



# OUR SAVIOUR'S

## LUTHERAN CHURCH

*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!*

**Ministers**

Pastor Jeff Carpenter  
pastor@oslctyler.org

Blaine Davis  
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Colten Watkins

**Parish Administrator**

Natalie Capo  
admin@oslctyler.org

**Organist/Keyboardist**

Dr. Jaeyong Lee

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (YEAR A)**

**DECEMBER 21, 2025 • 10:00 A.M.**



4900 Kinsey Drive, Tyler, Texas

(903) 561-1865 [www.oslctyler.org](http://www.oslctyler.org) [oslc@oslctyler.org](mailto:oslc@oslctyler.org)



## Our Members, Guests and Visitor

We are all on a journey of faith.

God does not expect us to make the journey alone.

Our Office Hours are Monday through Friday,

10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

Office: 903-561-1865 • [admin@oslctyler.org](mailto:admin@oslctyler.org)

## Prelude - Dr. Jaeyong Lee

*You may use this time for silent meditation to prepare your heart for worship*

# Welcome to Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

- 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 Guest Connect Card on the back of your pew and place it in the offering plate.
- If you have any **prayer requests**, needs, or concerns, please complete the **blue card** on the back of your pew and place it in the offering plate.
- All who are baptized and desire to share in the Body and Blood of our Lord are welcome to receive Communion.

**"O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; let the whole earth stand in awe of him."**

Psalm 96:9

*Please stand (in body or in spirit)*

## *Face the Cross as it Enters*

## PROCESSIONAL HYMN ~ "HARK, THE GLAD SOUND" (LBW #35)

Hark, the glad sound! The Savior comes, He comes the broken heart to bind,  
The Savior promised long; The bleeding soul to cure,  
Let every heart prepare a throne And with the treasures of his grace  
And every voice a song. To enrich the humble poor.

He comes the pris'ners to release,  
In Satan's bondage held.  
The gates of brass before him burst,  
The iron fetters yield.

Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,  
Your welcome shall proclaim,  
And heav'n's eternal arches ring  
With your beloved name.

## 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: We gather in this sanctuary, and we worship, in the name of the Father, and of the  
    ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.                   C: Amen

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Your Holy

Spirit, that we may perfectly love You and worthily magnify Your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **C: Amen**

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

P: Most merciful God,

**C: We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your holy name. Amen**

P: Almighty God, in His mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for His sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by His authority, I declare to you the Good News, "Your sins are forgiven," in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen**

### THE CANDLES OF ADVENT – LOVE

CW: The Advent wreath includes many symbols to help us think about Christ and His gifts. The wreath itself is in the shape of a circle. A circle has no beginning and no end. This reminds us that there is no beginning and no end to God and that God's love is forever.

CW: The light from the candles, will grow stronger each Sunday in Advent. The candle's light reminds us that Jesus is the light of the world. Last Sunday we lit the candles of Hope, Peace, and Joy. Today we light the candle of LOVE.

*(Light the candles now)*

CW: The fourth candle of Advent is the Candle of Love. God's love is a perfect love. It holds nothing back. God, in love, gives us everything we need to live. In the Bible it is written, "God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life."

Jesus shows us God's perfect love.

CW: This is what love is like: Love is patient. Love is kind and envies no one. Love is never boastful or conceited, rude or selfish. Love is not quick to take offense. It keeps no records of wrongs. It does not gloat over other people's troubles, but rejoices in the right, the good and the true. There is nothing that love cannot face. There is no limit to this love, to its hope, to its endurance.

P: Let us pray:

C: We thank You Lord for the LOVE You give us. We ask that as we wait for all Your promises to come true, and for Christ to come again, that You would remain present with us. Help us today, and every day to worship You, to hear Your word, and to do Your will by sharing Your Love with each other. We ask this in the name of the One who was born in Bethlehem – Jesus.

**CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** (*Sung to “Away in a Manger”*)

A candle is burning, a candle of LOVE;  
A candle to point us to heaven above.  
A baby for Christmas, a wonderful birth  
For Jesus is bringing God’s love to the earth.

**APOSTOLIC GREETING**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

**KYRIE**

CW: In peace, let us pray to the Lord. C: Lord, have mercy.

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

C: Lord, have mercy.

CW: 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.

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

CW: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. C: Amen

**HYMN OF PRAISE “GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST” (LBW p. 80-81)**

*Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.*

Lord God, heavenly king,  
almighty God and Father:

We worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son  
of the Father, Lord God,  
Lamb of God:

You take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.

You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.  
Amen

## Prayer of the Day

CW: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

CW: 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. **C: Amen**

*Please be seated*

## The Service Of The Word

### FIRST READING ~ ISAIAH 7:10-17

"See Insert" L: This is the Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

### PSALMODY ~ PSALM 24 (CHANTED)

"See Insert"

### SECOND READING ~ ROMANS 1:1-7

"See Insert" L: This is the Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand*

### GOSPEL CANTICLE ~ "ALLELUIA, LORD" LBW P. 83

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia

## THE HOLY GOSPEL

BD: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 1st Chapter.

**C: Glory to You, O Lord.**

MATTHEW 1:18-25

BD: The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

*Please be seated*

### CHILDREN'S SONG ~ "AWAY IN A MANGER" VER. 3 (LBW #67)

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask thee to stay

Close by me forever, and love me I pray.

Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,  
And fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### SERMON ~ BLAINE DAVIS

*Please stand*

## **Hymn Of The Day ~ “OF THE FATHER’S LOVE BEGOTTEN” Vss 1, 2 & 4 (LBW #34)**

Of the Father’s love begotten  
Ere the worlds began to be,  
He is Alpha and Omega,  
He the source, the ending he,  
Of the things that are, that have been,  
And that future years shall see  
Evermore and evermore.

Oh, that birth forever blessed,  
When the virgin full of grace,  
By the Holy Ghost conceiving,  
Bore the Savior of our race;

And the babe, the world’s redeemer,  
First revealed his sacred face  
Evermore and evermore.

Let the heights of heav’n adore him;  
Angel hosts, his praises sing;  
Pow’rs, dominions, bow before him  
And extol our God and King;  
Let no tongue on earth be silent,  
Ev’ry voice in concert ring  
Evermore and evermore.

## **The Nicene Creed**

CW: Let us declare our faith using the words of the Nicene Creed.

**C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit He became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.**

**For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered death and was buried. On the third day He rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and His kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son.**

**With the Father and the Son He is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen**

## THE PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

CW: Let us pray for God's people,

*After each portion of the prayers:*

CW: Lord, in your mercy, **C: Hear our prayer.**

*The prayers conclude:*

P: Into your hands, we commend all for whom we pray. We will trust in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **C: Amen**

## THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

You are invited to share the peace of God with those around you.

## OFFERING & OFFERTORY MUSIC

P: We continue our worship with our tithe and offering.

*Please stand*

**Doxology** ~ "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow" (LBW #564)  
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

CW: Let us pray. Merciful Father,

**C: We present to You these offerings, signs of our stewardship of what You have given us to manage. We know that through these offerings and the sharing of our talents and abilities, the ministries of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church are made possible and powerful. We pray for those among us who will use these offerings, that the decisions they make will be wise, will build up Your Kingdom, and will please You. So having placed them before You, we pray Your blessing on them in the Name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

*Please remain standing*

## THE HOLY MEAL

### 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 right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer

thanks and praise to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and ever living God. You comforted Your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes again to judge the world in righteousness. 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 in 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 in the remembrance of Me.*

P: Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

P: Therefore, gracious Father, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us. And, believing the witness of His resurrection, we await His coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.

**C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus**

P: Send now we pray, your Holy Spirit, the spirit of our Lord and of His resurrection, that we who receive the Lord's body and blood may live to the praise of Your glory and receive our inheritance with all Your saints in light.

**C: Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

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:**  
"INFANT HOLY, INFANT LOWLY" (LBW #44)

Infant holy, infant lowly,  
For his bed a cattle stall;  
Oxen lowing, little knowing,  
Christ the babe is Lord of all.  
Swiftly winging, angels singing,  
Bells are ringing, tidings bringing:  
Christ the child is Lord of all!  
Christ the child is Lord of all!

Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping  
Vigil till the morning new  
Saw the glory, heard the story,  
Tidings of a Gospel true.  
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow,  
Praises voicing, greet the morrow:  
Christ the child was born for you!  
Christ the child was born for you!

"THE ANGEL GABRIEL FROM HEAVEN CAME" (WOV #632)

The angel Gabriel from heaven came,  
with wings as drifted snow, with eyes  
as flame:  
"All hail to thee, O lowly maiden Mary,  
most highly favored lady," Gloria!  
  
"For know a blessed Mother thou shalt be,  
all generations laud and honor thee;  
thy son shall be Emmanuel, by seers  
foretold, most highly favored lady."  
Gloria!

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her  
head; "To me be as it pleaseth God," she  
said, "My soul shall laud and magnify  
God's holy name."  
Most highly favored lady, Gloria!  
  
Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born  
in Bethlehem all on a Christmas morn,  
and Christian folk throughout the world  
will ever say:  
"Most highly favored lady." Gloria!

"Let All Together Praise Our God" Vss 5,6,&7 (LBW #47)

He is a servant, I a Lord:  
How great a mystery!  
How strong the tender Christchild's  
love!  
No truer friend than he,  
No truer friend than he.

He is the key, and he the door  
To blessed Paradise;  
The angel bars the way no more.

To God our praises rise,  
To God our praises rise.  
  
Your grace in lowliness revealed,  
Lord Jesus, we adore,  
And praise to God the Father yield  
And Spirit evermore;  
We praise you evermore.

## 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 - "SONG OF SIMEON"

Now, Lord, You let Your servant go in peace,  
Your word has been fulfilled.

My own eyes have seen the Salvation,  
Which You have prepared in the sight of every people.  
A light to reveal You to the Nations,  
And the glory of Your people, Israel.  
Now, Lord, You let your servant go in peace.

### POST COMMUNION PRAYER

CW: Pour out upon us the spirit of Your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom You have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen**

### BENEDICTION ~P. 95 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**

### CLOSING HYMN ~ "ON JORDAN'S BANKS THE BAPTIST'S CRY" Vss 1-3 (LBW #36) *FACE THE CROSS ON THE WAY OUT*

On Jordan's banks the Baptist's cry  
Announces that the Lord is nigh;  
Awake and hearken, for he brings  
Glad tidings of the King of kings!

We hail you as our Savior, Lord,  
Our refuge and our great reward;  
Without your grace we waste away  
Like flow'rs that wither and decay.

Then cleansed be ev'ry life from sin;  
Make straight the way for God within,  
And let us all our hearts prepare  
For Christ to come and enter there.

### DISMISSAL & POSTLUDE

CW: Go. Live as disciples of Christ Jesus!

**C: Thanks be to God. And we will**

## SEE INSERT FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS

<b>UPCOMING ACTIVITIES</b>		<b>Sunday</b>
<b>DECEMBER 22-28</b>		
<b>Monday</b>		
Men's Group	8:00 PM	Choir 9:00 AM
<b>Tuesday</b>		No Sunday School
Quilters	9:00 AM	Bible Study 9:00 AM
Spin	6:00 PM	Worship Service 10:00 AM
<b>Wednesday</b>		
Christmas Eve Service	7:00 PM	Pastor Jeff Carpenter will be out of the office from December 25th till January 2nd.
<b>Thursday</b>		
Christmas Day – Office Closed		
<b>Saturday</b>		
Altar Guild		

### Our Worship Servants This Morning:

Greeter:	Rachel Bothner and Family
Acolyte:	Max and Fayth Bothner
Ushers:	Todd Nazario and Jason Bothner
Assistant & Cantor:	Blaine Davis
Reader:	Travis Snyder
Communion Assistants:	Blaine Davis, Susan Buntz, Carmen Nazario
AV Booth:	Preston Graham and Charles Cumming

<u>Attendance</u>	
Sunday, December 14, 2025:	96
Average Attendance 2025:	91

<u>Stewardship</u>	
Last Week's Offerings:	\$ 8,290
Total for the month of Dec.	\$ 15,464
2025 Total Offerings to Date:	\$ 283,723

## PRAYER LIST

Our Members: Glory Gopinath, Limuel Norris, Linda Eck, Tom Criswell, Jim & Janet Anthony, Bill Thomas, Ed Lucas, Mary Ferguson, Sam Hough, Amber Tizcareno, Jeanine Franklin, Carol Barner, Gloria Guilfoyle, Kathleen Grant, Phyllis Guysinger, Margo Williams, Joanne Hill, Sarah Lyles, Diane Polley, Curt & Joyce Peterson

Family & Friends: Jordan Graves, Phil & Gloria Renaker, Colleen Werner, Jacob Carpenter, Evie Long, Steve Hall, Paul & Grace Long, Jennifer Hendrick, Erin Gilland, Mark Malloy, Nick Lopez, Helen Wallace, Marissa Rose, Shawn Gilbertson, Marshall Hart, Joanna Garett

"Hark, the Glad Sound!" LBW 35 Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702-1751 Tune: attr. Thomas Haweis, 1734-1820

"Away in a Manger" LBW 67 Text: American, 1885 Tune: American, 19<sup>th</sup> century public domain

"Of the Father's Love Begotten" LBW 42 Text: Marcus, Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, 348-413; tr. Composite Tune: plainsong, mode V, 13<sup>th</sup> cent.

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" LBW 564 Text: Thomas Ken 1637-1711 Tune: Louis Bourgeois c. 1510-1561

"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" LBW 44 © Text: Polish carol; tr. Edith M. G. Reed, 1885-1933, atl. Tune: Polish carol

"The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came" WOV 632 Text: Basque carol, para. Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834-1924 Music: Basque carol, arr. C. Edgar Pettman, 1865-1943, and John Wickham Arr. © 1955 E. H. Freeman Ltd., ren. 1983, admin. Glenwood Music Corp.

"Let All Together Praise Our God" LBW 47 Text: Nikolaus, c. 1480-1561; tr. F. Samuel Janzow, b. 1913 Tune: Nikolaus Herman, c. 1480-1561

"On Jordan's Banks the Baptist Cry" LBW Text: Charles Coffin, 1676-1749; tr. Composite Tune: adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571-1621

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