



OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

138 3rd Street NW, Valley City, ND 58072

(701) 845 - 1328 | oursaviorsvc.org

JANUARY 4TH, 2026 + EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (*please rise in body and/or spirit)

P: In the Name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Let us chase away the darkness, and welcome Jesus into our lives.

(a moment of silence for reflection)

P: Mary accepted your call to be the mother of Jesus:

C: Forgive our stubborn doubts and failures of faith.

P: Your Son was born in a humble stable:

C: Forgive our neglect of the poor and needy.

P: The shepherds left their flocks and went to Bethlehem:

C: Forgive our slowness to move and take action.

P: The Magi followed the Star to find the Savior:

C: Forgive our reluctance to seek and worship you.

P: And the Angel said, "You shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." With joy, I announce to you the forgiveness of all your sins, in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen! Thanks be to God!

GATHERING HYMN

"Rise, Shine, You People!"

#665

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you always.
And also with you."

KYRIE

p. 147

HYMN OF PRAISE

P. 149

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, on this day you revealed your Son to the nations by the leading of a star. Lead us now by faith to know your presence in our lives, and bring us at last to the full vision of your glory, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: Isaiah 60:1-6

Jerusalem is assured that nations will make a pilgrimage to her because the light of God's presence is in her midst. The bountiful food of the sea and the profits of international trade will come streaming to Jerusalem and thereby declare God's praise.

¹ Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. ² For darkness shall cover the earth and thick darkness the peoples, but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. ³ Nations shall come to your light and kings to the brightness of your dawn. ⁴ Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together; they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried in their nurses' arms. ⁵ Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you; the wealth of the nations shall come to you. ⁶ A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

PSALM: Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14 (read responsively)

¹ Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the king's son;
² **that he may rule your people righteously and the poor with justice;**
³ that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, and the hills, in righteousness.
⁴ **Let him defend the needy among the people, rescue the poor, and crush the oppressor.**
⁵ May he live as long as the sun and moon endure, from one generation to another.
⁶ **Let him come down like rain upon the mown field, like showers that water the earth.**
⁷ In his time may the righteous flourish; and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
¹⁰ **May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles pay tribute, and the kings of Sheba and Seba offer gifts.**
¹¹ May all kings bow down before him, and all the nations do him service.
¹² **For the king delivers the poor who cry out in distress, the oppressed, and those who have no helper.**
¹³ He has compassion on the lowly and poor, and preserves the lives of the needy.
¹⁴ **From oppression and violence he redeems their lives, and precious is their blood in his sight.**

SECOND READING: Ephesians 3:1-12

What had been hidden from previous generations is now made known through the gospel ministry of Paul and others. In Christ both Jews and Gentiles participate in the richness of God's promised salvation.

¹ This is the reason that I, Paul, am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you gentiles, ² for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you ³ and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, ⁴ a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. ⁵ In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: ⁶ that is, the gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. ⁷ Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. ⁸ Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ ⁹ and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, ¹⁰ so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹ This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹² in whom we have access in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: (*please rise in body and/or spirit)

Alleluia. We have observed his star at its rising, and have come to worship him. Alleluia.

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 2nd chapter...**Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: Matthew 2:1-12

God's promise shines bright in the night as magi follow a star to honor a new king. Strangers from a faraway land, they welcome the long-awaited messiah of Israel.

¹ In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi from the east came to Jerusalem, ² asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star in the east and have come to pay him homage." ³ When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him, ⁴ and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it has been written by the prophet: ⁶ 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah, for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.' " ⁷ Then Herod secretly called for the magi and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸ Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." ⁹ When they had heard the king, they set out, and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen in the east, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹ On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

SERMON

HYMN

"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

#815

OFFERING PRAYER

God of glory, **great are your wonders among us and many are the blessings you bestow. Use us and these your gifts for the needs of the world, that all the ends of the earth may rejoice in your saving grace, through Christ our Savior. Amen.**

OFFERING HYMN

"What Child Is This" (v. 3)

#296

NICENE CREED (*please rise in body and/or spirit)

p. 104

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

THANKSGIVING FOR OFFERING AND PRAYER

(offering plates are located on the table at the back of the sanctuary. The offering plates are brought forward during the singing of our offering hymn.)

HOLY COMMUNION (Sung)

p. 152

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

p.153

It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy...we join their unending hymn:

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.*

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

p. 208

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

COMMUNION HYMNS

"Lamb of God"

p. 154

*Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.*

"Peace Came to Earth" #285
"In the Bleak Midwinter" #294

DISTRIBUTION

POST COMMUNION PRAYER (*please rise in body and/or spirit)

p. 146

BLESSING

The triune God, glorious Mystery, holy Incarnate One, abiding Comforter, ✠ bless you with endless grace, peace, and joy. **Amen.**

CAROL:

"This Little Light of Mine"

#677

SENDING

p. 155

This worship is ended; now the service goes on in the world. Go in joy. Embody God's redeeming grace.
Thanks be to God.

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138 3rd St NW
Valley City, ND, 58072

Connect with us!

oursaviorsvc.org

(701) 845 – 1328

Office Email

oursaviorsvc@outlook.com

Facebook: @OurSaviorsValleyCity

YouTube: "OSLC Valley City"

TikTok: @oursaviorsvcnd

Pastor Jared Carson

218-422-6461

Pastor.oursaviorsvc@outlook.com

Organists

Judy Karch and Tricia Lebahn

Executive Committee

Margaret Dahlberg, President

Travis Peterson, Vice President

Tara Anderson, Secretary

Janet Brown, Treasurer



GIVE ONLINE

We, Our Savior's Lutheran Church, welcome all to share Christ's love, grow in faith, and to live a life of service glorifying God.

Today's Radio Broadcast is given by WELCA in memory of Lila Bemis, Kaley Machart and Georgia Manstrom.

Could you spare some time on Fridays to help with the Senior Lunch Program? Dessert—cookies, bars, brownies etc. for 90 are also needed. There is a sign-up sheet on the Information Counter. A thank you for your help is a free lunch that day! *11:45-1:30. Help as needed and Kitchen clean up *Providing treats (Please indicate how many)

New Member Orientation and Reception, OSLC is preparing to welcome New Members on Sunday, Jan. 18 in worship. There is a 2-session Orientation on Sundays, Jan. 4 and 11 at 11am. RSVP to the Church Office.

The OSLC Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 25th immediately following the worship service.

The Missionary Calendar for 2026 has been posted. Be sure to stop by and sponsor a special day.

Radio Broadcasts in 2026 are available to sponsor. Please contact Ann in the office if you would like to help with this important outreach ministry. The cost to sponsor each Sunday broadcast is \$100.

Christ in our Home for January, February and March is now available, in both pocket size and large print. Please take one if you'd like one and take a copy to share, if you know someone who'd also like a copy.

As you consider your involvement here at Our Savior's and ways that you can increase your participation, please take a moment to check out the bulletin board outside the office. There are groups and committees who are looking for new members to join them. You can contact the name listed or you can call Ann in the office for more details.

Altar Committee is looking for new members. If you are looking for a way to become more involved here at OSLC, the Altar Committee is looking for new members. Members serve for 1 month at a time and duties include making sure the altar is set up for worship services on Sundays, including preparations for communion. This is usually done on Fridays but can be done at other times, as well. Please contact Ruth Nathan if you would like to participate in this function here at OSLC.

FOUND: Gift cards near the north entry of the church, on Monday, Dec. 22, 2025. If you lost some gift cards, please contact the church office to determine if these are yours.

The Hi-Liner Food Pantry, serving VCHS students and families, continues to collect food donations in the tote in the Gathering Room. To donate to the Bridges Backpack Program, please make your check out to and mail to: **Bridges Backpack Program, Inc., 674 10th Ave SW, Valley City, ND 58072**

We're continuing a practice at Our Savior's to be mindful of our prayer for one another. Each week, staff will be praying for, and congregation members are encouraged to pray for families of the congregation, by name. This week we pray for the Bobby & Deborah Koeplin, Derek & Janna Kohler, Todd & Kristi Kohler, Beverly Krentz and Jodi & Matthew Kvien families. *"First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone" 1 Timothy 2:1*

A look ahead at the week of January 4th - to January 11th, 2026.

TODAY: 9:00 am | Worship
9:00 am | Facebook Worship Livestream
10:15 am | Coffee & Fellowship
10:15 am | Sunday School
11:00 am | KOVC 1490 AM/96.3 FM Radio Broadcast

WEDS: 9:30 am | Bible Study
4:30 pm | Exec Team
6:30 pm | Confirmation
8:30 pm | Sr High

FRI: 12:00 pm | Sr High Lunch

SAT: 7:30 am | Men's Bible Fellowship

SUN (1/11): 9:00 am | Worship
9:00 am | Facebook Worship Livestream
10:15 am | Coffee & Fellowship
10:15 am | Sunday School
11:00 am | New Member Orientation
11:00 am | KOVC 1490 AM/96.3 FM Radio Broadcast



Wait for the revealing of
our Lord Jesus Christ.