

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

4900 Kinsey Drive Tyler, Texas 75703

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*Bringing Christ to the
people and the
people to Christ.*

We are a community of faith,
formed in the grace and
joy of Jesus Christ.

We are a people involved in
God's sure and unfolding
promise to mend His
creation through the life,
death and resurrection of
His Son, and in the power
of the Holy Spirit.

We are a church under the
cross of Christ, shaped by
the ancient rhythms of
Christian worship,
fellowship, and
service to others.

Come share the joy!

Our Pastor

Rev. Martin Moore
martinmoore55@gmail.com

Parish Administrator

Amanda Taylor
amandataylor@oslctyler.org

Organist/Keyboardist

Dr. Jaeyong Lee

Youth Coordinator

Courtney Henriksen

Parish Communications

Merry Burris
burris.merry@gmail.com



*"In those days Mary arose and went with haste into
the hill country, to a town in Judah, and she entered
the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth."*

Luke 1:39-40

Fourth Sunday of Advent - Year B

December 24, 2023 • 10:00 A.M.



Our Members, Guests and Visitors

We are all on a journey of faith; God does not expect us to make the journey alone.

Pastor Martin Moore: 979-551-6222 • martinmoore55@gmail.com

Our Office Hours are Monday through Thursday, 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

Office: 903-561-1865 • amandataylor@oslctyler.org

Prelude - Dr. Jaeyong Lee

Welcome and Family News

- Welcome! Whether you are a longtime member or visiting for the first time, you are a gift from God to us. Guests, please fill out the yellow card on the back of your pew and place it in the offering plate later in the service.
- All who are baptized and desire to share in the Body and Blood of our Lord are welcome to receive Communion.

Please stand (in body or in spirit)

GATHERING

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

“GOOD CHRISTIAN FRIENDS, REJOICE” (LBW #55)

Good Christian friends, rejoice
With heart and soul and voice;
Give ye heed to what we say:
Jesus Christ is born today;
Ox and ass before him bow,
And he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today!
Christ is born today!

Good Christian friends, rejoice
With heart and soul and voice;
Now ye hear of endless bliss:
Jesus Christ was born for this!

He has opened heaven's door,
And we are blest for evermore.
Christ was born for this!
Christ was born for this!

Good Christian friends, rejoice
With heart and soul and voice;
Now ye need not fear the grave;
Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all
To gain his everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save!
Christ was born to save!

WORDS OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

As the Pastor says the Invocation, the Sign of the Cross ✠ may be made in remembrance of our baptisms.

P In this season of waiting and watching for the return of Christ, we are gathered together to worship in the name of the Father, Son, ✠ and Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**

P A voice cries in the wilderness, "Prepare the way of the Lord. Make straight in the desert a pathway for our God." Let us come humbly before our Lord, asking for forgiveness and mercy for our sins, known and unknown. (Isaiah 40:3)

Silence for self-reflection and examination.

P God of grace,

C **We confess that we have not been attentive to the urgent call to prepare for the coming of your Son. We have neglected to serve our neighbors, near and far. We have relied too much on our own strength rather than relying on your power, grace, and comfort in our lives. Grant us forgiveness and restore us to a right relationship through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen**

P The God who desires his people to depend upon him, offers us comfort in the knowledge that the grass withers, the flower fades, but the Word of our God will stand forever. (Isaiah 40:8) In the name of Jesus Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins. Live joyfully in the grace and mercy of our Lord. C **Amen**

APOSTOLIC GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ for whom we wait, the love of the Father who will never let us go, and the peace of the Holy Spirit 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 Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. With your great might, give us your help, that whatever is hindered by our sins may be speedily accomplished by your grace; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. (*Gelasian Sacramentary*, 7th Century) ^C **Amen**

Please be seated

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

^P The fourth candle of Advent represents Love, the ultimate love of God that He might send His only Son for us.

"Lord Jesus, Master of both light and darkness, send your Holy Spirit upon our preparation for Christmas. We who have so much to do seek quiet spaces to hear Your voice each day. We who are anxious over many things look forward to your coming among us. We who are blessed in so many ways long for the complete joy of Your Kingdom. We whose hearts are heavy seek the joy of Your presence. We are Your people, walking in darkness yet seeking the light. To You, we say, "Come, Lord Jesus!" –Henri Nouwen

Light the fourth candle.

HYMN ~ OH COME, OH COME, EMMANUEL ~ (LBW #34) Vs. 4

Oh, come, blest Dayspring, come and cheer
our spirits by your advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.

The Service Of The Word

FIRST READING: 2 Samuel 7:1-11

^R This is the Word of the Lord! ^C **Thanks be to God!**

PSALM 89:1-5

^R¹ I will sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, forever; with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to all generations.

^C² **For I said, "Steadfast love will be built up forever; in the heavens you will establish your faithfulness."**

^{R 3} You have said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one; I have sworn to David my servant:

^{C 4} **I will establish your offspring forever, and build your throne for all generations."**
Selah

^{R 5} Let the heavens praise your wonders, O LORD, your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones!

SECOND READING: ROMANS 16:25-27

^R This is the Word of the Lord! ^C **Thanks be to God!**

Feeding Our Little Lambs ~ "Away In A Manger" (LBW #67) Vs. 1

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
The little Lord Jesus lay down his sweet head;
The stars in the sky looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

Please stand (in body or in spirit)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ~ "THE LORD IS IN HIS HOLY TEMPLE"

The Lord is in His holy temple:
Let all the earth keep silence before Him;
Keep silence, keep silence,
Keep silence before Him.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

^P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 1st Chapter.

^C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

LUKE 1:26-45

^P The Gospel of the Lord. ^C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Please be seated

SERMON ~ PASTOR MARTIN MOORE

A Blessed Visitation

[Mary is the] highest woman and the noblest gem in Christianity after Christ . . . She is nobility, wisdom, and holiness personified. We can never honor her enough. Still honor and praise must be given to her in such a way as to injure neither Christ nor the Scriptures. (Martin Luther, *Christmas Sermon*, 1531)

Please stand (in body or in spirit)

HYMN OF THE DAY

“SING OF MARY, PURE AND LOWLY” (WOV #634)

Sing of Mary, pure and lowly, virgin mother, wise and mild.	Constant was the love he gave her, though he went forth from her side,
Sing of God's own Son most holy, who became her little child.	Forth to preach, and heal, and suffer, till on Calvary he died.
Fairest child of fairest mother, God the Lord who came to earth,	Glory be to God the Father; glory be to God the Son;
Word made flesh, our very brother, takes our nature by his birth.	Glory be to God the Spirit; glory to the Three in One.
Sing of Jesus, son of Mary, in the home of Nazareth.	From the heart of blessed Mary, from all saints the song ascends,
Toil and labor cannot weary love enduring unto death.	And the Church the strain reechoes unto earth's remotest ends.

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

^P Confident in God's steadfast love through Jesus Christ and guided by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

*After each portion of the prayers the congregation responds... **Hear our prayer.***

^P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. ^C **Amen**

Please be seated

OFFERING

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Please stand (in body or in spirit)

THE OFFERTORY ~ "THE DOXOLOGY" (LBW #565)

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

POST OFFERTORY PRAYER

^P Let us pray. Merciful Father,

^C **We offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

Please remain standing

THE HOLY MEAL

PASSING OF THE PEACE

^P The peace of the Lord be with you always. ^C **And also with you.**

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.**

^P It is indeed good, right, and salutary that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory; that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

^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.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

^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.*

^P 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.*

^P Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

^C **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

^P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

^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**

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.

Please be seated

Distribution & Communion Hymns

"YOU SATISFY THE HUNGRY HEART" (WOV #711) Vs. 1,2,&4

Chorus:

*You satisfy the hungry heart with gift of
finest wheat,
Come give to us, O saving Lord, the bread
of life to eat.*

As when the shepherd calls his sheep,
They know and heed his voice;
So when You call Your family, Lord,
We follow and rejoice.

Chorus

With joyful lips we sing to You,
Our praise and gratitude,
That You should count us worthy Lord,
To share this heavenly food.

Chorus

You give yourself to us, O Lord,
Then selfless let us be,
To serve each other in Your name
In truth and charity.

Chorus

"HOLY GOD, WE PRAISE YOUR NAME" (LBW #535)

Holy God, we praise your name;
Lord of all, we bow before you.
All on earth your scepter claim,
all in heav'n above adore you.
Infinite your vast domain,
everlasting is your reign.

Hark! the glad celestial hymn
angel choirs above are raising;
cherubim and seraphim,
in unceasing chorus praising,
fill the heav'ns with sweet accord:
"Holy, holy, holy Lord!"

Lo, the apostolic train
join your sacred name to hallow;
prophets swell the glad refrain,
and the white-robed martyrs follow;
and from morn to set of sun
through the church the song goes on.

Holy Father, holy Son,
Holy Spirit, three we name you,
though in essence only one;
undivided God we claim you
and, adoring, bend the knee
while we own the mystery.

"ONE BREAD, ONE BODY" (WOV #710)

Chorus:

*One bread, one body, one Lord of all;
One cup of blessing which we bless,
And we, though many,
Throughout the Earth,
We are one body in this one Lord.*

Gentile or Jew, servant or free,
Woman or man, no more...

Chorus

Many the gifts, many the works,
One in the Lord...of all...

Chorus

Grain for the fields,
scattered and grown,
Gathered to one for all.

Chorus

Please stand (in body or in spirit)

COMMUNION BLESSING

^P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. ^C **Amen**

CANTICLE ~ "NOW THANK WE ALL OUR GOD" (LVW #534) Vs. 3

All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,
The Son, and him who reigns with them in highest heaven,
The one eternal God, whom earth and heav'n adore;
For thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

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**

SENDING

BENEDICTION ~ *P. 94 LBW*

^P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the name of the Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit. ^C **Amen**

SENDING HYMN ~ “GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN” (*LBW #70*)

DISMISSAL

^P The Lord be with you! Go and serve in Jesus’ name. ^C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

- No Sunday School on December 31st.
- We send out our News Letter on Tuesday mornings and our Prayer List on Wednesday afternoons. If you are not receiving these, please let Amanda know, so she can add you to the list.
- Terry Gibb’s memorial will be held on Saturday, December 30th at Our Saviour’s at 11:00 am with a light lunch to follow. The congregation is asked to bring desserts. If you can bring a dessert please contact Jerry Redman.
- Everyone is invited tonight from 6:00 - 6:45 for our Christmas Eve fellowship. Please bring enough simple appetizers for your family and a bit to share. Then, at 7:00, join us for our Christmas Eve Candlelight and Communion Service.
- Offering Envelopes are out in the Narthex for you to pick up. If you don’t use envelopes, please pick up your box and dispose of it.

Our Worship Servants This Morning:

Greeter:	Gloria Bielfeldt
Acolytes:	Ean & Jonah Hollenbeck
Ushers:	Richard Eck & Bill Videtto
Cantor:	Blaine Davis
Reader:	Roger Stai
Communion Assistants:	Amy Norris, Sarah Cumming, & Jan Moch
Projectionist:	Toby Fite

Upcoming Activities at OSLC (December 25th - 31st)

Tuesday:	Spin Class	6:30 p.m.
Thursday:	CODA	6:00 p.m.
Saturday:	Altar Guild Team #5	
	Terry Gibbs Memorial	11:00 a.m.
Sunday:	Choir Practice	9:15 a.m.
	Worship Service	10:00 a.m.

Stewardship

December 17, 2023

Monthly Budget	\$ 25,245	Attendance Last Week	110
Offerings on December 17th	\$ 6,008	2023 Average Attendance	106
Other Weekly Offerings	<u>\$ 980</u>		
Total Weekly Offerings	\$ 6,988		
Previous December Offerings	\$ 9,638		
Total December Offerings	\$ 16,626		
2023 Offerings to Date	\$ 299,321		

