

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS



Second Week of Advent
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2023



We're so glad you're here.



At Church of the Savior, our vision is to grow in "Loving God, Loving Others, Loving Life." We hope you sense God's presence and our warm welcome. We'd love to meet you in the foyer after the service.

--Fr. Kevin and Mtr. Karen

About Our Worship: We use an Anglican liturgy. Liturgy simply means that everyone gets to participate, so please join in as you feel comfortable.

Children's Worship: Nursery is available for children 6 months through 4 years. Children's Worship rooms are available for children Kindergarten through 2nd Grade, and 3rd to 5th Grade. You may choose to keep children with your family, and coloring pages will be available to all.

Assisted Listening or Noise Cancelling Headphones: Pick up a loop in the livestream booth (the door to the right of the fireplace in the Fireside Room). An usher can guide you there. Noise cancelling headphones are available at the info table for those who might be sensitive to noise.

Today is the Second Week in Advent, the four-week preparation period before Christmas. During this season of Advent, we use the color purple in worship. In the liturgical year, purple is the color of waiting and preparing; the church uses it during both Advent and Lent. During Advent, the purple banners, vestments and altar coverings can remind us of two things. First, purple symbolizes somberness, appropriate for these four weeks of allowing ourselves to remember how much we need the Light of the World to enter our darkness. Second, purple is the traditional color of royalty, a color that looks forward to the arrival of the tiny baby who is also the King of Kings.

Want to Stay in Touch? Let us know how at FriendsOf The Savior.org/visitor

PRELUDE & WELCOME

Please enjoy a few moments of silence during the prelude to prepare for worship.

THE WORD OF GOD

PROCESSIONAL

You may stand.

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

Come, Thou long expected Jesus, Born to set Thy people free; From our fears and sins release us; Let us find our rest in Thee. Israel's strength and consolation, Hope of all the earth Thou art; Dear desire of every nation, Joy of every longing heart.

Born Thy people to deliver, Born a child and yet a King, Born to reign in us forever, Now Thy gracious Kingdom bring. By Thine own eternal Spirit Rule in all our hearts alone; By Thine all sufficient merit Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

THE PRAYER FOR LIGHT

Celebrant: Our King and Savior now draws near.

All: Come let us adore him.

Celebrant: Jesus said, "I am the light of the world; whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

Let us pray.

Almighty God, we give you thanks for surrounding us, as daylight fades, with the brightness of the vesper light; and we implore you of your great mercy that, as you enfold us with the radiance of this light, so you would shine into our hearts the brightness of your Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Lord is My Light

During the song, acolytes will light candles in the Advent wreath and on the altar.



*Both themes may be sung at the same time.

Children from kindergarten through 5th grade are invited to follow the acolyte to Children's Worship during the next song.

Dawning Light Of Our Salvation

Long in darkness Israel wandered; Long in mortal shadows, we Walked in bondage and self-pity, Trod in paths of sin and grief. In the prophets' words He told us, Long the God of Israel spoke; He alone in strength would save us From the hands of all our foes.

Ev'ry valley be exalted! Ev'ry mountain be made plain! Crooked ways repent and straighten; All creation bend in praise!

Jesus, Lord, and mighty Savior, David's Son and yet his King, Dawning light of our salvation, Of your saving power we sing! Stand, oh lame, and dance, ye broken. Know the Savior's healing grace. Come, oh deaf and hear Him singing; Turn, oh blind, behold His face!

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Please be seated.

¹ Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

² Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her

that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for,

that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

³ A voice of one calling:

"In the wilderness prepare the way for the Lord;

make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

⁴ Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low;

the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain.

⁵ And the glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all people will see it together.

For the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

⁶ A voice says, "Cry out."

And I said, "What shall I cry?"

"All people are like grass,

and all their faithfulness is like the flowers of the field.

⁷ The grass withers and the flowers fall, because the breath of the Lord blows on them. Surely the people are grass.

⁸ The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever."

⁹ You who bring good news to Zion, go up on a high mountain.

You who bring good news to Jerusalem, lift up your voice with a shout,

lift it up, do not be afraid;

say to the towns of Judah,

"Here is your God!"

¹⁰ See, the Sovereign Lord comes with power, and he rules with a mighty arm.

See, his reward is with him, and his recompense accompanies him.

11 He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young.

Reader: The Word of the Lord. All: Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM

PSALM 85:1-2, 8-13

- ¹ You have been gracious to your land, O Lord, * you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.
- ² You have forgiven the iniquity of your people * and blotted out all their sins.
- 8 I will listen to what the Lord God is saying, * for he is speaking peace to his faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to him.
- ⁹ Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, * that his glory may dwell in our land.
- Mercy and truth have met together; * righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
- ¹¹ Truth shall spring up from the earth, * and righteousness shall look down from heaven.
- ¹² The Lord will indeed grant prosperity, * and our land will yield its increase.
- ¹³ Righteousness shall go before him, * and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

⁸ But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. ⁹ The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything done in it will be laid bare.

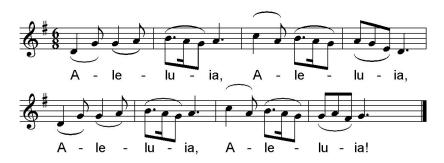
¹¹ Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives ¹² as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat. ¹³ But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells.

¹⁴ So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with him. ¹⁵ Bear in mind that our Lord's patience means salvation, just as our dear brother Paul also wrote you with the wisdom that God gave him.

Reader: The Word of the Lord. All: Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA

You may stand.



THE GOSPEL MARK 1:1-8

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark. All: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

¹ This is the Good News about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God. It began ² just as the prophet Isaiah had written:

"Look, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, and he will prepare your way.

- He is a voice shouting in the wilderness, 'Prepare the way for the Lord's coming! Clear the road for him!'"
- ⁴ This messenger was John the Baptist. He was in the wilderness and preached that people should be baptized to show that they had repented of their sins and turned to God to be forgiven. ⁵ All of Judea, including all the people of Jerusalem, went out to see and hear John. And when they confessed their sins, he baptized them in the Jordan River. ⁶ His clothes were woven from coarse camel hair, and he wore a leather belt around his waist. For food he ate locusts and wild honey.
- ⁷ John announced: "Someone is coming soon who is greater than I am—so much greater that I'm not even worthy to stoop down like a slave and untie the straps of his sandals. ⁸ I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit!"

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.
All: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

ALLELUIA

Please be seated.

THE SERMON



This Is The Baptism You're Looking for

Kevin Miller Rector

We take a few minutes of silence to reflect, pray, and listen for what God may be saying.

THE NICENE CREED

You may stand.

Celebrant: Let us confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed:

All: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Intercessor: Come, Lord Jesus. Come, light of the world!
All:



THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Deacon: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Please sit or kneel for a time of silence.

All: Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

THE PEACE

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

All: And also with you.

At this time, parents should pick up their children from the nursery and Children's Worship.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Celebrant: Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

THE OFFERTORY

Comfort, Comfort All My People

"Comfort, comfort all my people; Speak of peace," so says our God. "Comfort those who sit in darkness, Groaning from their sorrow's load. Speak to all Jerusalem Of the peace that waits for them; Tell them that their sins I cover, That their warfare now is over."

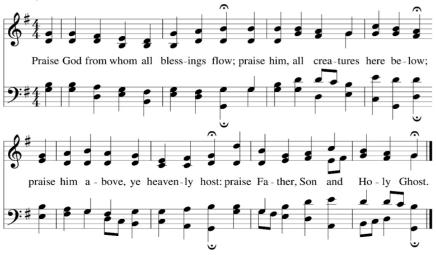
John the Baptist's voice is crying
In the desert far and near,
Calling people to repentance
For the kingdom now is here.
Oh, that warning cry obey!
Now prepare for God a way;
Let the valleys rise to meet Him
And the hills bow down to greet Him.

Straighten out the crooked highway; Make the rougher places plain.
Let your hearts be true and humble, Ready for His holy reign.
For the glory of the Lord
Now o'er earth is spread abroad,
And all flesh shall see the token
That His word is never broken.

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The Psalm was taken from The Book of Common Prayer, public domain.

You may stand.



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you. Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Celebrant: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus



Celebrant: Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Celebrant: Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:



Celebrant: We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him.

Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

Celebrant: All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ:

All: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. Amen.

Celebrant: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to sing



THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

All: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

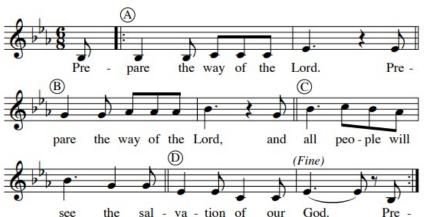
Celebrant: The gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in

your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Please join us for Communion: all who are baptized and seeking to follow Jesus are welcome. If that doesn't describe you, simply say "Blessing," or cross your arms, and the minister distributing bread will pray a short prayer for God's favor on your life. The first tray contains wine; the second contains grape juice. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. If you would like to receive prayer, a prayer minister is available in the foyer. During the season of Advent, we invite you to light a candle at the candle table during communion. You may light a candle to represent a prayer or a thanksgiving, or to remember that Jesus is the Light of the World. Children should have adult supervision to light a candle.

COMMUNION SONGS

Prepare the Way of the Lord



Way Maker

You are here, moving in our midst; I worship You, I worship You. You are here, working in this place; I worship You, I worship You.

You are Way Maker, Miracle Worker, Promise Keeper, Light in the darkness, my God, that is who You are. You are Way Maker, Miracle Worker, Promise Keeper, Light in the darkness, my God, that is who You are.

You are here, touching ev'ry heart; I worship You, I worship You. You are here, healing ev'ry heart; I worship You, I worship You.

You are here, turning lives around; I worship You, I worship You. You are here, mending ev'ry heart; I worship You, I worship You Lord.

Even when I don't see it, You're working. Even when I don't feel it. You're working. You never stop, You never stop working. You never stop, You never stop working.

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"Dawning Light Of Our Salvation" Bruce Benedict | Wendell Kimbrough © 2012, 2017 Cardiphonia Music

"The Lord is My Light"

"Celtic Alleluia" Music: Fintan O'Carroll 1985, GIA Publications, Inc.

"Kyrie Eleison"

"Comfort, Comfort All My People" Catherine Winkworth | Johannes G. Olearius | Louis Bourgeois (1551) Public Domain "Doxology" Thomas Ken, 1637-1711Tune: Genevan Psalter, 1551 Edition; attr. Louis Bourgeois, 1510-1561; Public Domain.

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"I Exalt Thee" Pete Sanchez Jr. © 1977 Sanchez, Pete, Jr.

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Rising Sun

Praise Him, all you sinners; Sing, oh sing, you weary; Oh, praise Him all you children of God.

We lift high His glory Shown throughout our stories; We praise Him as the children of God.

Our great Redeemer, glorious Savior, Your Name is higher than the rising sun; Light of the morning, You shine forever; Your Name is higher than the rising sun; Your Name is higher than the rising sun.

Praise His Name forever; Speak it loud and clear now; Oh, praise Him all you children of God.

Hallelujah, name above all, Simply to speak Your Name is praise. Hallelujah, now and always, Forever we lift Your Name in praise. Hallelujah, our God, You reign, Simply to speak Your Name is praise, oh.

I Exalt Thee

I exalt Thee! I exalt Thee! I exalt Thee, oh Lord! I exalt Thee! I exalt Thee! I exalt Thee, oh Lord!

For Thou oh Lord, art high above all the earth. Thou art exalted far above all gods; For Thou, oh Lord, art high above all the earth, Thou art exalted far above all gods.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE BLESSING

Celebrant: May you, who rejoice in the first coming of our Savior, at his second coming be rewarded with unending life. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you forever. Amen.

You may be seated.

RECESSIONAL

Celtic Benediction

May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you,
Wherever he may send you.
May he guide you through the wilderness,
Protect you through the storm.
May he bring you home rejoicing at the wonders he has shown you,
May he bring you home rejoicing once again into our doors.

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the

Spirit. Alleluia. Alleluia.

All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Save the Date: Gingerbread Nativities

After worship, December 16th, we will have our annual Gingerbread Nativities. Stay for fun for all ages. Which friend could you invite to join you?

Advent Materials

Please stop by the fireside room for Advent materials.

- Advent Devotional prepared by Pastor Sarah. The devotional focuses on the great "O" Antiphons, a set of seven ancient prayers that help us prepare for the coming of Jesus.
- Jesse Tree devotional book
- Countdown candles (suggested donation \$10)
- Advent Sticker calendars

To make a donation for the Advent materials you can find links in the Weekly Newsletter or on the Savior Website under the Giving tab.

Christmas Eve at Savior

Our Christmas Eve service (December 24, 7pm) includes children, favorite Christmas carols, and candlelight—and all in about 1 hour. A great opportunity to invite family members or friends.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Nursery & Children's Worship: We provide Nursery for children 6 months through 4 years and two Children's Worship rooms. Kindergarten through 2nd Grade may attend Young Children in Worship, and 3rd to 5th Grade may attend Following Jesus.

Youth: The youth Christmas party will be tonight right after the service. Please join us for the festivities!

UPCOMING SERVICES

Advent & Christmas at Savior

December 2, Kevin Miller, Mark 13:1-6, 9, 11-13, 22-26, 32-37

December 9, Kevin Miller, Mark 1:1-8

December 16, Kevin Miller, John 1:6-8, 19-28

December 23, Ellen Hsu, Luke 1:26-38

December 24, Kevin Miller, Luke 2:1-14, (15-20)

December 30, Sarah Lindsay, Luke 2:22-40

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Thank you for supporting this ministry of "Loving God, Loving Others, Loving Life."

This Year's Giving Goal: \$365,000

As of December 2:

Budgeted Giving Goal = \$341,553 Actual Giving = \$273,057 Over/(Under) = (\$68,496)

Donations to Church of the Savior:

☑ Church of the Savior, PO Box 507, Wheaton, IL 60187

friendsofthesavior.org/giving

MINISTRY TEAM LEADERS

Altar & Acolytes Audio Visual Team Care Coordination College Ministry Intercessory Prayer Meals Ministry Prayer and Communion Prayers of the People Scripture Readers Setup Welcome Team Sandy Oyler Erik Peterson kevin@friendsofthesavior.org Sarah Lindsay sheri.l.abel@gmail.com Cara Peterson Marj Mead Deb Nickerson Hope Grant Angel Gonzalez Gayle Koehler

To ask about a ministry or volunteer to get involved, please talk with its leader (emails are found at friendsofthesavior.org/serve) or with Pastor Sarah Lindsay (sarah@friendsofthesavior.org).

CLERGY

Kevin Miller Karen Miller Brad Lindsay Sandy Oyler kevin@friendsofthesavior.org karen@friendsofthesavior.org deaconbrad@friendsofthesavior.org deacon@friendsofthesavior.org

ASSISTING CLERGY

Bill Richardson, Co-Founding Pastor, Retired Linda Richardson, Co-Founding Pastor, Retired

STAFF

Rector: Kevin Miller Associate Rector: Karen Miller Pastor of Family Ministries: Mary Gonzalez Pastor of Music and Worship: John Rakes Pastor of Adult Formation: Sarah Lindsay Director of Communications: Caprice Miller Bookkeeper: Jean Ann Parker Family Ministries Admin: Sydney DePasquale kevin@friendsofthesavior.org karen@friendsofthesavior.org mary@friendsofthesavior.org john@friendsofthesavior.org sarah@friendsofthesavior.org caprice@friendsofthesavior.org jeanann@friendsofthesavior.org sydney@friendsofthesavior.org

VESTRY

Christine Sloat: Senior Warden Synthia Cathcart: Junior Warden Karen Bailey: Church Clerk Karen Miller Kevin Miller Deb Nickerson Sandy Oyler Rick Page Alan Savage christine.kindberg@gmail.com arnold.cathcart@gmail.com

