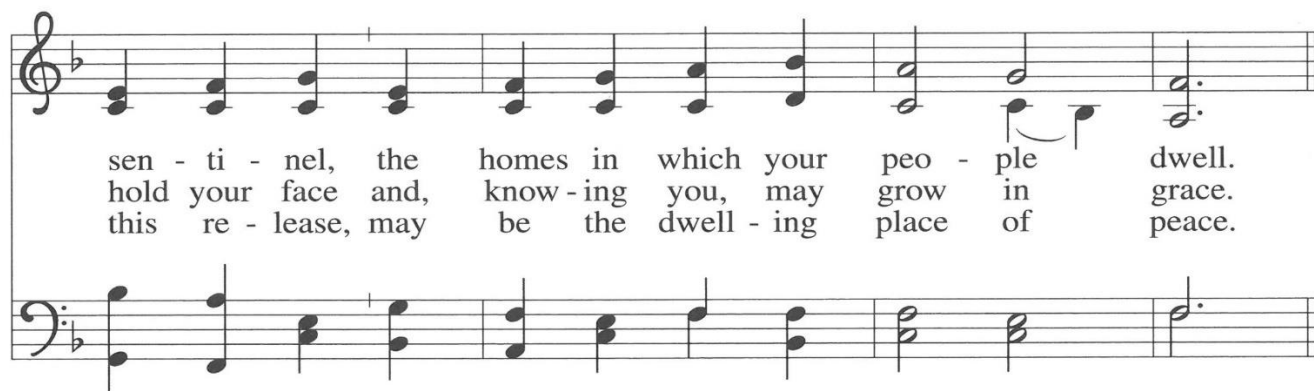
1 Our Fa - ther, by whose name all par - ent - hood is known,
 2 O Christ, your - self a child with - in an earth - ly home,
 3 O Ho - ly Spir - it, bind our hearts in u - ni - ty



in love di - vine you claim each fam - 'ly as your own.
 with heart still un - de - filed to full a - dult - hood come:
 and teach us how to find the love from self set free;



Bless moth - ers, fa - thers, guard - ing well, with con - stant love as
 our chil - dren bless in ev - 'ry place that they may all be -
 in all our hearts such love in - crease that ev - 'ry home, by



sen - ti - nel, the homes in which your peo - ple dwell.
 hold your face and, know - ing you, may grow in grace.
 this re - lease, may be the dwell - ing place of peace.

Apostle's 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 to the dead.***

**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.**

Prayers of the People

Filled with good news of great joy, let us offer our prayers for the church, the earth, and all people.

A brief silence.

O God, you reveal yourself in this assembly. In water, wine, and bread, show us again and again your grace upon grace, that your church boldly testifies to your love. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

You reveal yourself in creation. In seedlings and planets, microorganisms and galaxies, awaken us to the cry of the earth. As you nourish your people like a watered garden, empower us to nourish our creaturely companions. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

You reveal yourself in every land and in the farthest parts of the earth. Deliver peoples who suffer under oppressive regimes. Thwart the foolish plans of unjust leaders. Give wisdom to our elected officials. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

You reveal yourself in every human being. Help us recognize your image in our siblings in Christ who are in the strong grip of addiction, depression, anxiety, hopelessness, or other illness. Grant us compassion in our care for your people. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

You reveal yourself anew every day. In this new year, renew this congregation and its ministries in our witness to the good news of the incarnation. Transform the way we have always done things into your new future for us. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

You reveal yourself in the lives of your holy ones. We give you thanks for those who set their hope on you, trusting the inheritance we receive in you. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We commend these prayers to you, O God, trusting your grace made known to all, through the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you

And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Please be seated.

Offering

Financial offerings are received in the plates. Please stand as the gifts come forward.

*This QR code links
to our PayPal account
and may be used to make
a one-time gift.*



Musical Offering

Please Stand

Offertory Canticle

As the Grains of Wheat

Refrain



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from
all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.

1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst,
2 Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when

Refrain

may we share the pres - ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

Prayer of Dedication

**Jesus, Bread of life,
you have set this table with your very self,
and called us to the feast of plenty.
Gather what has been sown among us,
and strengthen us in this meal.
Make us to be what we receive here,
your body for the life of the world.
Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer

**The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to God.
Let us give thanks to our God.
It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

**God of all, mighty and merciful,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**We thank you and praise you
for you have satisfied the hunger of your people in every age:
from the beginning you drew up food from the earth
and humankind from the soil,
filling our nostrils full of your Breath.
You ate the fatted calf with Abraham and Sarah,
and answered their deep longing for a child;
you sustained your chosen people with manna
as you led them toward the promised land;
you sent prophets to answer the cry for bread and for justice;
and in the fullness of time,
you sent your own Son, Jesus Christ, the Bread of Heaven;**

**Who, in the night in which he was handed over,
took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.**

**Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.**

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory
to share with us the great and promised feast.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
And stir in us a hunger for justice and thirst for compassion.
Open wide your hand
and satisfy our deep desire—
feed us with the Bread that is you.
All honor and glory to you, almighty God, now and forever.
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

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

Agnus Dei



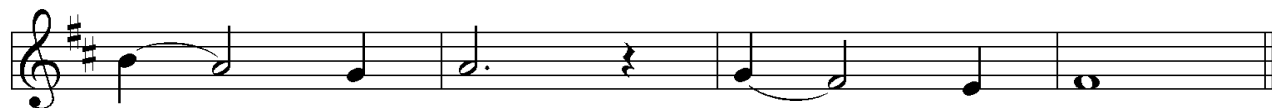
☐ Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



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, grant us peace.

Please Sit

The Distribution

**There is a place for you at the banquet.
Come and feast at Jesus' table.**

All the baptized are invited to come forward to receive the holy gifts. Those not receiving may come forward for a blessing or remain in the pews in prayer.

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Amen

Post-Communion Sentence

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

Post-Communion Prayer

Jesus, Bread of life,
we have received from your table
more than we could ever ask.

As you have nourished us in this meal,
now strengthen us to love the world with your own life.

In your name we pray.

Amen.

WE ARE SENT

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.

Hymn

Love Has Come

ELW#292



1 Love has come— a light in the dark - ness! Love shines forth in the
2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der. Love is God now a -
3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us! Love is life ev - er -



Beth - le - hem skies. See, all heav - en has come to pro - claim it;
sleep in the hay. See the glow in the eyes of his moth - er;
last - ing and free. Love is Je - sus with - in and a - mong us.



hear how their song of joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to
what is the name her heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the
Love is the peace our hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the



you, a Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.
name she whis - pers; Love! Love! Je - sus, Im - man - u - el.
gift of Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

Charge

Go in peace. The Word of God dwells in you richly.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Congregation adjourns to engage in loving service in the World

Worship Service Today

Greeters/UshersTBD
 Lector.....TBD
 Worship Assistant.....Deacon LeeAnn McCarthy
 HospitalityTBD
 Altar Guild.....Karen Magerlein
 Offering TellerTBD



Altar Flowers

**No
Flower
Donations**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Quilters meet every Tuesday from 9am-12noon.

Monday: Psalm 72:1-7,10-14; Isaiah 60:1-6; Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12.

Tuesday: Daniel 2:1-19; Psalm 72; Ephesians 4:17-5:1.

Wednesday: Ephesians 5:15-29; Psalm 72; Daniel 2:24-29.

Thursday: Luke 1:67-79; Psalm 72; Numbers 24:15-19.

Friday: Psalm 29; Ecclesiastes 2:1-11; 1 Corinthians 2:1-10.

Saturday: Psalm 29; 1 Corinthians 2:11-16; Ecclesiastes 3:1-15.

Baptism of Our Lord – January 12, 2025:

Isaiah 43:1-7; Psalm 29; Acts 8:14-17;

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22.

Those With Special Needs & Concerns

Other Concerns of Our Community

PRAYER LIST

John Nurmi
 Arlita Hoyt
 Christine Olszanski
 Kolbe Olszanski
 Deanna Platt
 Bob Riekert
 Catherine Biel
 Jim Murtha
 Jim Befanis

SERVING IN ARMED FORCES

Michael Gabrielsen
 Jack O'Brien
 John Picucci



Bishop Paul Egensteiner and his staff.
 For those who would dare to bring peace.
 For the President and his administration.
 Communities of Faith in & around
 Croton.
 For refugees suffering in camps around
 the world.
 For food to feed all those who hunger.

Welcome to Our Saviour

Do you want to live life to its fullest? Do you want to have resources to cope with the challenges of life? Since his disciples first followed him, Jesus' teachings and example have been providing enduring answers for life's most troubling questions. Jesus' life was given for us. His life remains a gift to be received and God's Word through him waits to be heard. Come and see! The Lord is good!

Our Saviour is a safe, friendly, welcoming place for you and your family to hear Good News and find warm, caring community. We welcome people of all races, ethnicities, political affiliations, sexual orientations and gender identities or expressions. We invite you to join us in any or all of the activities. Please ask any member for further details.

You will find the Order of Worship set out in this bulletin. You will also find a schedule of devotional readings and next Sunday's scripture set out inside the back cover.

HOLY COMMUNION: All are invited to the Lord's Table, as Jesus welcomed all without condition, to commune with Him. You need not be Lutheran or a church member. Young children may receive at their parents' discretion.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Welcome to Our Saviour Evangelical Lutheran Church

Rev. Dr. Justin Johnson, Pastor
Phill Greenland, Music Minister

Sunday School	9:00 am
Sunday Worship Service	10:00 am

Pastor's Office Hours: Mon & Tues: 9:00 am – 12:00 noon;
Wed, Sat & Sun: by appointment; Thurs & Friday: Pastor's Days Off.

Church Secretary's Office Hours: Mon, Tues & Fri: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm
Church Office Phone: 914-271-4632 **Pastor's Phone:** 914 863-1601

<http://www.oursaviourcroton.org>

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Our Saviour Your Saviour Our Saviour

