

# **GOD'S BETTER FUTURE**



## SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2022



# Welcome to Church of the Savior

**If You Are Visiting**: We'd love to meet you! Please connect with Fr. Kevin and Mtr. Karen after the service, to introduce yourself and learn more about Church of the Savior.

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

**Masks Are Optional:** Following CDC and state guidelines, wearing masks during the service is optional (unless you have tested positive). During the Peace and after the service, "If you see a mask, please ask" whether that person would like a handshake or hug.

**Children's Worship:** Nursery is available for children 6 months through 4 years. Children's Worship classes 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. The Fireside Room will be open for anyone who needs extra space.

**Today is the Third Week in Advent,** the season of spiritual preparation for Christmas. But by this point mid-way through Advent, the holiday season has likely begun to overwhelm us with events and gift-buying countdowns. So let us take a moment this evening to slow down, to quiet and humble our hearts. Let us experience the longing for Christ as we prepare our hearts for his coming. Take a moment to meditate on the words of this ancient hymn: "Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand; ponder nothing earthly-minded, for with blessing in his hand, Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand." The next weeks are full of demands and celebrations. But through it all, let our hearts keep still as we await with awe and wonder the arrival of Christ.

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

Cover Credit: Art created by Savior Member, Meiying Howard. Inspired by Isaiah 35.

#### PRELUDE & WELCOME

*Please enjoy a few moments of silence during the prelude as we quiet our minds and prepare our hearts for worship.* 

# THE WORD OF GOD

#### PROCESSIONAL

You may stand.

#### O Come O Come Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel; That mourns in lonely exile here. until the Son of God appear.

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.* 

O come, Thou Wisdom from on high, and order all things, far and nigh; To us the path of knowledge show, and cause us in her ways to go.

O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind; Bid envy, strife, and quarrels cease; Fill the whole world with heaven's peace.

#### 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.



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

## Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, And with fear and trembling stand; Ponder nothing worldly minded, For with blessing in His hand Christ our Lord To earth descendeth, Our full homage to demand.

Rank on rank the host of heaven Spreads its vanguard on the way. As the Light of light descendeth From the realms of endless day, That the pow'rs of hell may vanish As the darkness clears away.

At His feet the six-winged seraph, Cherubim, with sleepless eye, Veil their faces to the Presence, As with ceaseless voice they cry: "Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, Lord Most High!" Celebrant: The Lord be with you. All: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Please be seated.

#### THE FIRST LESSON

ISAIAH 35:1-10

<sup>1-2</sup> Wilderness and desert will sing joyously, the badlands will celebrate and flower— Like the crocus in spring, bursting into blossom, a symphony of song and color. Mountain glories of Lebanon—a gift. Awesome Carmel, stunning Sharon—gifts. God's resplendent glory, fully on display. God awesome, God majestic. <sup>3-4</sup> Energize the limp hands, strengthen the rubbery knees. Tell fearful souls, "Courage! Take heart! God is here, right here, on his way to put things right And redress all wrongs. He's on his way! He'll save you!" <sup>5-7</sup> Blind eyes will be opened, deaf ears unstopped, Lame men and women will leap like deer, the voiceless break into song. Springs of water will burst out in the wilderness, streams flow in the desert. Hot sands will become a cool oasis, thirsty ground a splashing fountain. Even lowly jackals will have water to drink, and barren grasslands flourish richly. <sup>8-10</sup> There will be a highway called the Holy Road.

No one rude or rebellious is permitted on this road. It's for God's people exclusively impossible to get lost on this road. Not even fools can get lost on it. No lions on this road, no dangerous wild animals— Nothing and no one dangerous or threatening. Only the redeemed will walk on it. The people God has ransomed will come back on this road. They'll sing as they make their way home to Zion, unfading halos of joy encircling their heads, Welcomed home with gifts of joy and gladness as all sorrows and sighs scurry into the night.

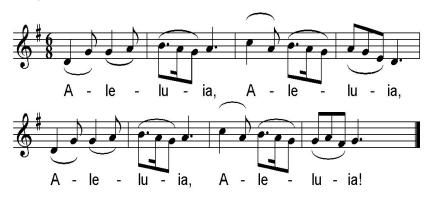
Reader: The Word of the Lord. All: Thanks be to God.

#### THE CANTICLE

#### LUKE 1:46B-55

"My soul glorifies the Lord <sup>47</sup> and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, <sup>48</sup> for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed, 49 for the Mighty One has done great things for me holy is his name. <sup>50</sup> His mercy extends to those who fear him, from generation to generation. <sup>51</sup> He has performed mighty deeds with his arm; he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts. <sup>52</sup> He has brought down rulers from their thrones but has lifted up the humble. <sup>53</sup> He has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty. <sup>54</sup> He has helped his servant Israel, remembering to be merciful <sup>55</sup> to Abraham and his descendants forever, just as he promised our ancestors." Reader: The Word of the Lord. All: Thanks be to God.

You may stand.



## THE GOSPEL

## MATTHEW 11:2-11

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

<sup>2</sup> John the Baptist, who was in prison, heard about all the things the Messiah was doing. So he sent his disciples to ask Jesus, <sup>3</sup> "Are you the Messiah we've been expecting, or should we keep looking for someone else?"

<sup>4</sup> Jesus told them, "Go back to John and tell him what you have heard and seen— <sup>5</sup> the blind see, the lame walk, those with leprosy are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised to life, and the Good News is being preached to the poor." <sup>6</sup> And he added, "God blesses those who do not fall away because of me."

<sup>7</sup> As John's disciples were leaving, Jesus began talking about him to the crowds. "What kind of man did you go into the wilderness to see? Was he a weak reed, swayed by every breath of wind? <sup>8</sup> Or were you expecting to see a man dressed in expensive clothes? No, people with expensive clothes live in palaces. <sup>9</sup> Were you looking for a prophet? Yes, and he is more than a prophet. <sup>10</sup> John is the man to whom the Scriptures refer when they say,

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

<sup>11</sup> "I tell you the truth, of all who have ever lived, none is greater than John the Baptist. Yet even the least person in the Kingdom of Heaven is greater

than he is!

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

## ALLELUIA

Please be seated.

## THE SERMON

## What Jesus Says to the Disappointed

Kevin Miller Rector

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

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#### You may stand.

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.

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

Please be seated.

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

## THE OFFERTORY

## Mary's Song

My soul magnifies the Lord; My spirit rejoices in God! My Savior has seen his servant in need, and behold the great things He has done:

He scatters the proud and rich; He lifts up the humble and weak. The kings of the earth, He casts from their thrones and the hungry He welcomes to feast.

*Oh, behold, my Savior has come! And my soul will tell of His praise For He Who is strong has come to the weak and, at last, He will reign as our King of Peace.* 

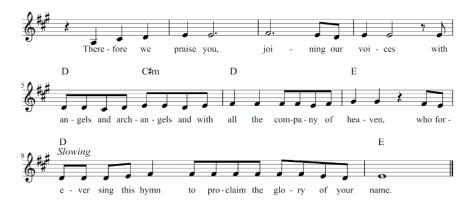
From now to the end of time The nations will know me as blest For God has made new His promise of love And mercy through Abraham's seed. You may stand.



## 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.

All:



#### 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:

All:



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:

All:



- 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. Ushers will release you row by row, beginning with the Fireside Room.

## COMMUNION SONGS

#### Em Am(+F#) В С Wait the Lord. for whose day is near. Em Em Am ₿ Wait the Lord: for be strong, take heart!

## Wait for the Lord

# Hark the Glad Sound

Hark, the glad sound! The Savior comes, The Savior promised long; Let ev'ry heart prepare a throne And ev'ry voice a song.

He comes the broken heart to bind, The bleeding soul to cure, And with the treasures of His grace To Enrich the humble poor

Our glad hosannas, Prince of peace, Your welcome shall proclaim, And heav'n's eternal arches Ring with Your beloved name.

#### **Even So Come**

All of creation, all of the earth Make straight a highway, a path for the Lord; Jesus is coming soon.

Call back the sinner, wake up the saint, Let ev'ry nation shout of Your fame; Jesus is coming soon.

Like a bride waiting for her groom, We'll be a Church ready for You. Ev'ry heart longing for our King, we sing: Even so, come, Lord Jesus come. Even so, come, Lord Jesus come.

There will be justice, all will be new. Your name forever, faithful and true; Jesus is coming soon.

So we wait, we wait for You. God, we wait; You're coming soon. So we wait, we wait for You. God we wait; You're coming soon.

## O Come Let Us Adore Him

O come let us adore him O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

For He alone is worthy. For He alone is worthy. For He alone is worthy, Christ the Lord.

We'll give you all the glory, We'll give you all the glory, We'll give you all the glory, Christ the Lord.

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 he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever.

You may be seated for announcements.

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## **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

### **Gingerbread Nativities**

Please join us for our annual tradition of building Gingerbread Nativities together. It will take place tonight, after the service. A light dinner will be provided.

#### Christmas Eve and New Years Eve

Save the dates for our Christmas Eve service at 5 pm on Saturday, December 24, and for a prayer and praise service, with Communion, at 5 pm on Saturday, December 31st.

## CHILDREN AND YOUTH

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

**Youth Confirmation:** Classes will be held on Jan 7, and Feb 4, from 9:30am to 1:30pm at PHCC in the Fireside Room. Please contact Pastor Steve to ask any questions.

## **CURRENT SERMON SERIES**

God's Better Future

November 26, Robert Gallagher, Isaiah 2:1-4 "Our Messiah, the LORD of the Nations"

December 3, Kevin Miller, Isaiah 11:1-10 "A Wolf Moves in Next Door to a Lamb..."

December 10, Kevin Miller, Isaiah 35:1-10 "What Jesus Says to the Disappointed

December 17, Kevin Miller, Isaiah 7:10-16 "The Pregnant Virgin"

## FINANCIAL UPDATE

Have a question about your donation? Or about something in the budget? Email our bookkeeper, Jean Ann Parker: jeanann@friendsofthesavior.org

This Year's Giving Goal: \$325,000 As of December 3:

Budgeted Giving Goal = \$302,972 Actual Giving = \$265,605 Over/(Under) = (\$37,367)

#### 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 Brad Lindsay 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).

## 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 Youth Pastor: Steve Dilley Director of Communications: Caprice Miller Bookkeeper: Jean Ann Parker Family Ministries Admin: Sydney Kamenjarin

kevin@friendsofthesavior.org karen@friendsofthesavior.org john@friendsofthesavior.org sarah@friendsofthesavior.org steve@friendsofthesavior.org caprice@friendsofthesavior.org jeanann@friendsofthesavior.org sydney@friendsofthesavior.org

#### VESTRY

Ellen Hsu: Senior Warden Roger Bottner: Junior Warden Denise Daniels: Church Clerk Alan Savage Karen Bailey Christine Kindberg Karen Miller Kevin Miller Sandy Oyler Nadine Rorem ellenmhsu@gmail.com rwbottner@gmail.com

## 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 Sandy Richter, Rector, Christ Our Peace Anglican



Journeying Together: Loving God, Loving Others, Loving Life

FriendsOfTheSavior.org

630-387-9450

PO Box 507, Wheaton, IL 60187