

The Messenger

Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Roy, UT

Sunday Worship Services

Dec 1 – 9:30 Worship 10:30 Sunday School

Dec 8 – 9:30 Worship 10:30 Sunday School

Dec 15 – 9:30 Worship & Children's Christmas Program 10:30 Congregational Meeting

Dec 22 - 9:30 Worship

Dec 24 - 5:00p Christmas Eve Service

Dec 29 - 9:30a Worship

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Pastor's Message From Our Lay Leader's

By John Deitsch

It has now been just over a year since Pastor Grentz willingly chose to resign his call and move on from Our Savior's. And yet, with the support of local pastors, our own lay ministers, and even a visiting pastor from Montana, we have not missed a single Sunday Worship Service.

One year without a called pastor, and our ministries are alive and well, and we continue to hold, participate in, and actively support church activities. One year without a called pastor, and the presence of the Holy Spirit can be felt in our church and among our congregation.

But none of this should be a surprise, for we are putting into practice exactly what Paul instructed in Hebrews 10:23-25.

²³ Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. ²⁴ And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, ²⁵ not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

We have learned that as we stir one another up, as we confess a common faith together, and do good works in the name of that common faith, it makes our faith stronger and helps us to resist the temptations of the world, and it draws us nearer to our God. In fact, some members of our congregation have expressed that they have never felt nearer to our awesome God than they do right now in our present circumstances, and I must confess that I share that sentiment as well.

Members have stepped up to be church leaders, to volunteer to be on our ministry teams, and to participate in the life of the church and support church activities; and it has become evident that it is not a pastor that who defines the character and sets the tone for God's church here in Roy, Utah, but rather it is the members of our congregation. And every member of our congregation is an essential part of our identity, from the youngest members to the oldest, from the members most in need, to the members who are best equipped to serve.

Although it has been a year that we have been without a pastor; and in truth, may be quite a while longer, this is not a reason to despair. Rather, it is cause to stir one another up even more. God is preparing us for when He calls our next pastor, a pastor who will equip us to accomplish even greater things and serve Him in even greater ways. God is using this period of transition to shape us and mold us, in His way, in His time, for His purpose. And with all this preparation, I am excited knowing that God does have a plan for our church. And, having been witness to the love and support that we have given to one another, and how we have enabled His church here in Roy, Utah to remain strong and thrive, I can't wait to experience the truly wonderful things that our Father has in store for us.

So, I encourage you:
Be patient, but not complacent.
Be active and participate, but do not grow weary.

Pray for a new pastor, but do not despair that God is taking the time to prepare us, and our next pastor, for a partnership that will fulfill His plan in an amazing way.

We may come from different backgrounds, we may have different experiences, we may be at different spots on our walk of faith; but as diverse and different as we are, we share a common faith in, and seek to serve, the same God; the one true Triune God who gave His son to die on the cross for our sins.

Continue to stir up one another to love and good works, for it is by serving, and worshipping, and praising together that we are OSLC strong. We are brothers and sisters in Christ, we are a family, and together we are the church that God wants us to be!

I wish everyone a Blessed Christmas and a Prosperous New Year!



Council President's Corner

By Dan Kartak

Advent: The beginning of the Church year.

Advent begins on December 1st and ends on December 24th. Ingredients of this season are revealed in the components of the Advent candles. The first candle (purple) symbolizes hope and is called the "Prophet's Candle." The prophets of the Old Testament, especially Isaiah, waited in hope for the Messiah's arrival.

The second candle (purple) represents faith and is called "Bethlehem's Candle." Micah foretold that the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem, also King David's birthplace.

The third candle (pink) symbolizes joy and is called the "Shepherd's Candle." To the shepherd's great joy, the angels announced that Jesus came for humble, seemingly unimportant people like them. Liturgically, the color rose signifies joy.

The fourth candle (purple) represents peace and is called the "Angel's Candle." The angels announced that Jesus came to bring peace—He brought people closer to God and each other again. The fifth candle (white) represents light and purity and is called the "Christ's candle." It is placed in the middle of the others.

Sometimes I, a 21st century sinner, fail to notice the depth of what we celebrate during Advent. Researching the meaning behind the Advent candles has given me a deeper understanding and

appreciation for the beauty of this season. My prayer is that each of us can offer more than a quick glance at the many wonders of this season. May we, the members of Our Savior's Lutheran Church, prayerfully ponder and more deeply appreciate the symbolism of this Christmas season, which holds so much to cherish.

December is filled with many opportunities to serve our Awesome God. The Alpha food drive is well underway. It is named after a great lady who was a long-term member of OSLC. Alpha Nielson started this food drive decades ago and it is still going strong. The children's Christmas program is on the 15th so contact Justine if you can help. The annual congregational meeting is also on the 15th right after the service. It will be held in the sanctuary as "The Gathering Place" is holding their service in the fellowship hall. Thank them for being flexible in allowing us to hold our meeting in the sanctuary. The annual meeting will include the election of new Council members and the approval of the 2025 budget for the church. If you are feeling called to serve on the Council, please let me or the church office know.

Christmas Eve service will be held on Tuesday, December 24th at 5:00 PM with Pastor Gordon Young delivering the sermon.

Thank you to our awesome church secretaries Barb McFarland and Kim Fasig. They have been volunteering their time during our pastoral vacancy. They prepare the weekly bulletins, prepare the monthly newsletter, do the slides for our worship services, prepare all the Council meeting material, do the scheduling of the many activities that are happening at church and the fellowship hall, send the readings to the guest pastors and readers each week plus trying to keep me on track. These are just a few of the duties they perform. I'm sure I left a bunch out. If you would like to donate to their Christmas gift, to be presented on Christmas Eve, you may put that marked gift in the offering plate. Or hand your gift to me, John Deitsch, Annie Baugh or Don McFarland. Have a blessed Christmas season.

Blessings and Peace Dan Kartak



MINISTRY & TEAM REPORTS

Connect Ministry:

Katherine Redwine (Chairman)
VACANT (Co-Chairman)
John Showman (Council Liaison)

Ministry Team Leaders:

Young Adult: Abigail Anopol Confirmands & Beyond: Barrett &

Ashcraft Families

Men's: Dan Kartak

Women's: Is this for you? Fellowship: Could this be you? Golden Circle: Renae Schmid



Young Adult - All are invited to join in and decorate little wooden Christmas houses on December 8 in the fellowship hall following Sunday School. Please call or text Abi if you have any questions 385-245-5150

Confirmands and Beyond - will be combined with the Grow Ministry event POCs are the Ashcraft's/Barrett's

Golden Circle - All 65 and older are welcome – This month we will be joining the secret sister/advent brunch on Dec 7, 10:00a, in the fellowship hall. Please call Renae- 801-391-2537



Men's Prayer Breakfast- We will be meeting on December7, Saturday, 8:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. 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. No one is signed up to host

this month, so if you feel compelled to serve, let me know. Breakfast will still be provided. Please call Dan Kartak 801-540-0647 if you have any questions.

Thank you for all you do! May God bless you with a lovely day



Worship & Music Ministry

Dawn Scholtec (Chairman)
Barb McFarland (Co-Chairman)
Elaine Risen (Counsel Liaison)

Ministry Team Leaders:

Music Leader: Wendy Nelson

Alter Guild: Leader Sandee Isaacson

c/o Kim Fasig

Acolytes: Leader Beth Cooper

c/o April Barrett

Greeters & Ushers: Pat Simonson

ADVENT (December 1st - December 22nd)

Advent is a beautiful time to pause and reflect on the profound mystery of the Incarnation. It is a season filled with hope, anticipation, and a deep sense of gratitude. Amidst the hustle and bustle, it is important to find moments of stillness to deeply appreciate the significance of this season.

Our Advent wreath is a symbol of the season, with a candle lit each of the four Sundays leading up to and on Christmas Day. The light of the flickering candle flames reminds us of who Jesus is: "In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." (John 1:4-5).

Each candle carries a profound meaning, enhancing our spiritual journey through Advent. The purple candles, representing penance and preparation, remind us of the royal lineage of Jesus. The pink candle brings a joyful pause in the season of anticipation. And the white Christ candle, lit on Christmas Eve, signifies the purity and light of Christ entering the world.

"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!

A FAMILY ADVENT PRAYER

Here is a simple prayer you can use when lighting the Advent candles at home:

First Week: "Lord, as we light this first candle, we ask for Your light to shine in our hearts. Help us to prepare for the coming of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen."

Second Week: "Lord, as we light this second candle, we remember Your promise of salvation. Fill us with hope and peace as we await the birth of our Savior. Amen."

Third Week: "Lord, as we light this third candle, we rejoice in the joy that Your coming brings. Help us to share this joy with others and to live in Your love. Amen."

Fourth Week: "Lord, as we light this fourth candle, we thank You for the gift of Your Son. May His light shine brightly in our lives and guide us in all we do. Amen."

Christmas Eve: "Lord, as we light the Christ candle, we celebrate the birth of Jesus, the Light of the World. May His light fill our hearts and homes with love, peace, and joy. Amen."

May these prayers bring you and your family closer to the true meaning of Advent and Christmas.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE - December 25th

Come celebrate the birth of our Lord during our traditional candlelight service on Christmas Eve. The candlelight service will begin at 5:00 p.m. and will feature scripture and songs as we follow the star to Bethlehem on this sacred evening.



I can't believe the Christmas season is already here! This year has flown by. It feels like we just started Sunday school and now here we are planning our Christmas program! December 15th the children will participate in the service by reading you the Christmas story and singing carols. Please make sure your kids are in Sunday school each week so they can rehearse with us. The confirmation class will join us to rehearse on December 8th to practice their speaking parts. After the service on the 15th, light refreshments will be served. If you are able to bring a tray of goodies to share for this event that would be greatly appreciated!

Confirmation and Sunday school will resume after the New Year on January 5th.

"The Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive a child; she will give birth to a son and will call him Immanuel." Isaiah 7:14

Merry Christmas!
Justine Ashcraft



Service & Outreach Ministry:

Ashley Kaiser (Chairmen) Kim Showman (Co-Chairmen) John Deitsch (Council Liaison)

I love Christmas. I love everything about it. This month we have several opportunities to reach out to others, to serve, and to show Jesus's love as we finish out 2024.

Last year we had the opportunity to help a few families at Christmas. We are looking forward to doing that again. The 2nd Sunday Offering on December 8th is going to go toward helping families in need at Roy Elementary.

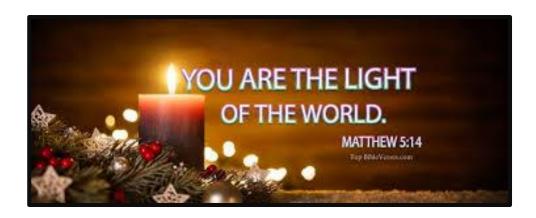


During the week of December 8th to December 15th we are also signed up to help with Family Promise. Family Promise is an organization that helps homeless families with children to get back on their feet. We are in need of people to provide a meal each night, host a meal, or even stay overnight. If you would like to help, please reach out to Ashley Kaiser, Kim Showman, or John Deitsch.



Lastly, it is time for "Cookies and Carols." We would like to deliver homemade Christmas cookies to our elderly members and shut-ins who aren't able to make it to church. Two years ago, we did this, and it was truly wonderful. So many of you participated and brought in delicious cookies. This year we are also going to include caroling. We are hoping the kids and teens will be able to participate in this on December 22nd after church. Of course, people of any age are more than welcome to join

us. We also planning to go to a local nursing home. So please get out your apron, favorite recipe and rolling pin, and bake a batch or two. They will be appreciated and enjoyed by many.



Transition Team

Renae Schmid Gerri Wessner Katherine Redwine Mary Kartak

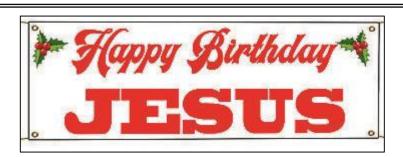
Alpha Food Drive is in process -you'll notice the tables in the entry way are beginning to fill up with donated food items. Keep your hearts open to anyone who is in need of food and get those names to Mary Kartak - December 15th will be the delivery date.

Advent Brunch /Secret Sister Reveal is in the works as well, for December 7th,10 AM Thanks Gerri and Annie for taking the lead on that! Sign-up in the Narthex



Puzzle - Has been glued and it is at Underwood"s. Annie will be working with the prison to get a cost to have it framed and laminated and get it scheduled to have that done.

"God, we're still counting our blessings," Gerri, Mary K., Katherine and Renae



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

Mark Your Calendar

- Dec 7 8:00a Mens Prayer Breakfast
- Dec 7 10:00a Advent Breakfast & Golden Circle Combined
- Dec 8 11:30s Young Adults Painting Christmas houses in Fellowship Hall
- **Dec 8-15 Family Promise Support**
- Dec 11-12 9:00a Quilters Fellowship Hall
- Dec 12 6:30p Church Council Meeting Fellowship Hall
- Dec 14 9:00a Open Hands Food Pantry 2890 S 1900 W, West Haven
- Dec 14 Alpha Food Drive sorting
- Dec 15 9:30a Children's Christmas program
- Dec 15 1030a Congregational Meeting
- Dec 15 1030a Pick up and deliver Alpha food baskets
- Dec 24 5:00p Christmas Eve Service
- Dec 25 Christmas Day
- Dec 28 9:00a Open Hands Food Pantry 2890 S 1900 W, West Haven



Dec Hospitality

Mary Leschke – Coordinator Kris & Dan Gibson Sarah Bourgoine John Deitsch Gail & Jim Campbell Antonio & Vicki Ramirez

Worship Assistants						
Date	Acolytes/ Reader	Greeters	Ushers	Readers	Project	Altar Guild
	Evan	Renae	Terry	Ashley	Dave	
Dec 1	Kaiser	Schmid	Schmid	Kaiser	Engen	Diane Nath
				Shirley		
	Ryan	Pat	Marty	Cooper-		Katherine
Dec 8	Kaiser	Simonson	Simonson	Aguilar		Redwine
	Brady					
Dec 15	Kaiser	Youth	Youth	Youth		Kim Fasig
		Pat				
Dec 22		Simonson				
Dec 24						
5:00pm						
-		Mary				
Dec 29		Leschke	Diane Nath			

BLESSINGS & THANK YOU'S

Thank you to all of our council members and especially Renae Schmid, Josh Ashcraft and John Deitsch. although their terms are ending, their dedication and service has made a huge impact.

Thank you to everyone for your generous donations to the Alpha Food Drive.

We are coming up on our Friend-a-versary with The Gathering Place Church. What a blessing to have them.

Church Wide Information

Book Sale - On Sunday December 1st, Lee Allen will be selling his children's book that he authored. He will be set up in the back Narthex. The proceeds that he makes will be donated back to the church. Lee did this a few years ago, there are new people in church, and maybe a few of us have new grand babies that are looking for a nice Christmas gift. Who knows he may even autograph a copy for you.

Christmas music - is always a welcome sound every year at this time. I've been listening to AM 1120, SOS Radio Network based in Las Vegas, NV for the last 10+ years (when we're in the west). I wanted to share this with my church family. They play Christmas music that is more based with a Christian theme than secular. The station is listener sponsored with no commercials. You will hear songs by Christian artists that you don't usually hear on other stations. You might have your Christian Christmas playlist at the ready, but if not, let me invite you to try out AM 1120 on your old school radio or anyplace you find SOS radio network (TuneIn). Merry Christmas! - Elton Sutherland

December 2024						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:00a Band PT 9:00a TGP SS 9:30a OSLC Worship 10:30a OSLC SS 11:00a TGP	2 5:30p GSA #773 6:30p GSA Frontier	3 6:00p GSA #773	4 5:30p GSA #970	5 6:00p GSA GAB 6:30p GSA #807	6 5:00p GSA Lego League	7 8:00a Men's Prayer Breakfast 10:00a Advent Brunch
Worship	Alpha Food Drive: 1 Nov - 13 Dec					
8 8:00a Band PT 9:00a TGP SS 9:30a OSLC Worship 10:30a OSLC SS 11:00a TGP	9 5:30p GSA Service Unit	10	9:00a Quilters 1:00p TGP Bible Study 5:30p GSA #970	12 9:00a Quilters 6:30p Church Council	13 5:00p GSA Lego League 5:30p GSA #1710	14 9:00a Open Hands 9:00a Alpha Food Drive Sorting
Worship 11:30 Young	Alpha Food Drive: 1 Nov - 13 Dec					
Adult			Family Promise Su	upport 8-15 Dec		
15 8:00a Band PT 9:00a TGP SS 9:30a Youth Program 10:30a Congregation Meeting 11:00a TGP Worship	16 5:30p GSA #773	17 6:00p GSA #773	18 5:30p GSA #970	19 6:00p GSA GAB 6:30p GSA #807	20 5:00p GSA Lego League	21
22 8:00a Band PT 9:00a TGP SS 9:30a OSLC Worship 11:00a TGP Worship	23	24 5:00p Christmas Eve Service CHRISTMAS	Happy Birthday	26	27 5:00p Book Club 5:30p GSA #1710	28 9:00a Open Hands
29 8:00a Band PT 9:00a TGP SS 9:30a OSLC Worship 11:00a TGP Worship	30	31	1 NAPPY NEW YEAR 20251	2	3	4



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The Biblical Christmas Quiz

There are many aspects of the Christmas story that have been embellished by history. Looking back at the Bible, the account is much simpler. Read each of the questions below carefully. Read the answer choices carefully, then ...

- Choose the response which BEST answers the question
- Choose only answers that are specifically stated in the Bible or have an accurate academic/historic/archaeological basis
- Circle more than one answer for some questions
- Circle the last choice if you do not see the correct answer, "No reference in Scripture/None of the above"
- Answer the questions in order since some questions may be answered by another question further down in the quiz.
- Mary and Joseph were already married when Mary became pregnant.
 - a True
 - b. False
- When Joseph and Mary first found out that Mary was pregnant with Jesus, what things did they do?
 - a. They got married
 - Joseph wanted to break off the relationship
 - Mary left town for three months
 - d. An angel told them to go to Bethlehem
 - e. No reference / None of the above
- Mary and Joseph were already married when Jesus was born.
 - a. True
 - b. False
- Mary was still a virgin when she delivered Jesus.
 - a True
 - b. False

- Who told Mary and Joseph to go to Bethlehem?
 - a. The angel
 - b. Mary's mom
 - c. Herod
 - d. Caesar Augustus
 - e. Elizabeth
 - f The Bible
 - g. No reference / None of the above
- Where was Joseph from?
 - a. Bethlehem
 - b. Jerusalem
 - c. Nazareth
 - d. Egypt
 - e Anmathea
 - f Bethany
 - g. No reference / None of the above
- How did Mary and Joseph travel to Bethlehem?
 - a Camel
 - b. Feet
 - c. Donkey
 - d. Mary rode, Joseph walked
 - e. No reference / None of the above
- 8. What did the innkeeper tell Mary and Joseph?
 - a "There is no room in the inn."
 - b. "I have a stable you can use."
 - c. "Come back after the busy season."
 - d. No reference / None of the above
- 9. In what was Jesus delivered?
 - a. Stable
 - b. Manger
 - c. Cave
 - d. Bam
 - e. Room
 - f No reference / None of the above
- 10. What is a manger?
 - a. Stable for animals
 - b. Wooden hay bin
 - c. Feeding trough
 - d. Some kind of bam
 - e. Old hospital bed
 - f No reference / None of the above

Time Sensitive Material

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Dec Lectionary

Date	Sunday	1st Reading	Psalm	2nd Reading	Gospel
	1st Sunday of	Jeremiah	Psalm 25:1-	1Thessalonians	
1 Dec	Advent	33:14-16	10	3:9-13	Luke 21:25-36
	2 nd Sunday of		Psalm 66:1-	Philippians 1:2-	
8 Dec	Advent	Malachi 3:1-7	12	11	Luke 3:1-14
	3 rd Sunday of	Zephaniah			
15 Dec	Advent	3:14-20	Psalm 85	Philippians 4:4-7	Luke 7:18-28
	4 th Sunday of			Hebrews 10:5-	
22 Dec	Advent	Micah 5-2-5	Psalm 80:1-7	10	Luke 1:39-45
	Nativity of Our				
24 Dec	Lord	Isaiah 9:2-7	Psalm 96	Titus 2:11-14	Luke 2:1-14
	Nativity of Our				
25 Dec	Lord	Isaiah 52:7-10	Psalm 2	Hebrews 1:1-6	John 1:1-14
	1st Sunday of	Exodus 13:1-3,		Colossians 3:12-	
29 Dec	Christmas	11-15	Psalm 111	17	Luke 2:22-40