



The Messenger

Dec 2023

Worship Services Schedule

DEC 3: 9:30 WORSHIP
10:30 SUNDAY SCHOOL
DEC 10: 9:30 WORSHIP
10:30 SUNDAY SCHOOL
DEC 17: 9:30 YOUTH SERVICE,
10:30 SUNDAY SCHOOL PROGRAM
11:00 CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
DEC 24: 9:30 WORSHIP
DEC 24: 5:00PM – CANDLELIGHT SERVICE
DEC 31: 9:30 WORSHIP

ADVENT – December 3rd thru December 24th

Advent is a time of expectation which is symbolized not only by the four-week period of preparation, but also by the lighting of an Advent candle on each Sunday of the season. The four candles provide us with a visual way to count off four Sundays of this season. The flame of each new candle reminds us that something is happening, but something more is still to come. The Advent season is not complete until all four candles are lighted, with the central Christ candle also burning brightly on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

The tradition of the Advent wreath is traced back to an old Scandinavian custom that celebrated the coming of light after a season of darkness. In that day, candles were placed on the edge of a horizontal wheel. As the wheel was spun around, the lighted candles would blend into a continuous circle of light. Today we use a circle of evergreen to remind us of the continuous power of God, which knows no beginning nor ending.

There is also symbolism in the colors of the candles in the Advent wreath. The three purple candles symbolize the coming of Christ from the royal line of David. The pink candle is lighted on the third Sunday of the Advent season. This candle symbolizes joy; its use goes back to the Latin Church, which asked the worshipers to fast during this period. The final candle is lit on Christmas Eve and is known as the Christ candle; unlike the other candles, this candle is traditionally white.

“Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah”, will be our Advent song as we light the candles this sacred season. We hope you will join us as we begin the journey toward the glorious birth of Christ our King!

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

Since December 24th is on a Sunday this year, we will hold a regular Sunday service at our regular time of 9:30 a.m. We will celebrate the birth of our Lord during one candlelight service on Christmas Eve. The candlelight service will be held at 5:00 p.m. The service will feature songs of the season as we follow the star to Bethlehem on this special evening/

OSLC COUNCIL PRESIDENT: John Deitsch

December is the time of Advent, a time of expectant and waiting and preparation as we prepare for Christmas the coming of our Lord and Savior. And for our Church, this December is also a season of expectant waiting and preparation for another reason. We are now in a period of transition and immersed in the process to call a new pastor for our congregation. There will be challenges to overcome as we manage in the absence of pastor. You may notice that some familiar faces are no longer in the pews beside you, or that there are some new (and perhaps old familiar) faces showing up to worship with us on Sunday morning. There may be lingering questions about what was transpired to get us to this point on our journey. However, why we are at this juncture and how we got here are not nearly so relevant as that we now put our energy and focus on moving forward together in faith.

Regardless of how we got here, I believe that our little Church in Roy, UT is positioned exactly where our awesome God wants us to be and that He has a wonderful plan for our future. I mentioned challenges, but wonderful opportunities also abound. Opportunities to heal, opportunities for forgiveness, opportunities to lift up and support

one another, opportunities to serve our Church, and opportunities to serve our awesome God and help fulfill His plan. I believe that it is not mere coincidence, that on the first Sunday that were without a called pastor, that the Gospel was Matthew 25:14-30, the "Parable of the Talents." As our visiting pastor, Pastor Rick Ehrheart, pointed out in his sermon, this is a not lesson about just being grateful for and accepting those gifts that God has so graciously bestowed upon us, but it is about putting our faith into action, and going forth and utilizing those gifts to serve our Master. Already so many of us have are continuing to step up. To highlight just a few examples: several members have stepped up to assist our Transition Coordinator, volunteers raised their hands and are now a part of our Call Committee, for the first time in almost a year we have assigned Ministry Leaders for all of our Ministries, there is new Women's Bible Study forming and Confirmation Classes can continue because of those who have come forward to take charge of teaching those classes. That the presence of the Spirit is alive and on the move in our church is evident and is both encouraging and inspiring!

As a trained Lay Leader for OSLC, I was privileged to lead the Worship Service on the Sunday before Christmas in 2011. The thrust of my message on that day was that if Mary, a young, unwed girl from the disreputable town of Nazareth, could be deemed worthy to be perhaps the improbable choice to the mother of Christ, then surely each of us, as broken as we may be, are also worthy to play our part in God's plan. Our past does not matter, our circumstances do not matter; God's amazing grace sees past our sins and imperfections, and He sees value and purpose in all His children; and He can fit each of us, the broken pieces that we are, into the wonderful, beautiful mosaic that is His ever-evolving creation.

This Christmas season we are in a unique situation where we have the chance to put our faith into action; to use those gifts that our awesome God had given us and to demonstrate our preparation for the coming of our Lord and Savior; by coming together as a congregation to sustain, and even grow, our Church. Look for those opportunities to serve, whether it be through financial support, volunteering for a particular role (i.e., there are three open positions on Council that need to be filled at our Dec 17th Congregational Meeting), filling a special need, reaching out to another member in love and support, or by just praying for our Church. Let us be, as so beautifully put in our Mission Statement, **A welcoming Fellowship of believers who proclaim the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, and who, through our support of and connecting with each other, the local community, and children of God everywhere, strive to love Christ and all others. We are all important, and we all have something to give.**

May God bless you, your loved ones, and our church family! I wish you all the peace and joy of the Christmas season. ***TOGETHER WE ARE OSLC STRONG!***

MINISTRY & TEAM REPORTS

Worship & Music Ministry:

Sandee Isaacson (Co-Chairman)
Barb McFarland (Co-Chairman)

Renae Schmid (Counsel Liaison)

Wow! we had our 1st meeting on November 15th., to coordinate our services and music. November 17th, we are moving forward with one service at 9:30 AM. The former Praise band was on board to Lead our Music. Pastor Rick Earheart was our worship leader. Other people with musical talent were submitted to assist with future services - if you share this musical gift, we would invite you to please talk with Wendy Nelson to offer your assistance, with instruments or vocal talents.

Dan Kartak reported on a list of Pastors and Lay Ministers who will be blessing our services over the next few weeks with their messages, love and care.

We are re- instituting Communion Assistants/Lectionary Readers into our services, we would ask any of you, youth inclusive, to participate in that way. There is a sign-up sheet on the information table regarding this.

Dates to remember through December:

Dec. 3rd - Spotlight on Worship and Music Ministry, just before the service

Dec. 10th - Worship and Music Ministry meeting immediately following the church service

Dec. 17th - Youth Sunday - will include all of our youth to fulfill needs for the service and the Sunday school Christmas Program, as well. Immediately following the service, we will hold our congregational meeting to approve the budget for 2024 and select 3 people to have the privilege to serve our church on the Council.

Dec. 24th - Christmas Eve Day. 9:30 AM service as usual and 5 pm Candlelight Service.

Dec. 31st - 9:30 service time

For streaming purposes for those of you who watch from home, we are, thanks to Gerri Wessner - switching to the use of Zoom meetings. Watch for additional information on how to access this!

Next Worship and Music meeting - December 10th We are moving Forward in Faith.

We are OSLC Strong. Come join the team!

Grow Ministry:

Justine Ashcraft (Chairman)

Adam Nourse (Council Liaison)

Our children will be performing the Christmas program on December 17th during the 9:30 service. Please come enjoy a day of worship while our children lead us in the story of CHRISTmas and join us for refreshments afterwards!

No Sunday school/confirmation classes on Dec 24th and 31st.

Have a very Merry Christmas!
Gods Blessings,
Justine Ashcraft

Connect Ministry:

Andrea & Jeff Graves (Chairman)

Annie Baugh (Council Liaison)

Oktoberfest Report – Oktoberfest was held on October 7th. There were 38 people that came for brats, sauerkraut, German potato salad, German chocolate cake plus other cakes as well. There were 14 volunteers that helped with food preparation, food donations, cake baking, set up and clean up. Thank you to all that participated whether it was to help or to enjoy great food and fellowship.

Men's Prayer Breakfast – Men's Prayer Breakfast will be on December 2nd. It will be held in the Fellowship Hall at 8:00 AM. This month's hosts are Terry Schmid and Al Heiskanen. The Prayer Breakfast is open to all men, young and old, members and friends of OSLC. Come one, come all! Great food, a Devotional, and good Christian discussion (and usually some fun bantering back and forth can be expected) by all who attend. Dan Kartak.

Service & Outreach Ministry:

Ashley Kaiser (Chairman)

John Deitsch (Council Liaison)

I love the month of December and Christmas. I always find hope in the Christmas season. As we move forward, I will continue to lead the Service and Outreach Ministry. I would love input from the congregation regarding ideas you may have to reach out and serve others. If there is anyone that would like to get involved in this ministry, please reach out to me. I am open to any ideas you may have and all who want to help. I can be reached at (801)643-5451.

The 2nd Sunday offering in December will go to Family Promise of Ogden. Family Promise is an organization that gives hope and opportunities to families with children

experiencing homelessness. They provide a place to stay, meals, along with teaching skills to become employed and able to get back on their own feet.

December 10th to the 17th is also our week to help provide meals for Family Promise. Please let me know if you would be willing to help prepare a meal during this week.

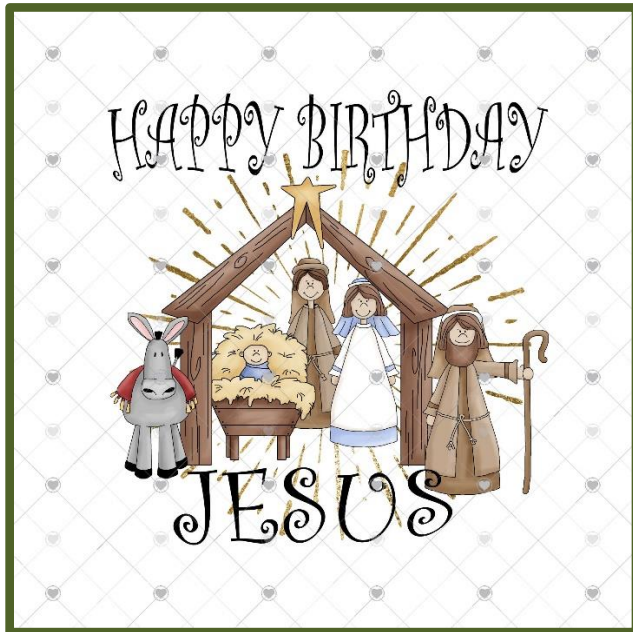
There is also a 5th Sunday Offering in December, on the 31st which will go to LCMC District support.

Blessing to all this Christmas Season,

Worship Assistants							
Date	Time	Acolytes	Greeters	Ushers	Projectionist	Readers	Altar Guild
3 Dec	9:30	Nate Faris	Rena Schmid	Terry Schmid		Teri McCloy	Kim Fasig
10 Dec	9:30	Brady Kaiser	Gerri Wessner	Mary Leschke		Dan Kartak	Andrea Graves
17 Dec	9:30	Callie Cooper	YOUTH	YOUTH			Katherine Redwine
24 Dec	9:30		Andrea Anopol	Abby Anopol		Shirley Cooper - Aguilar	
24 Dec	5:00p	Callie Cooper	Mary Kartak	Dan Kartak			
31 Dec	9:30		Mary Kartak	Dan Kartak			

DEC HOSPITALITY TEAM

Gail & Jim Campbell – Coordinator
Kris & Dan Gibson
Alan Huss
Sarah Bourgoine
Pam Campbell
John Deitsch
Antonio & Vickie Ramirez



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- 5 Dec Lisa Schmid
- 7 Dec Ben Faris
- 9 Dec Kathy Sutherland
- 11 Dec Steve Saterlie
- 12 Dec Jake Anopol
- 13 Dec Chuck Guenther
- 14 Dec Brady Kaiser
- 15 Dec Monty Tow
- 20 Dec Linsey Schmid
- 20 Dec Ellen Moulding
- 20 Dec Colleen McComb
- 22 Dec Mary Harris
- 23 Dec Gerri Wessner
- 24 Dec Stacy Ames
- 26 Dec Gracie Grentz
- 29 Dec Adelyn Carpenter
- 31 Dec Becky Kapinos
- 31 Dec Patrick Barrett

BLESSINGS & THANK YOU'S

Thank You for Stepping up

- Sandee Isaacson – To lead Worship and Music Ministry
- Barbara McFarland – To co-lead Worship and Music
- Wendy Nelson – To lead the Music
- Andrea and Jeff Graves – to lead and co- lead – Connect Ministry
- Ashley Kaiser – to continue to lead Service and Outreach Ministry
- Justine Ashcraft – coming back to lead Grow Ministry
- Mary Kartak – to organize the idea of the Youth Sunday Service – Dec. 17th
- Gerri Wessner, Katherine Redwine and Mary Kartak to be active part of the Transition activities
- Barb McFarland – Always willing to go the extra mile in the office!
- Shirley C. Aguilar and Beth Cooper – to lead Confirmation Classes
- Sheila Courtney – ordered new confirmation robes for our confirmands.

Church Wide Info

.Save the date! The 2023 Advent Bruch and Secret Sister reveal is scheduled for Saturday, December 9 beginning at 9 am. All ladies and teenaged girls are invited to attend as we spend time together with a short devotion, brunch, and the reveal of the 2023 Secret Sisters. You do not need to be a Secret Sister to attend – all are welcome. Sign-ups for food and more information will be coming closer to the event. Thank you!

Youth Sunday – Prepare to be delighted on Sunday, December 17th when our service will focus on Christmas as shared by the youngest among us.

Every appropriate aspect of our worship will be gifted to the congregation by the young people of our congregation. We will find delight in a Christmas pageant as directed by Justine Ashcraft and Abigail Anapol and including costumed Sunday School age children. Expect some special music. The scripture lessons and other readings will be spoken by our young people of confirmation age. Background duties have also been delegated to eager servants of our Lord. Portions of our worship such as communion will still be provided by that “youngster” Shirley Cooper-Aguilar.

A team effort has been made to include as many youthful individuals as desire to participate. If you know of a young someone who would like to take part, call or Text Barb McFarland (801-668-9709) or Mary Kartak (801-540-2396) or e-mail the church office (olscroyutah@qwestoffice.net). We don't want to leave anyone out.

Giving Envelopes – The 2024 giving Envelopes will be available by Sunday, 31 December. Please contact Gerri Wessner at 801-920-4681 or chasin2@live.com if you would like to change your existing envelopes interval (i.e., weekly, by-weekly, monthly) or if you would like to start getting envelopes.

Intermountain West District (IWD) Gathering Report – The Intermountain West District Gathering was held October 13-14. It was hosted by First Evangelical Lutheran Church (FELC) in Idaho Falls, Idaho. There were 22 attendees, with 11 associated with (FELC). There were 6 attendees that represented OSLC. Rev. Christian Huntley – LCMC Coordinator for Leadership and Pastoral Development was one of the keynote speakers. Julie Smith – LCMC Coordinator for Districts and Fellowships was also a speaker. There were 3 separate breakout sessions that attendees could participate in, with lots of good information being shared. There were also 3 different worship style devotions that were led by IWD clergy Rev Bruce Greutz, Rev. Neil Arnold and Rev. Traci Hardell. The national LCMC representatives provide a question-and-answer session. Discussion was held regarding future developments and challenges for LCMC as our umbrella organization as well as for its various churches.



Jesus

is the

Reason

for the

Season

Christmas Activities for the Family

Nov 24 – Dec 23 Scrooge, Beverly’s Terrace Plaza Playhouse, Ogden

Nov 27 - Jan 1 – Ogden Christmas Village

Nov 27 – Dec 31 Layton City Lights Before Christmas

Nov 27 – Dec 24 Christmas in Farmington Station Park (Visit Santa, Lights)

Nov 27 – Jan 6 Luminaria Christmas Light Show, Thanksgiving Point

Nov 27 – Dec 23 North Pole Express Train Ride, Heber Valley Railroad

Nov 30 – Dec 23 Zootah Zoo Lights, Willow Park Logan

Dec 1-23 White Christmas - Ziegfeld Theater Ogden

Dec 1 – 24 Fantasy at the Bay Light Show, Willard Bay

Dec 1 – 3 Holiday Wreath Workshop, Red Butte Garden, Salt Lake City

Dec 2 – Cookies with Santa, 1572 Woodland Park Dr, Layton

**Dec 2 – Jeremiah’s Pancake Breakfast with Santa & Mrs. Clause at the Lodge,
1329 W 12th St Ogden**

Dec 6 – 30 Hogle Zoo Zoolights, Salt Lake City

Dec 7 – Candlelight Christmas, This is This is the Place Heritage Park

Dec 7 – Bar-D Wranglers Christmas Concert, Roy High School

Dec 9 – Breakfast with Santa, 2501 Wall Ave, Ogden

Dec 9 – Brunch with Santa & the Grinch, 377 S 7900 W, Ogden

Dec 9 – Santa, Sweets & Super Heroes, Union Grill, Ogden

Dec 9 – Santa Visits the Hill Aerospace Museum

Dec 9 – 11 Live Nativity & Luminary Walk, Clark Historic Farm, Grantsville UT

Dec 11-16 – Christmas with the Saints, Church History Museum, Salt Lake City

Dec 14-16 – A Kurt Bestor Christmas, Delta Hall at the Eccles, Salt Lake City

Dec 16 – Cowboy Christmas Classic, Golden Spike Event Center, Ogden

Dec 23 – Santa Claus is Coming to Nordic Valley, Eden

Dec 23 – Breakfast with Santa, Mrs. Claus & the Grinch, The Foundry, Uintah

Dec 28 – 30 Winter Steam Festival, Golden Spike National Historic Park

December 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 5:00p GSA Lego League 5:30p Girl Scouts Troop #1710	2 8:00a Men's Prayer Breakfast
3 1st Sunday of Advent 8:15a Band Practice 9:30a Worship Service 1030a Sunday School	4 5:30p Girl Scouts Troop #773	5 6:00p Girl Scouts Troop #773	6 5:30p Girl Scouts Troop #970	7 5:00p Transition Team Meeting 6:00p Girl Scouts Troop #807	8 5:00p GSA Lego League	9 9:00a Open Hands Food Pantry 9:00a Secret Sister Reveal
10 2nd Sunday of Advent 8:15a Band Practice 9:30a Worship Service 1030a Sunday School	11 5:30p Suncrest Service Unit (GSA)	12 6:00p Girl Scouts Troop #111	13 9:00 Quilters 5:30p Girl Scouts Troop #970	14 9:00 Quilters 5:00p Transition Team Meeting 5:00p Girls Advisory Board (GSA) 6:30p Church Council Meeting	15 5:00p GSA Lego League 5:30p Girl Scouts Troop #1710	16 9:00 GSA Soap Making
17 3rd Sunday of Advent YOUTH SUNDAY 8:15a Band Practice 9:30a Worship Service 1030a Christmas Program 1100a Congregational Meeting	18 5:30p Girl Scouts Troop #773	19 6:00p Girl Scouts Troop #773	20 5:30p Girl Scouts Troop #970	21 5:00p Transition Team Meeting 6:00p Girl Scouts Troop #807	22 5:00p GSA Lego League 5:30p Girl Scouts Troop #1710	23 9:00a Open Hands Food Pantry
24 4th Sunday of Advent & Christmas Eve 8:15a Band Practice 9:30a Worship Service 5:00p Candlelight Service	25 	26 6:00p Girl Scouts Troop #111	27 5:30p Girl Scouts Troop #970	28 5:00p Girls Advisory Board (GSA) 5:00p Transition Team Meeting	29 5:00p GSA Lego League	30
31 8:15a Band Practice 9:30a Worship Service						

Time Sensitive Material

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Our Savior's Lutheran Church

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Dec Lectionary

Date	Sunday	1st Reading	Psalm	2nd Reading	Gospel
3 Dec	1 st Sunday of Advent	Isaiah 64:1-9	Psalm 80:1-7	1 Corinthians 1:3-9	Mark 13:24-37
10 Dec	2 nd Sunday of Advent	Isaiah 40:1-11	Psalm 85	2 Peter 3:8-14	Mark 1:1-8
17 Dec	3 rd Sunday of Advent	Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11	Psalm 126	1 Thessalonians 5:16-24	John 1:6-8, 19-28
24 Dec	4 th Sunday of Advent	2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16	Psalm 89:1-5 (19-29)	Romans 16:25-27	Luke 1:26-38
24 Dec	Nativity of Our Lord	Isaiah 7:10-14	Psalm 110:1-4	1 John 4:7-16	Matthew 1:18-25
25 Dec	Nativity of Our Lord	Isaiah 52:7-10	Psalm 2	Hebrews 1:1-6(7-12)	John 1:1-14(15-18)
31 Dec	1 st Sunday after Christmas	Isaiah 61:10-62:3	Psalm 111	Galatians 4:4-7	Luke 2:22-40