





14940 62nd St. N—Stillwater, MN 55082 www.salemlutheran.org church@salemlutheran.org | 651-439-7831

WELS Christ's Love, Our Calling.

Midweek Children's Program

Did You Know? — Salem Lutheran School, Grades K-4

Welcome! Thank you for joining us for worship today. In our services we gather before our almighty God to receive his gifts and to offer him our worship and praise. Through God's powerful Word and sacraments he renews our faith and strengthens us to serve in joy.

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP: Father in heaven, we thank you for the greatest Christmas gift: a Savior born in humanity to save humanity from sin. Bless us each with faith to trust your promises that we would celebrate Christmas truly and enjoy eternity in heaven with you.

WELCOME FROM OUR PASTORS: Welcome, dear parents, families, and friends, to part one of our Salem School Christmas Program! Today we gather in the spirit of joy and celebration to honor the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ, and to share the warmth of His love through the voices and hearts of our children.

As they bring us Christmas greetings in song, word, and story, may we be reminded of the true meaning of this season—the gift of hope, peace, and salvation that came to us in a humble manger. We are delighted to have you here to rejoice together as one family in Christ, cherishing the wonder of Christmas through the eyes of our children. If you don't have a church home, we invite you back to our last midweek service next week, to our church Christmas Concert on December 20th, and to our special services on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

We invite parents to take as many pictures as you like after the service is over. Please refrain from taking them during the service so the children can present their songs without distraction. Thank you!

SERVING GOD, SERVING US:

Worship Leader: Pastor JonAlden Pedersen

Piano: Luke Dorn

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Order of Worship



Processional



Opening Welcome

Psalm 89

M: I will sing of the LORD's great love forever;

C: with my mouth I will make your faithfulness known through all generations.

M: I will declare that your love stands firm forever,

C: that you established your faithfulness in heaven itself.

M: You said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one, I have sworn to David my servant, 'I will establish your line forever,

C: and make your throne firm through all generations."

M: Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne;

C: love and faithfulness go before you.

M: Blessed are those who have learned to acclaim you,

C: who walk in the light of your presence, O LORD.

Prayer

M: Gracious Lord and Savior, who once came as a defenseless baby in the Bethlehem manger, and who will return as the King of kings and Lord of lords, be with us today as we again take a moment to reflect on the wonder and beauty of your love as it is seen in the Christmas story. Fill our hearts with joy and contentment knowing that our sins have indeed been washed away at Calvary's cross, and that we too will rise to life eternal just as you did on that glorious Easter morning. Send your Spirit into our hearts and lead us along the path of righteousness to the glory of heaven. Receive our praises as we kneel in faith before the manger-bed of our newborn Savior. In the name of Jesus. Amen.

THE PROPHECIES FORETOLD JESUS' BIRTH

Reading Genesis 3:15

I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.

Reading Genesis 49:10

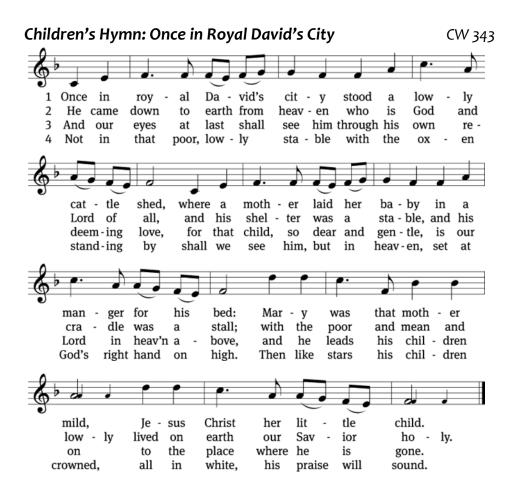
The scepter will not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until he comes to whom it belongs and the obedience of the nations is his.

Reading Isaiah 7:14

The Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel

Reading Micah 5:2

But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times.



THE BIRTH OF JESUS

Reading Luke 2:1-5

¹In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. ²(This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) ³And everyone went to their own town to register.

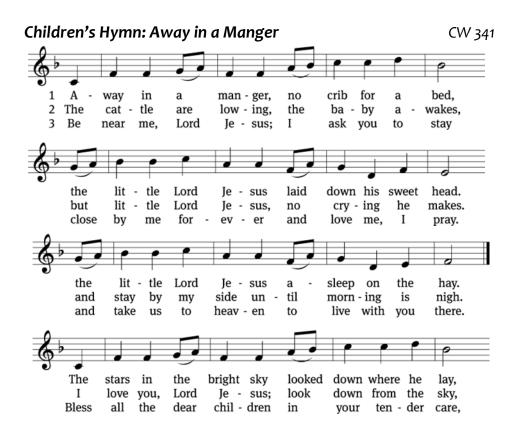
⁴So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. ⁵He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child.

Reading Psalm 46:1

God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

Reading Luke 2:6–7

⁶While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, ⁷and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.



Pastor's Message

Offering



Our members give offerings to support God's work in our church. Offerings can be put in the basket or made online by scanning the code. Visitors may give, but aren't expected to.

We ask members and visitors alike to fill out the connection card and place it in the basket now or as you leave. Please share your prayer requests that we can pray for you.





Offertory Song: Mary, Did You Know

School Children

Mary, did you know That your baby boy will one day walk on water? Mary, did you know That your baby boy will save our sons and daughters? Did you know That your baby boy has come to make you new? This child that you've delivered Will soon deliver you

Mary, did you know That your baby boy will give sight to a blind man? Mary, did you know That your baby boy will calm a storm with His hand? Did you know That your baby boy has walked where angels trod? And when you kiss your little baby You've kissed the face of God

The blind will see The deaf will hear And the dead will live again The lame will leap The dumb will speak The praises of the Lamb

Mary, did you know That your baby boy is Lord of all creation? Mary, did you know That your baby boy will one day rule the nations? Did you know That your baby boy is heaven's perfect Lamb? This sleeping child you're holding Is the Great I Am.

Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Blessing

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

C: Amen.

Anthem: Joy to the World

CW 353

The students will sing verses 1-2. The congregation sings verses 3-4.



Silent Prayer and Announcements

Worship with us Again!

Midweek service: Wednesday, December 17th at 4:00pm. (Supper to follow.)

Christmas Concert: Saturday, December 20th at 5:00pm

Christmas Eve: Wednesday, December 24th at 3:00 & 5:00pm

Christmas Day: Thursday, December 25th at 10:00am