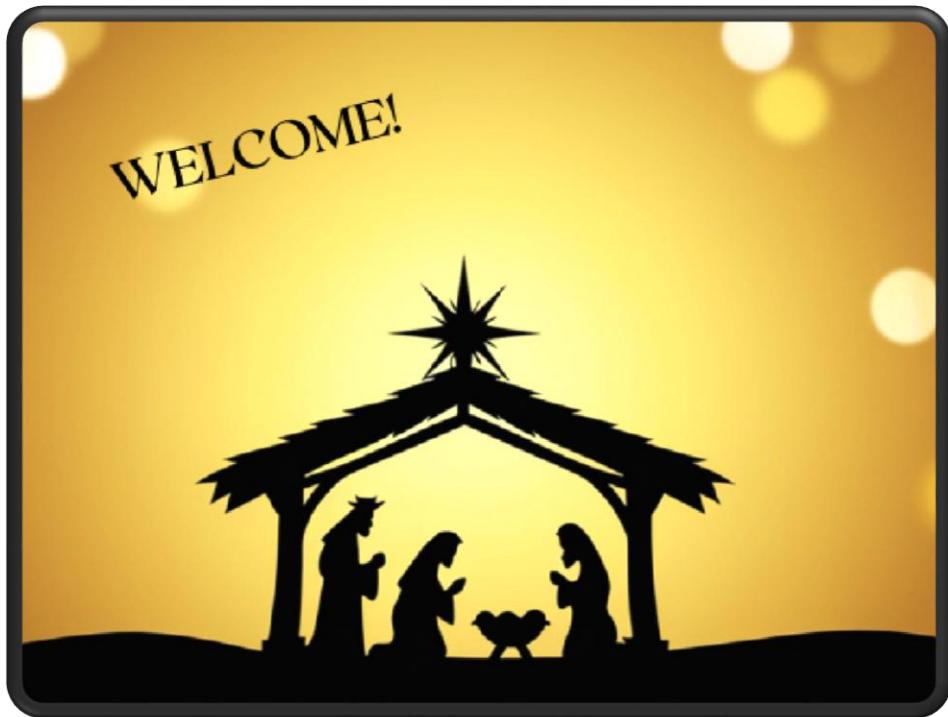




GATHERING IN COMMUNITY
GROWING IN OUR SAVIOR
GOING OUT TO SHARE HIS LOVE

DECEMBER 28, 2025
10:00AM
FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS



Opening Hymn 367 Angels from the Realms of Glory *sts. 1, ref, 2-4*

1 An - gels from the realms of glo - ry, Wing your flight o'er
 2 Shep - herds in the field a - bid - ing, Watch - ing o'er your
 3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, Bright - er vi - sions
 4 Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, Watch - ing long in

all the earth; Ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,
 flocks by night, God with us is now re - sid - ing,
 beam a - far; Seek the great De - sire of na - tions,
 hope and fear, Sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing,

Now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth.
 Yon - der shines the In - fant Light.
 Ye have seen His na - tal star.
 In His tem - ple shall ap - pear.

Refrain

Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship;

Wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771-1854, alt. Tune: Henry T. Smart, 1813-79 Text and tune: Public domain

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
 C Amen.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
 C who made heaven and earth.

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
 C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

P Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sharing in the Peace

(People may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22-24; Eph. 4:1-3).)

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 63:7-14

*⁷I will recount the steadfast love of the LORD,
the praises of the LORD,
according to all that the LORD has granted us,
and the great goodness to the house of Israel
that he has granted them according to his compassion,
according to the abundance of his steadfast love.*

*⁸For he said, "Surely they are my people,
children who will not deal falsely."*

And he became their Savior.

*⁹In all their affliction he was afflicted,
and the angel of his presence saved them;
in his love and in his pity he redeemed them;
he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.*

*¹⁰But they rebelled
and grieved his Holy Spirit;
therefore he turned to be their enemy,
and himself fought against them.*

*¹¹Then he remembered the days of old,
of Moses and his people.
Where is he who brought them up out of the sea
with the shepherds of his flock?*

*Where is he who put in the midst of them
his Holy Spirit,
12who caused his glorious arm
to go at the right hand of Moses,
who divided the waters before them
to make for himself an everlasting name,
13who led them through the depths?
Like a horse in the desert,
they did not stumble.
14Like livestock that go down into the valley,
the Spirit of the LORD gave them rest.
So you led your people,
to make for yourself a glorious name.*

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Galatians 4:4–7

4When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, 5to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. 6And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” 7So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 2:13–23

13When [the wise men] had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” 14And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt 15and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, “Out of Egypt I called my son.”

16Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, became furious, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had ascertained from the wise men. 17Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah:

*18“*A voice was heard in Ramah, weeping and loud lamentation,
Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be comforted, because they are no more.*”*

¹⁹But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, ²⁰saying, "Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead." ²¹And he rose and took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. ²²But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. ²³And he went and lived in a city called Nazareth, that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled: "He shall be called a Nazarene."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Sermon

Vicar Mark Chaffee

Prayer of the Church

Offering

Offertory

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow (LSB 805)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. In the beginning You created all things by Your Word; and in the fullness of time Your Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth.

Let Your Word made flesh dwell richly among us that, faithfully eating His body and drinking His blood, we may receive the fullness of Your grace and truth in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

The Words of Our Lord

C Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My T body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My T blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Distribution

Communion Hymns: LSB 277, Brown 538, Brown 552

Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.

C We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. C Amen.

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look upon you with favor and grant you peace.

C Amen.

Closing Hymn Brown 550 Go Tell it on the Mountain

Dismissal

P Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Announcements

Preparing for Holy Communion: The Bible teaches us that we need to examine ourselves before coming to the Lord's Supper (1 Cor 11: (I Cor11:23-31). Please examine yourself with these four questions. 1. Are you sorry for your sins? (I John 1:8) 2. Do you believe that Jesus is your Savior who forgives all your sins? (I Timothy 1:15) 3. Are you determined to live a holy life? (Ephesians 2:10) 4. Do you believe that Christ's Body and Blood are present in, with, and under the bread and wine in the Lord's Supper, thus you receive all four elements? (Matthew 26:26-28)

Nominations: Please submit nominations for potential Elder candidates to Brian Dollard, our head Elder and nominations for positions on the Church Council (financial officer, secretary and member-at-large) to Heather Baird or Mark Stuart. Elections will be held at a Voters Assembly on Sunday, January 25th.

Grief Share - Need help dealing with grief, consider [Grief Share](#) - a safe, welcoming place where people understand the difficult emotions of grief. Through these 13 week group gatherings, you will discover what to expect in the days ahead and what's "normal" in grief. The meetings will occur in the church office conference room on Sunday afternoons, beginning on January 11th, 2026, from 1:30pm - 3:30pm. Contact Cathy Kilpatrick for more information.

Night To Shine, a prom for people with disabilities, will be held at Our Savior's on Feb 13th This is a unique opportunity to let Jesus' love shine through us to our honored guests and their parents and caregivers. We need volunteers for this event, particularly buddies to accompany our guests. You may register as a NTS volunteer through our church website (oslabany.org). You may also provide financial support for this *Night To Shine* event by sponsoring one or more of our guests, using a special offering envelope or by giving on line through our church website. One generous donor has offered to match any sponsorship gifts up to \$1000.

Vicar Mark Chaffee's office hours are 9 a.m.-noon, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays. You may also reach him by cell phone: 518/763-1085 or via email: mark.chaffee@oursaviors.com

Pastor Patrick Singh is serving as part time vacancy pastor at Our Savior's, providing pastoral care and leadership in cooperation with Vicar Mark. You may contact Pastor Singh by email: patrick204642003@yahoo.com or by cell phone (917/254-2597) if you wish to talk or schedule a time to meet with him.

PRAYER NEEDS

Healing: Christine Baird, Barbara Bruso, Fred Dignon, Kathy Hawley, Phyllis Lubiniecki, Barbara MacGowan, Patty Marshall, Jennifer Noble, George Swint, Eric Unright, Dave Wolcott, Al & Helen Walck, Joan & Walter Weis, Lori & Peter Whitehouse, Tim Zuelsdorf, **Homebound:** Inge Glidden

Assisted Living: Christine Baird, Lynn Currier, Marga Hildenbrandt, Lois O'Brien

Prayer for Becky Sommers, Science and Math teacher for Middle School students attending Our Savior's Christian School. Bless Becky as she guides her students in critical thinking in the areas of math and science, while continuing to point them to Jesus, the Source of all Truth.

Servers:

Organist: Pam Reynolds

Communion Servers: Jeremy & Jennifer Noble

Pray-ers: Ike & Sue Wallace

Ushers: Clarence Ballou, Matthew Hans

Contact us

Church office phone: (518)459-2248

Email – Information@oursaviors.com

Website - oslalbany.org



Support Our Savior's Lutheran Church

To make your offering: Simply scan the QR code



or mail checks directly to the church office at: 63 Mountain View Ave Albany, NY 12205.

Thank you for your support!

