

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

4900 Kinsey Drive, Tyler, Texas

(903) 561-1865

Visit us at: www.oslctyler.org

Church Mission

" Bringing Christ
to the people...
...the people to Christ "

Church Slogan

Living, Loving,
Leading, and Laughing;
that's Our Saviour's
Lutheran Church

Our Ministers

The people

Our Pastor

Rev. Dr. Mark Braaten

Parish Administrator

Debbie Miller

Financial Administrator

Carol Lattier

Organist & Keyboardist

Jaeyong Lee

Council President

Bill Videtto

Member Goals

*As disciples of
our Lord, Jesus Christ,
we strive to grow in
faith through daily prayer
and bible reading,
attending worship
services, tithing,
and serving others.*

December 15, 2019

Worship Service

10:00 A.M.

My soul rejoices
in my God.





To Our Guests and Visitors

Thank you for joining with us! We're glad you are here.

* To find our nursery go to the Sunday School wing. The Nursery is just a few doors down this hallway.

* We have activity bags for youngsters to use during worship. The bags include soft toys and coloring books. Please help yourself to a bag. Be sure to return it after worship.

* We practice open communion. If you are baptized and desire to share in the body and blood of our Lord, please join us.

* We begin communing children in the 5th grade. We offer a communion class to prepare 5th graders to receive this sacrament.

* If you would prefer grape juice instead of wine for communion, there is grape juice in the center of the tray of glasses.

* Following our worship service there is coffee and tea on the table in our café area. Please stay for some fellowship.

WORSHIP SERVERS

Lay Coordinator:	Bob Tardiff
Ushers:	Bob Tardiff & Ezra Johnson
Acolyte:	Annabelle Davis
Reader:	Carmen Nazario
Communion Assistants:	Amy Norris, Jana Coke & Audrey Cameron
Projectionist:	Toby Fite

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 15, 2019 ~ WELCOME

It is a pleasure to worship together.

If you are a newcomer, if you have a prayer request, or both,
please fill out the yellow pew card located on the back of a pew.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please Stand

OPENING HYMN ~ O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

LBW 41

O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary,
and, gathered all above
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wond'ring love.
O morning stars, together
proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the king,
and peace to all the earth!

How silently, how silently
the wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of his heav'n.
No ear may hear his coming;
but, in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him, still
the dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem,
descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in,
be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell;
oh, come to us, abide with us,
our Lord Immanuel!

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: As we await the fullness of Christ's coming, let us acknowledge our sins and failures
before God.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P: Our indifference toward your coming,

C: we confess to you, Lord.

P: Our desire to control time and seasons,

C: we confess to you, Lord.

P: Our failure to be alert to signs of your presence in our midst,

C: we confess to you, Lord.

P: Our lack of concern for those who come after us,

C: we confess to you, Lord.

P: Our lack of compassion for people you came to save,

C: we confess to you, Lord.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, I declare to you the forgiveness of your sins, and the grace to know joy in the Savior's coming.

C: Amen.

GREETING

P: From the one who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty: grace, light, and peace be with you all.

C: And also with you.

KYRIE

A: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

A: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

A: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

A: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

A: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of your only-begotten Son, that by his coming we may be enabled to serve you with pure minds; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Please Sit

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

P: Shepherds heard the message of the angel. They rejoiced at the good news that a Savior was born, and they were the first to tell others the Good News of Jesus. Like the shepherds, we are called to be witnesses to Christ. We pray that God would give us the boldness to speak.

In joy we light the third candle on the Advent wreath. We read in Luke, Chapter 2:

The shepherds went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. (Luke 2:16-17).

Light three candles.

OH COME, OH COME, EMMANUEL

LBW 34, VERSE 3

Oh, come, strong Branch of Jesse, free
Your own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell your people save

And give them vict'ry o'er the grave.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to you, O Israel.

FIRST READING: ISAIAH 35:1-10

¹The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus; ²it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God. ³Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. ⁴Say to those who have an anxious heart, "Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you." ⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; ⁶then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy. For waters break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; ⁷the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. ⁸And a highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Way of Holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it. It shall

belong to those who walk on the way; even if they are fools, they shall not go astray. ⁹No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. ¹⁰And the ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 146

¹Hallelujah! Praise the Lord, O my soul!

I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

²**Put not your trust in rulers, nor in any child of earth,
for there is no help in them.**

³When they breathe their last, they return to earth,
and in that day their thoughts perish.

⁴**Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help!
whose hope is in the Lord their God;**

⁵Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them;
who keeps his promise forever;

⁶**Who gives justice to those who are oppressed,
and food to those who hunger.**

⁷The Lord sets the prisoners free; the Lord opens the eyes of the blind;
the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;

⁸**The Lord loves the righteous; the Lord cares for the stranger;
he sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.**

⁹The Lord shall reign forever,
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!

SECOND READING: JAMES 5:7-11

⁷Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. ⁹Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. ¹⁰As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. ¹¹Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

CHILDREN'S SONG ~ AWAY IN A MANGER

LBW 67, V. 3

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay Bless all the dear children in your tender care
Close by me forever and love me I pray. And fit us for heaven to live with you here.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Please Stand

GOSPEL VERSE ~ ALLELUIA, LORD

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

GOSPEL ~ JOHN 1:6-8, 19-28

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 1st chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

After the reading:

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please Sit

SERMON ~ PASTOR MARK BRAATEN

Please Stand

SONG OF THE DAY ~ JESUS MESSIAH

He became sin, who knew no sin,
That we might become His righteousness.
He humbled Himself and carried the cross;
Love so amazing, love so amazing!

Chorus

Jesus Messiah, Name above all names!

Blessed Redeemer, Emmanuel,

The Rescue for sinners,

The Ransom from heaven,

Jesus Messiah, Lord of all!

His body the bread, His blood the wine,
Broken and poured out all for love,

The whole earth trembled,
and the veil was torn;
Love so amazing, love so amazing!

Chorus

Bridge:

All our hope is in You.

All our hope is in You.

All the glory to You, God,

The Light of the world.

Chorus

Jesus Messiah, Lord of all,
The Lord of all,
The Lord of all!

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day He rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS

A: Watchful at all times, let us pray in joyful anticipation for the advent of our God.

After each petition of the prayer the pastor will say "O giver of hope".

The congregation will respond, "hear our prayer."

P: Sustain us in your promises, faithful God, as we watch for you, and gather us into the peaceful reign of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Please Sit

OFFERING

Please Stand

OFFERTORY ~ THE DOXOLOGY

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.

Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING ~ P. 88 LBW

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give him thanks
and praise.**

It is indeed right and salutary . . . *(Here the minister continues with the preface appropriate to the day or session, concluding:)*

We praise your name and join their unending praise:

C: Holy, holy, holy Lord,

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.

P: Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth.

In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son,
that all those who believe in him
should not perish, but have eternal life.

We give thanks to you

for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ.

Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts,

that we may receive our Lord with a living faith
as he comes to us in his holy supper.

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P: In the night in which he was betrayed,

our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,

and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,

shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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.**

Please Sit

DISTRIBUTION

*For those who prefer, the center circle of glasses contain grape juice.
Please return your cup in the basket on the aisle.*

LAMB OF GOD ~ P. 92 LBW

**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, grant us peace.**

COMMUNION SONG #1 ~ WHAT CHILD IS THIS

LBW 40

What child is this, who, laid to rest,
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the king,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring him laud,
The babe, the son of Mary.

Why lies he in such mean estate
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.

Nails, spear shall pierce him through,
The cross be borne for me, for you;
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,
The babe, the son of Mary.

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;
Come peasant, king, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
Let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high,
The virgin sings her lullaby;
Joy, joy, for Christ is born,
The babe, the son of Mary.

COMMUNION SONG #2 ~ IT CAME UPON A MIDNIGHT CLEAR

LBW 54

It came upon the midnight clear,
that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth
to touch their harps of gold:

“Peace on the earth, good will to all,
from heav'n's all-gracious king.”
The world in solemn stillness lay
to hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come
with peaceful wings unfurled,
and still their heav'nly music floats
o'er all the weary world.

Above its sad and lowly plains
they bend on hov'ring wing,
and ever o'er its babel sounds
the blessed angels sing.

And you, beneath life's crushing load,
whose forms are bending low,
who toil along the climbing way
with painful steps and slow:

look now, for glad and golden hours
come swiftly on the wing;
oh, rest beside the weary road
and hear the angels sing!

For lo! The days are hast'ning on,
by prophets seen of old,
when with the ever-circling years
shall come the time foretold,
when peace shall over all the earth
its ancient splendors fling,
and all the world give back the song
which now the angels sing.

COMMUNION SONG #3 ~ GOD WILL MAKE A WAY

God will make a way
Where there seems to be no way.
He works in ways we cannot see.
He will make a way for me.
He will be my Guide,
Hold me closely to His side.
With love and strength for each new day
He will make a way...He will make a way.
(Repeat)

By a roadway in the wilderness,
You lead me.
Rivers in the desert will I see.

Heaven and earth will fade,
But His Word will still remain.
And He will do something new today.

God will make a way
Where there seems to be no way.
He works in ways we cannot see.
He will make a way for me.
He will be my Guide,
Hold me closely to His side.
With love and strength for each new day
He will make a way...He will make a way.

COMMUNION SONG #4 ~ THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT THAT NAME

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus!
There's just something about that name!
Master! Savior! Jesus!
Like a fragrance after the rain.

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus!
Let all heaven and earth proclaim,
Kings and kingdoms may all pass away,
But there's something about that name.

Please Stand

COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE ~ "GLORY TO GOD"

(Sung to the tune of "Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee")

Glory be to God in heaven; peace, goodwill to all the earth.

Mighty God of all creation, Father of surpassing worth;

We exalt you, we adore you, we lift high our thanks and praise;

Saints and angels bow before you; here on earth our songs we raise.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Let us pray. We give you thanks almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

BLESSING

P: May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord's face shine upon you and be gracious to you. May the Lord fill you with joy and hope, as we look to His coming among us. In the Name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

CLOSING SONG ~ ~ HARK THE HERALD ANGELS SING

LBW 60

Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful, all you nations, rise;
Join the triumph of the skies;
With angelic hosts proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

*Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king!"*

Christ, by highest heav'n adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold him come,
Offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see!

Hail, incarnate deity!
Pleased as man with us to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel!
*Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king!"*

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of righteousness!

Light and life to all he brings,
Ris'n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
Born that we no more may die,
Born to raise each child of earth,
Born to give us second birth.
*Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king!"*

DISMISSAL

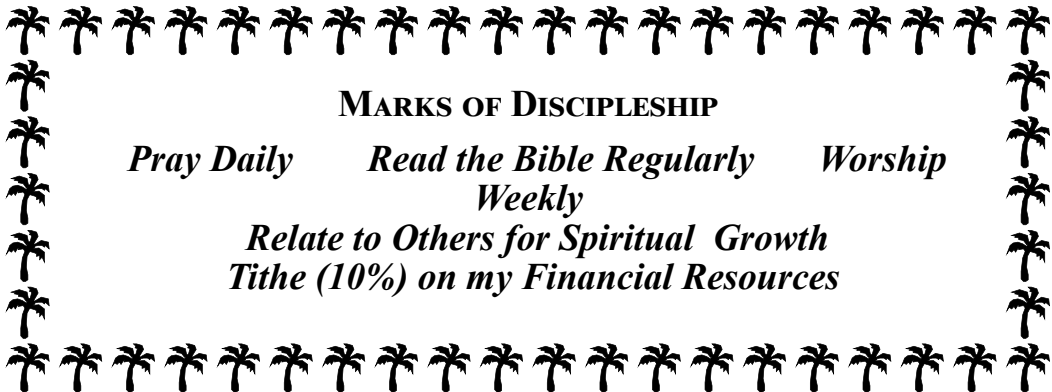
A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE ~ DR. JAEYONG LEE

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Offering Envelopes

The offering envelopes for 2019 are in the Northax. Please be sure to go by and pick up your box.

Bible Camp Registration

Just a reminder for registering for Lutherhill this summer. For high school students looking at the LYLE program, please register by the end of the year. For students in grades 4 through 8, be sure to register by mid-January. And for student in grades 4 through 8, remember if you register and pay in full by Dec. 15 there is a \$50 discount.

We are doing things differently this year, please register directly with Lutherhill. If you have any questions, please call pastor Mark.

Mid-Week Advent Activities

We are now in the season of Advent. On the Wednesdays of Advent we offer a time for congregational prayer followed by a time of worship.

At 6:30 pm we are inviting people together for a time of prayer. There is no better way to prepare for Christmas than prayer. We will pray for our congregation, and for all needs as they arise.

Worship is at 7:00 pm. Pastor Mark will start with a Bible study on what the Gospel of Luke tells us about Christmas. After the study we will use the Holden Village Evening Prayer worship service. This is a beautiful and popular service and most fitting for Advent.

Here is the remaining schedule for topics in the Bible study:

Dec. 18 – The birth of John the Baptist – Luke 1:57-80

Be sure to come and share this Advent season!

Christmas Caroling

Join us today at 3:00 to go Christmas Caroling! We will meet at the church. We had great fun doing this last year and so we want to do it again this year!

No Sunday School on December 22 and 29

We will not have Sunday School on Dec. 22 and 29. Classes resume on Sunday, Jan. 5.

Are You Available to Serve Christmas Eve @ 11:00 Service

The Worship Server's schedule for December is included in the December newsletter. However we need Ushers, Readers and Communion Servers who would be willing to serve at the 11:00 service on Christmas Eve. If you will be attending at 11:00 p.m. and are willing to serve, please let Debbie Miller know at dmiller@oslctyler.org, 903-561-1865 or leave a message on our voicemail. Thank you for your service.

Christmas in the Neighborhood

Thank you to all who are participating in our "Christmas in the Neighborhood" drive this year. Please bring the gifts to the church as soon as possible.

Christmas Eve Worship

We will offer two worship services on Christmas Eve.

The first service will be at 7:00 pm. This service will include carols and candle lighting and Holy Communion. Before the service we will offer a Christmas concert with our members sharing special music for the season.

The second service will be at 11:00 pm. We envision this as a smaller and quieter service. It will also include carols and candle lighting, and Holy Communion.

Please be thinking now of who you would like to invite for Christmas Eve worship. This is a great opportunity for inviting new people!

Christmas Eve Social

We are having a Christmas Eve Social December 24th from 5:30 to 7 PM. This was such a success last year we decided to do it again this year. We are asking that you bring a hors d'oeuvres / finger food to share. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex so you can let us know what finger food you will bring! We do not want anyone in the kitchen heating and serving food or having major clean-up duties. This is the perfect time to sit with friends, make new friends, talk, laugh, and eat delicious food -- we always have wonderful food. Our congregation is an awesome community that continues to grow. We thank God for all the blessings of his Son whose birth we celebrate during the Christmas Season. Please share this invitation with family and friends. See you all on Christmas Eve.

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR (DECEMBER 15— DECEMBER 22, 2019)

THIS WEEK'S OFFICE HOURS: MON. - WED. 10:00-2:00

IF YOU HAVE A NEED, PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE @ 903-561-1865

SUNDAY—December 15, 2019

Sunday School 9:00 a.m.
 Adult Bible Study 9:00 a.m.
 Choir Practice 9:15 a.m.
 Worship Service 10:00 a.m.
 Youth Meeting 11:15 a.m.
 Christmas Caroling 3:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Bible Study 10:00 a.m.
 CODA 6:00 p.m.
 ACA 6:00 p.m.

MONDAY

No Activities Scheduled

FRIDAY

No Activities Scheduled

TUESDAY

Quilters 9:00 a.m.

SATURDAY

Embroiderer's 9:00 a.m.
 Guild

WEDNESDAY

Advent Service 7:00 p.m.

SUNDAY— December 22, 2019

Choir Practice 9:15 a.m.
 Worship Service 10:00 a.m.

STEWARDSHIP		DECEMBER 8, 2019 WORSHIP	
Monthly Budget	<u>\$ 23,000</u>	Worship Service	<u>134</u>
Prior December Offering	\$ 5,183	Year to Date Average	<u>125</u>
Offering on Sunday, Dec. 8	5,206		
Other Offering	<u>3,285</u>		
Cumulative December Offering	<u>\$ 13,674</u>		
Year to Date Offering	<u>\$ 258,199</u>		