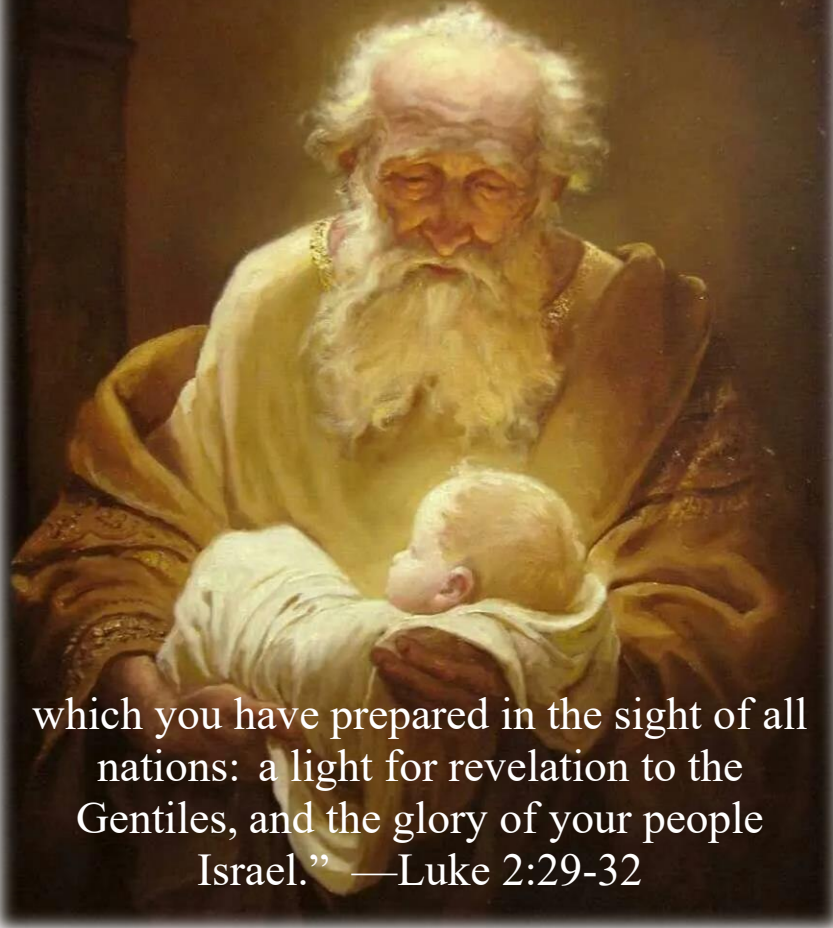


“Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss^[d] your servant in peace. For my eyes have seen your salvation,



which you have prepared in the sight of all nations: a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel.” —Luke 2:29-32

OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
Larimore, ND ~ December 31, 2023

1st Sunday of Christmas

During this service you will have an opportunity to yell out your favorite Christmas Song/Hymn!

(there are 4 different places within the service)

In the ELW, Christmas Hymns are found within pages 267 to 300.

If you have a favorite song/hymn that's not in the hymnal, please feel free to yell it out anyway, Camilla might just have the music for it!

PRELUDE

GREETING

***GATHERING HYMN** *“O Come, All Ye Faithful”* ELW 283

***CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS**

Let us confess our sin, trusting in the tender mercy of our God.

Lord, I confess my sin, You have promised to provide for all of my needs, and yet I mistrust Your promise. I know the futility of my own ambitions and my inability to do that which I desire. Today I need to recognize the sin within me, and ask that you would forgive me. Lord, in Your mercy, Forgive my sin and cleanse me so that I can be pleasing in Your sight and a minister in Your service.

***THE GOOD NEWS**

My God is a great God, providing for all my needs, giving me daily bread and supplies for every spiritual need. My sin no longer controls me. My response to God's love is the focus for my life. The death of Jesus Christ has paid the cost of my sin and has set me free to live in victory. I am forgiven. I am a *son/daughter* of God. I am a minister to others. Praise God for the daily provision for my every need.

***CHRISTMAS HYMN** *Pick a favorite Christmas Hymn*

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray. Almighty God, you wonderfully created the dignity of human nature and yet more wonderfully restored it. In your mercy, let us share the divine life of the one who came to share our humanity, Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING: *Isaiah 61:10—62:3*

¹⁰ I delight greatly in the LORD; my soul rejoices in my God. For he has clothed me with garments of salvation and arrayed me in a robe of his righteousness, as a bridegroom adorns his head like a priest, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. ¹¹ For as the soil makes the sprout come up and a garden causes seeds to grow, so the Sovereign LORD will make righteousness and praise spring up before all nations. For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, for Jerusalem's sake I will not remain quiet, till her vindication shines out like the dawn, her salvation like a blazing torch. ² The nations will see your vindication, and all kings your glory; you will be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will bestow. ³ You will be a crown of splendor in the LORD's hand, a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

WORD OF GOD, WORD OF LIFE. THANKS BE TO GOD.

CHRISTMAS HYMN *Pick a favorite Christmas Hymn*

PSALM: *Psalm 148 (read responsively)*

¹ Praise the LORD.^[a] Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights above. ² **Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his heavenly hosts.** ³ Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars. ⁴ **Praise him, you highest heavens and you waters above the skies.** ⁵ Let them praise the name of the LORD, for at his command they were created, ⁶ **and he established them for ever and ever—he issued a decree that will never pass away.** ⁷ Praise the LORD from the earth, you great sea creatures and all ocean depths, ⁸ **lightning and hail, snow and clouds, stormy winds that do his bidding,** ⁹ you mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars, ¹⁰ **wild animals and all cattle, small creatures and flying birds,** ¹¹ kings of the earth and all nations, you princes and all rulers on earth, ¹² **young men and women, old men and children.** ¹³ Let them praise the name of the LORD, for his name alone is exalted; his splendor is above the earth and the heavens. ¹⁴ **And he has raised up for his people a horn,^[b] the praise of all his faithful servants, of Israel, the people close to his heart. Praise the LORD.**

SECOND READING: *Galatians 4:1-7*

Think of it this way. If a father dies and leaves an inheritance for his young children, those children are not much better off than slaves until they grow up, even though they actually own everything their father had. ² They have to obey their guardians until they reach whatever age their father set. ³ And that's the way it was with us before Christ came. We were like children; we were slaves to the basic spiritual principles^[a] of this world. ⁴ But when the right time came, God sent his Son, born of a woman, subject to the law.⁵ God sent him to buy freedom for us who were slaves to the law, so that he could adopt us as his very own children.^[b] ⁶ And because we^[c] are his children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, prompting us to call out, "Abba, Father."^[d] ⁷ Now you are no longer a slave but God's own child.^[e] And since you are his child, God has made you his heir.

WORD OF GOD, WORD OF LIFE. THANKS BE TO GOD.

***CHRISTMAS HYMN** *Pick a favorite Christmas Hymn*

L: The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 2nd chapter.

A: Glory to you, O Lord.

***GOSPEL** *Luke 2:22-40*

²² When the time came for the purification rites required by the Law of Moses, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³ (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord"^[b]), ²⁴ and to offer a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: "a pair of doves or two young pigeons."^[c] ⁵ Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. ²⁶ It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. ²⁷ Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, ²⁸ Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying: ²⁹ "Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss^[d] your servant in peace. ³⁰ For my eyes have seen your salvation, ³¹ which you have prepared in the sight of all nations: ³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel." ³³ The child's

father and mother marveled at what was said about him. ³⁴ Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: “This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, ³⁵ so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too.” ³⁶ There was also a prophet, Anna, the daughter of Penuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷ and then was a widow until she was eighty-four.^[e] She never left the temple but worshiped night and day, fasting and praying. ³⁸ Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem. ³⁹ When Joseph and Mary had done everything required by the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰ And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him.

L: The Gospel of our Lord.

A: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

CHRISTMAS HYMN *Pick a favorite Christmas Hymn*

***OFFERING** “*What Child is This*” ELW 296 vs.1

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray. God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

I believe in God, who has created all things and continues to create new life within us...I believe in Jesus, Son of God, Son of man, the Savior of the world. By His life, His death and resurrection, I can know the true depth of human possibility, and experience the true joy of an abundant life....I believe that the Holy Spirit is present, now and always, calling us to faith, giving us gifts and empowering us for service...I believe that the community of believers called the church can experience the fullness of life through the word, the sacraments, and all that we do.

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION** “*Silent Night*” ELW 281 vs.1&3
Sing vs.1 the first time. The second time we sing, sing vs.3

***THE LORD’S PRAYER** (*Matthew 6:9-13*)

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. Amen.

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***BLESSING**

***SENDING HYMN** “*Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*” ELW 288

***DISMISSAL**

LEADER: Christ is born! A Savior for the whole world.

ALL: **Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men!**

POSTLUDE

Welcome! We are glad you are with us today! If you are interested in joining our church, please contact Lori at 218-791-2671 or Julie at 701-741-5683. If you have an emergency, call Wayne Knudson (church president) at 218-779-3594 -or- Camilla Stover at 218-791-2678.

Serving this Sunday

Ushers: George & Mary Bailey

Reader: Les & Annette Canarr

Prayer: Teresa Welder

Communion: N/A

Fellowship: Coffee Only

Serving Next Sunday (1/7/24)

Ushers: Bob Wallace & Phil Davis

Reader: Judy & Betty Haynes

Prayer: Rita

Communion: J. & M. Nesdaal

Fellowship: T. Hofer & K. Williamson

CALENDAR

Today, 12/31/2023—1st Sunday of Christmas

9:00am—NO Sunday School/Adult Bible Study

10:00am—Worship

11:00am—Fellowship—coffee only

Monday, 1/1/2024

ALL DAY—Happy New Year!

Wednesday, 1/3/2024

3:30pm—NO Confirmation Class

Thursday, 1/4/2024

9:30am—*No Quilting*

Saturday, 1/6/2024

ALL DAY—Epiphany

Next Sunday, 1/7/2024—Baptism of Our Lord

9:00am—NO Sunday School/Adult Bible Study

10:00am—Worship w/Holy Communion

11:00am—Fellowship

Every day:

An opportunity to show we are Christians by our love.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Mission of the Month for: Nov. – Dec.: FOOD PANTRY
- Noisy offering: Collected on the 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month for the mission of the month(s).
- Thank You!: To all those who provided poinsettias (to make the church look so pretty), and all those who served (ie. Readers, Ushers, Acolytes, Communion Helpers, Musicians) during our Christmas Eve Worship Service!
- Quilting: There will be no quilting until February, 2024. Quilters are in need of: Single cotton or cotton blend flat sheets. No microfiber ones. (they get into the water sources). Colors preferred blue, gray, green.

PRAYER LIST

To add or remove someone from the prayer lists, please email the church email: oslclarimoreoffice@gmail.com or call/text Roberta Stover: 218-779-0359

We pray for those in need:

Ron Petsinger Red Willow Bible Camp Country of Israel, and all countries in the world—that they come to know Christ as their Savior and Lord
Gloria Temple Lois Jemtrud Mark Sletten
Donna Willoughby (daughter of Gordon Peterson) Robbie Leake
OSLC Call Committee: *Paul Mutch, Dee Muir, Jenn Aamodt, Nancy Smith, Wayne Knudson (non-voting members: Luke Reinhold, Sadie Aamodt)*

Prayers for Homebound/Nursing Home Members:

LaVonne Jacobson Vicki Sweeney Dolores Mutch
Marv Jemtrud Arlene Lilja Viola Lee

Prayers for Armed Service Members:

Robert Norman Dillon Norman

Our Savior's Mission Statement:

“**Excited by faith**, we are called to **serve all**; gathered to **WORSHIP**, **inspired** to teach, **we are our Savior's!**”