



OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

138 3rd Street NW, Valley City, ND 58072

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JANUARY 11TH, 2026 + BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, the Creator of heaven and earth, the Word who spoke life into being, the Wind stirring the waters. **Amen.**

Mighty God, lover of justice, **you call us to life in community, but we have served our own interests at the expense of our neighbors. We have sown deceit where honesty was needed. We say the right words, but our hearts are far from you. Turn us to seek your face. Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ, that we may do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

The former things have passed away, and new things God now declares: Like a spring of water that never fails, God covers you in the righteousness of Christ, and forgives your sin in ☩ Jesus' name. May the Spirit give you strength to live for others, and bless you with the gift of peace. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

"Shall We Gather at the River"

#423

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 our Father, **at the baptism of Jesus you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful to their calling to be your daughters and sons, and empower us all with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: Isaiah 42:1-9

God's servant is endowed with God's spirit in order to bring justice to the nations. The servant will not exercise authority boisterously or with violence, nor will weariness ever prevent the fulfilling of the servant's task. God's old promises have been fulfilled; the servant's new assignment is to bring light to the nations.

¹ Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. ² He will not cry out or lift up his voice or make it heard in the street;

³ a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. ⁴ He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth, and the coastlands wait for his teaching. ⁵ Thus says God, the LORD, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it: ⁶ I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness; I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, ⁷ to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. ⁸ I am the LORD; that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols. ⁹ See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 29:1-11 (read responsively)

¹ Ascribe to the LORD, you gods, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

² **Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's name; worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**

³ The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; the LORD is upon the mighty waters.

⁴ **The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice; the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.**

⁵ The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees; the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

⁶ **the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**

⁷ The voice of the LORD bursts forth in lightning flashes.

⁸ **The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

⁹ The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare. And in the temple of the LORD all are crying, "Glory!"

¹⁰ **The LORD sits enthroned above the flood; the LORD sits enthroned as king for evermore.**

¹¹ O LORD, give strength to your people; give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace.

SECOND READING: Acts 10:34-43

Peter crosses the sharp religious boundary separating Jews from Gentiles and proclaims the good news of God's inclusive forgiveness in Jesus' name to Cornelius, a Roman centurion. As a result of Peter's preaching, Cornelius and his family become the first Gentiles to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

³⁴ Peter began to speak to [Cornelius and his household]: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵ but in every people anyone who fears him and practices righteousness is acceptable to him. ³⁶ You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷ That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹ We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, ⁴⁰ but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹ not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴² He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³ All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 3rd chapter...**Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: Matthew 3:13-17

Before Jesus begins his ministry, he is baptized by John, touched by the Spirit, and identified publicly as God's child.

¹³ Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴ John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" ¹⁵ But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. ¹⁶ And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw God's Spirit descending like a dove and alighting on him. ¹⁷ And a voice from the heavens said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

This is the gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Deacon Erin Power, Director for Evangelical Mission, EaND Synod

HYMN

"Wade in the Water"

#459

BAPTISM

p. 227

Dalton Fick

OFFERING PRAYER

God of majesty, **no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

OFFERING HYMN

"Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service" (v. 3)

#712

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.)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

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.*

"Spirit of Gentleness" #396

"Baptized in Water" #456

DISTRIBUTION

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

Radiant God, we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

BLESSING

May the triune God, who has put a new song in your mouth and tuned your heart for praise ☩ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

HYMN:

"The Lord Now Sends Us Forth" (sung 3 times, progressively faster each time)

#538

SENDING

p. 155

This worship is ended; now the service goes on in the world. Go in joy. Do justice. Love Mercy
Thanks be to God.

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Executive Committee

Margaret Dahlberg, President
Tara Anderson, Vice President
Sarah Wangrud, 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 in given by Dennis & Judy Gumke in honor of their 63rd wedding anniversary, January 15th.

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.

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**

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity and Prayer Service

In the gospel according to John, we hear Jesus' high priestly prayer, asking the Father to give unity to his followers, "The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one." (John 17:22, NRSVue) As Lutheran Christians, we acknowledge God's desired unity as we confess the Nicene Creed, "We believe in one, holy, catholic, and apostolic church." The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is organized annually by the World Council of Churches (WCC) and observed by Christian congregation around the world between the Confession of St. Peter (Jan. 18) and Conversion of St. Paul (Jan. 25). The Barnes County Ministerial Association is hosting a prayer service to kick-off the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity at St. Raphael Care Center Chapel at 3pm on Sunday, January 18. Pr. Jared will be the speaker at the Prayer Service. Come join Christians from a variety of traditions as we pray for the Unity that God in Christ desires.

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 Maurice & Peggy Kvien, Jill Kvilvang, Howard Lahlum, Keri Ann & Chad Lahlum and Chris & Joellen Langemo 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 11th - to January 18th, 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 | New Member Orientation
 11:00 am | KOVC 1490 AM/96.3 FM Radio Broadcast

TUES: 9:00 am | Quilters
 1:30 pm | Text Study

WEDS: 9:30 am | Bible Study
 6:30 pm | Confirmation
 7:00 pm | Committees
 8:00 pm | Council

FRI: 12:00 pm | Sr High Lunch

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

SUN (1/18): 9:00 am | Worship, New Member Welcome
 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