

Christmas Eve *Service*



Welcome to Outdoor Worship at OSLC!

Please adhere to the following COVID policies:

- Remain masked for your entire duration of time at OSLC
- Keep a six foot distance from those not in your household/group at all times
- Please do not use your singing voice during the songs (a quiet hum is okay)
- Please sign in via the QR Code (on the next page) or via the sign in sheet located at the parking lot entrance. This is for contact tracing only—we will not contact you unless there is a COVID outbreak.

Thank you and Merry Christmas!

this night, we are
**THOSE WHO
DREAM**
christmas eve

**OUR SAVIOURS LUTHERAN CHURCH
CHRISTMAS EVE OUTDOOR WORSHIP**

www.our-saviours.org

Pastor Leta Arndt Behrens, Pastor Michael Stadtmueller, Intern Pastor Jon Fry

We ask that you please sign in:

1. Via QR Code:

Pull out your smartphone and open your camera app.

Point the camera towards the QR Code

Image & click on the notification box that pops up.

This should take you to the sign-in page.



2. Via Internet Browser:

Open up our-saviours.org and in the top right-hand corner, you'll see the link to sign in.

Mission Statement

"Our Saviour's Lutheran Church welcomes all to the love of Christ through Worshipping, Learning, and Serving."

Welcome Statement

We are a Christian community committed to ministry in Fort Collins and the world. We rejoice in the manner in which diversity has enriched, nurtured and challenged our lives and the ministry we share in Christ, and we invite all to participate in Word and Sacrament without discrimination due to race, creed, sexual orientation, gender identity, or financial status.

GATHERING

WELCOME

HALLELUJAH

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: This year, we dreamed of world peace.

All: We dreamed of deep breaths and restful sleep.

One: We dreamed of love that lasts and suffering that passes.

All: We dreamed of doors open wide and a cure to disease.

One: We dreamed, because to dream is to believe.

All: For to dream is to hope; to dream is to see.

One: So make room in your being to dream yet again,

All: Of a world without fear, and a God that draws near.

One: For it is almost Christmas.

All: Love is almost here.

One: May we dream to see, and hope to believe. Let us worship Holy God.

CANDLE LIGHTING

One: In the beginning, God dreamed of a beautiful world.

All: In Egypt, the Israelites dreamed of freedom.

One: In the wilderness, the people dreamed of safety.

All: In Jerusalem, the people dreamed of a Messiah.

One: In Bethlehem, the shepherds and Wise Men dreamed of a new beginning.

All: Then, several years later, Jesus walked this earth and dreams came true.

One: The sick were healed.

All: The poor had food.

One: The forgotten and ignored were seen.

All: The children were welcomed.

One: Everyone was invited to the table, and the world has never been the same.

All: So tonight, we are those who dream.

One: Tonight, we dream the same dreams of our ancestors before us.

All: Tonight, we dream of justice and mercy, of love and kindness, of peace and hope.

One: Tonight we dream of a God that draws near to us out of unfailing love.

All: May this candle be a reminder that there will be a day when every dream will be fulfilled.

And until then, we will be those who dream. Let us worship Holy God.

Ring Bells Together!



WORD

READING: Isaiah 9:2-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

The Word of the Lord, **Thanks be to God**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Angels We Have Heard on High Verse 1

(You may Ring your bells along with the music!)



GOSPEL: Luke 2: 1-20

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!” When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Angels We Have Heard on High Verse 3

(You may Ring your bells along with the music!)



CHILDRENS SERMON Pastor Leta Arndt Behrens

SERMON Pastor Michael Stadtmueller

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

One: We believe in hope.

All: We believe that to hope is to dream with our eyes wide open.

One: We believe in peace.

All: We believe that peace is not found by accident. Prepare the way.

One: We believe in joy.

All: We believe that joy is angel choruses and gifts from the Magi,

As well as soul food, big tables,

Open doors, candle light, fireside,

Singing in the shower, and the body of Christ gathered as one.

One: We believe in love.

All: We believe that God loves us so much that God could not stay away.

So God showed up as a child.

We believe that that love is real, and we know that it changes us.

One: Therefore, we believe in the power of dreams,

All: And we believe that nightmares, which are all too real here and now,

Will have no place in God's promised day.

All: We believe.

Help our unbelief.

Amen.

PRAYER SONG *Love Has Come* Verse 1

Ring Bells Together!



PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

We come to you tonight with dreams tucked into our pockets,

admitting that at times it feels risky to dream.

At times it feels risky to ask for too much, to believe in that which we cannot see.

So instead we make wishes on stars and search for luck in clover fields.

Instead of sinking into you, we try to control the narrative.

However, somewhere rumbling deep in our heart,

there is a dream of a better world,

trapped like a caged bird.

Open our eyes to you in our midst.

Give us the confidence of Mary to sing into the mystery.

Dust your dream for us off the shelves of our hearts until once more, we are those who dream. Amen.

PRAYER SONG Love Has Come Verse 3

Ring Bells Together!



OFFERING & OFFERING SONG Chancel Choir

MEAL

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

SHARING IN COMMUNION

Communion Song- *What Child is This?*

(You may Ring your bells along with the music!)



PASSING OF THE LIGHT Silent Night sung by OSLC Youth

You may light your candle from the luminary bag near you and pass the light from within your household grouping. Please do not pass the light beyond your group.

SENDING

BENEDICTION

May the Word that Mary brought to birth carry you into new and abundant life

Ring Bells

May the Word that Joseph cradled in his arms enfold you with love and strength.

Ring Bells

May the Word that angels proclaimed in song bring harmony to our world.

Ring Bells

And may the blessing of God the creator, Jesus the Son, and the Holy Spirit with us be upon you and remain with you always.

Amen. *Ring Bells*



DISMISSAL

Go in Peace, Share the Light of Christ.

Thanks be to God and we will!

POSTLUDE Recording of *Joy to the World* v1 and v2 sung by CCC Singers



WE EXTEND A SPECIAL WELCOME to all who worship here this evening to gather and celebrate that most holy event, the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Thanks to all who helped in preparation for the Christmas Eve services.

Christmas Day Outdoor In-Person Worship

Friday, December 25th at 11:00 am

Regular Weekly Sunday Worship

Outdoor In-Person 9:30 am

Online 10:30 am

Connect with us:

Facebook: OS�CFortCollins

Website: our-saviours.org

Email: office@our-saviours.org

Phone: 970-484-3133

**The church office staff will be unavailable
December 25th—27th and December 31st -January 3rd.**