



ADVENT & CHRISTMAS



CHURCH OF THE
SAVIOR

Third Week of Advent

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16, 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 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 FriendsOfTheSavior.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.

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."

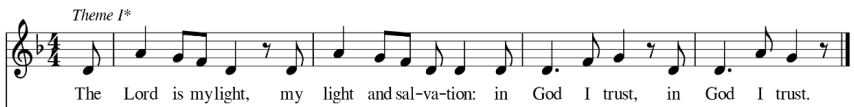
Let us pray.

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.

*Theme I**



The Lord is my light, my light and sal-va-tion: in God I trust, in God I trust.

*Theme II**



The Lord is my light, my light and sal-va-tion: in God I trust, in God I trust.

**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.

Did You Feel the Mountains Tremble?

Did you feel the mountains tremble?
Did you hear the oceans roar
When the people rose to sing of
Jesus Christ, the risen One?

Did you feel the people tremble?
Did you hear the singers roar
When the lost began to sing of
Jesus Christ, the saving One?

And we can see that, God, You're moving,
A mighty river through the nations;
And young and old will turn to Jesus.
Fling wide, you heavenly gates;
Prepare the way of the risen Lord.

*Open up the doors and let the music play.
Let the streets resound with singing:
Songs that bring Your hope,
Songs that bring Your joy,
Dancers who dance upon injustice.*

Do you feel the darkness tremble
When all the saints join in one song,
And all the streams flow as one river
To wash away our brokenness?

And here we see that, God, You're moving;
A time of jubilee is coming,
When young and old return to Jesus.
Fling wide, you heavenly gates;
Prepare the way of the risen Lord.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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 READING

ISAIAH 64:1-9

¹ Oh, that you would burst from the heavens and come down!
How the mountains would quake in your presence!

² As fire causes wood to burn
and water to boil,
your coming would make the nations tremble.
Then your enemies would learn the reason for your fame!

³ When you came down long ago,
you did awesome deeds beyond our highest expectations.
And oh, how the mountains quaked!

⁴ For since the world began,
no ear has heard
and no eye has seen a God like you,
who works for those who wait for him!

⁵ You welcome those who gladly do good,
who follow godly ways.
But you have been very angry with us,
for we are not godly.
We are constant sinners;
how can people like us be saved?

⁶ We are all infected and impure with sin.
When we display our righteous deeds,
they are nothing but filthy rags.
Like autumn leaves, we wither and fall,
and our sins sweep us away like the wind.

⁷ Yet no one calls on your name
or pleads with you for mercy.
Therefore, you have turned away from us

and turned us over to our sins.
8 And yet, O Lord, you are our Father.
We are the clay, and you are the potter.
We all are formed by your hand.
9 Don't be so angry with us, Lord.
Please don't remember our sins forever.
Look at us, we pray,
and see that we are all your people.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM

PSALM 126

- 1 When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, *
then were we like those who dream.
- 2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter, *
and our tongue with shouts of joy.
- 3 Then they said among the nations, *
"The Lord has done great things for them."
- 4 The Lord has done great things for us, *
and we are glad indeed.
- 5 Restore our fortunes, O Lord, *
like the watercourses of the Negev.
- 6 Those who sowed with tears *
will reap with songs of joy.
- 7 Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, *
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

¹⁶ Rejoice always, ¹⁷ pray continually, ¹⁸ give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.

¹⁹ Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰ Do not treat prophecies with contempt ²¹ but test them all; hold on to what is good, ²² reject every kind of evil.

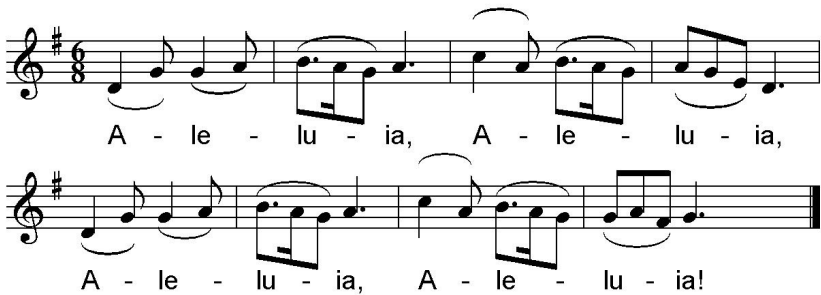
²³ May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴ The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do it.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA

You may stand.



THE GOSPEL

JOHN 1:6-8, 19-28

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

All: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

⁶ There was a man sent from God whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. ⁸ He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

¹⁹ Now this was John’s testimony when the Jewish leaders in Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to ask him who he was. ²⁰ He did not fail to confess, but confessed freely, “I am not the Messiah.”

²¹ They asked him, “Then who are you? Are you Elijah?”

He said, “I am not.”

“Are you the Prophet?”

He answered, “No.”

²² Finally they said, “Who are you? Give us an answer to take back to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?”

²³ John replied in the words of Isaiah the prophet, “I am the voice of one calling in the wilderness, ‘Make straight the way for the Lord.’”

²⁴ Now the Pharisees who had been sent ²⁵ questioned him, “Why then do you baptize if you are not the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?”

²⁶ “I baptize with water,” John replied, “but among you stands one you do not know. ²⁷ He is the one who comes after me, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie.”

²⁸ This all happened at Bethany on the other side of the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

ALLELUIA

Please be seated.



**The God Who Works for Those
Who Wait**

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:

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son Chri - ste e - le - i - son
Lord have mer - cy on - us, Christ have mer - cy on - us.

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

Of the Father's Love Begotten

Of the Father's love begotten
ere the worlds began to be,
he is Alpha and Omega,
he the source, the ending he,
of the things that are, that have been,
and that future years shall see
evermore and evermore.

This is he whom seers and sages
sang of old with one accord,
whom the voices of the prophets
promised in their faithful word.
Now he shines, the long-expected;
let creation praise its Lord
evermore and evermore.

Let the heights of heav'n adore him,
angel hosts his praises sing,
pow'rs, dominions bow before him
and extol our God and King.
Let no tongue on earth be silent,
ev'ry voice in concert ring
evermore and evermore.

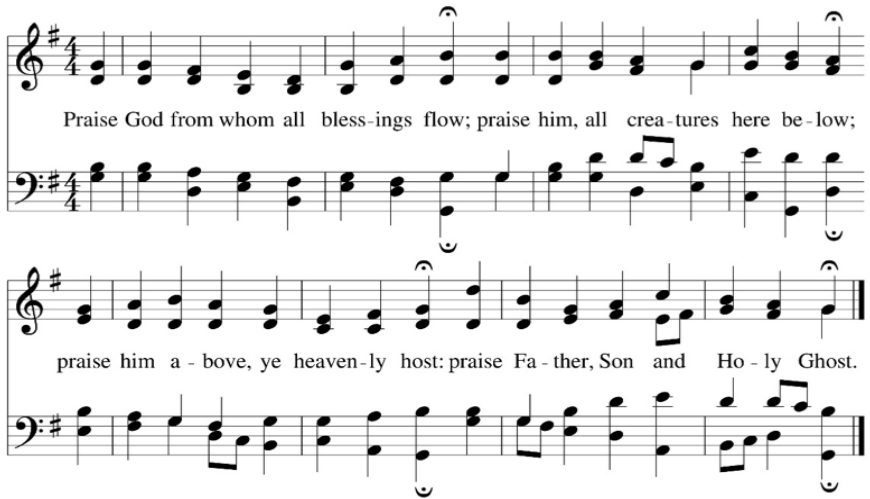
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THE DOXOLOGY

You may stand.



Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

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

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of po - wer and might.

Hea - ven and earth of your glor - y are full. Ho - san - na, ho -

san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bles - sed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Bles - sed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. high - est. Ho - san - na, ho -

san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

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:



Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

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.

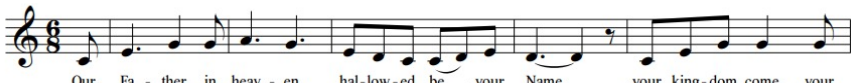
Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him.

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



Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - low - ed be — your Name, your king - dom come, your



will — be done, on earth — as — in heav - en, Give us to - day our



dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we — for - give those who sin a - gainst us. —



Save us from the time of tri - al, and de - liv - er us — from e - vil. For the



king - dom, the pow - er, and the glo - ry are yours, — now and for - ev - er. A - men.

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

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.

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!"

Emmanuel

Emmanuel, Emmanuel,
His name is called Emmanuel:
God with us, revealed in us!
His name is called Emmanuel.

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 O Come Emmanuel"
John Mason Neale | Thomas Helmore
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"Did You Feel the Mountains Tremble?"
Martin Smith
© 1994 Curious? Music UK

"The Lord is My Light"

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

"Kyrie Eleison"

"Of the Father's love begotten"
Text: Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, 348- c. 413
Tune: Plainsong, 13th cent., DIVINUM MYST-
TERIUM

"Doxology"
Thomas Ken, 1637-1711 | Tune: Genevan Psalter,
1551 | Edition; attr. Louis Bourgeois, 1510-1561;
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"Holy Lord"
© Steve Bell
Williams

"Acclamation"
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"The Lords Prayer"
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"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"
Text: Liturgy of St. James, 4th c.
Tune: French melody, 17th c., harm. Ralph Vaughan
Williams
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"Emmanuel"
Bob McGee
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"Even So Come"
Chris Tomlin | Jason Ingram | Jess Cates
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"O Come Let Us Adore Him"
C. Frederick Oakeley
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O Come Let Us Adore Him

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 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

Gingerbread Nativities

Join us after tonight the service! A light dinner will be provided, and then make Gingerbread Nativities—scenes of the first Christmas, made from gingerbread, candy, cereal, and a whole lot of frosting.

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: Youth Group Gatherings will resume January 27th. See you then!

UPCOMING SERVICES

Advent & Christmas at Savior

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 9:

Budgeted Giving Goal = \$347,739

Actual Giving = \$289,562

Over/(Under) = (\$58,177)

Donations to Church of the Savior:

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

🖥 friendsofthesavior.org/giving

MINISTRY TEAM LEADERS

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

VESTRY

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

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



Journeying Together: Loving God, Loving Others, Loving Life

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