

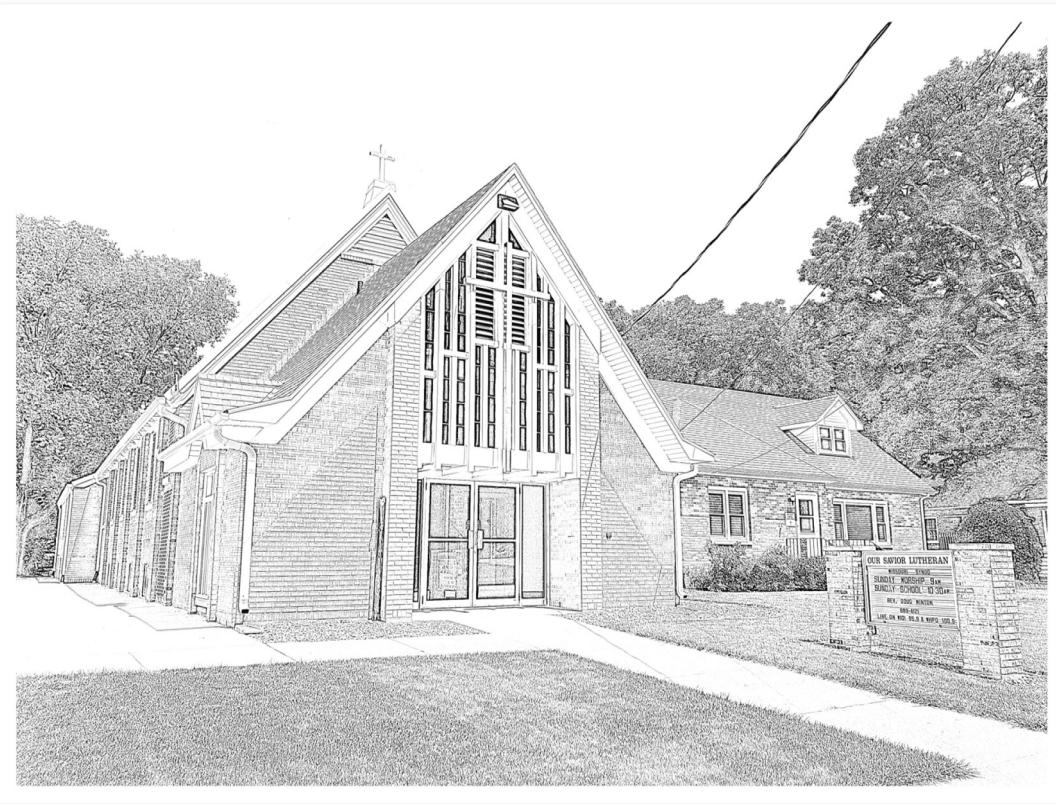
Our Savior Lutheran Church

Pastor Doug Minton

209 West Jones Street, Milford, IL

Email: pastor@oursaviormilford.com

Phone: (815) 889-4121 Cell: (507) 626-0202



First Sunday after Christmas

December 28, 2025

Matins

Prayer Before Worship

O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for the sake of His name. Amen.

Opening Hymn

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

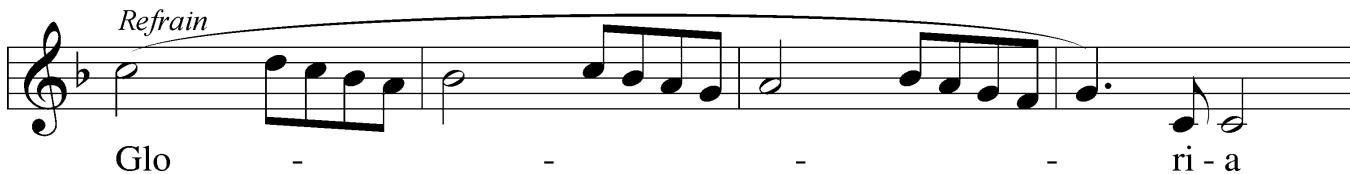
LSB 368



1 An - gels we have heard on high, Sweet - ly sing-ing o'er the plains,
2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro-long?
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing;



And the moun-tains in re - ply, Ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
What the glad - some tid - ings be Which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.



Refrain

Glo - - - - - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - - - - -



- ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - - o.

Text: tr. The Crown of Jesus, 1862, Part 2, London, alt.

Text and tune: French

Text and tune: Public domain

L O Lord, o - pen my lips,
C and my mouth will de - clare Your praise.

L Make haste, O God, to de - liv - er me;
C make haste to help me, O Lord.

C Glo-ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it;
as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.

Praise to You, O Christ. Al - le - lu - ia.

L Blessed be God, the Fa - ther, the Son, and the Ho - ly Spir - it.

C O come, let us wor - ship Him.

C 1 O come, let us sing to the Lord,
 2 For the Lord is a great God
 3 The sea is His, for He made it,

5 Glory be to the Father and to the Son

1 let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal - va - tion.
 2 and a great king a - bove all gods.
 3 and His hand formed the dry land.

5 and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;

1 Let us come into His presence with thanks - giv - ing,
 2 The deep places of the earth are in His hand;
 3 O come, let us worship and bow down,
 4 For He is our God,
 5 as it was in the be - gin ning,

1 let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise.
2 the strength of the hills is His al - so.
3 let us kneel before the Lord, our mak - er.
4 and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.
5 is now, and will be for - - - ev - er. A - men.

A musical staff in G major (two sharps) and common time. The staff begins with a treble clef, followed by two sharps, and then a bass clef. It contains six measures of music. The first measure has an open circle (G). The second measure has two open circles (B) and a solid circle (D). The third measure has a solid circle (D) and an open circle (G). The fourth measure has an open circle (G) and two open circles (B). The fifth measure has a solid circle (D) and a solid circle (A). The sixth measure has a solid circle (A) and two open circles (B).

L Blessed be God, the Fa-ther, the Son, and the Ho-ly Spir-it.

C O come, let us wor - ship Him.

Introit

Jeremiah 31:15-17; antiphon: Hosea 11:1

When Israel was a child, I | loved him,*
and out of Egypt I | called my son.

Thus says the LORD: “A voice is heard in | Ramah,*
lamentation and bitter | weeping.

Rachel is weeping for her | children;*
she refuses to be comforted for her children, because they | are no
more.”

**Thus says the LORD: “Keep your voice from | weeping,*
and your | eyes from tears,**

for there is a reward for your work, declares the LORD,*
and they shall come back from the land of the enemy.

**There is hope for your future, de- | clares the LORD,*
and your children shall come back to their own | country.”**

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the beginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

When Israel was a child, I | loved him,*
and out of Egypt I | called my son.

Office Hymn

“Let All Together Praise Our God”

LSB 389



1 Let all to - geth - er praise our God Be - fore His
 2 He leaves His heav'n - ly Fa - ther's throne, Is born an
 3 With - in an earth - born form He hides His all - cre -
 4 He un - der - takes a great ex - change, Puts on our



glo - rious throne; To - day He o - pens heav'n a - gain To
 in - fant small, And in a man - ger, poor and lone, Lies
 at - ing light; To serve us all He hum - bly cloaks The
 hu - man frame, And in re - turn gives us His realm, His



give us His own Son, To give us His own Son.
 in a hum - ble stall, Lies in a hum - ble stall.
 splen - dor of His might, The splen - dor of His might.
 glo - ry, and His name, His glo - ry, and His name.

5 He is a servant, I a lord:
 How great a mystery!
 How strong the tender Christ Child's love!
 No truer friend than He,
 No truer friend than He.

6 He is the key and He the door
 To bles - sèd paradise;
 The angel bars the way no more.
 To God our praises rise,
 To God our praises rise.

△7 Your grace in lowliness revealed,
 Lord Jesus, we adore
 And praise to God the Father yield
 And Spirit evermore;
 We praise You evermore.

Text (sts. 1, 3-7): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913-2001; (st. 2): tr. August Crull, 1845-1923, alt.

Text and tune: Nicolaus Herman, c. 1480-1561

Text (sts. 1, 3-7): © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001355

Text (st. 2) and tune: Public domain

L A reading from Isaiah, chapter 63.

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.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

L A reading from Galatians, chapter 4.

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.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

L A reading from Matthew, chapter 2.

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

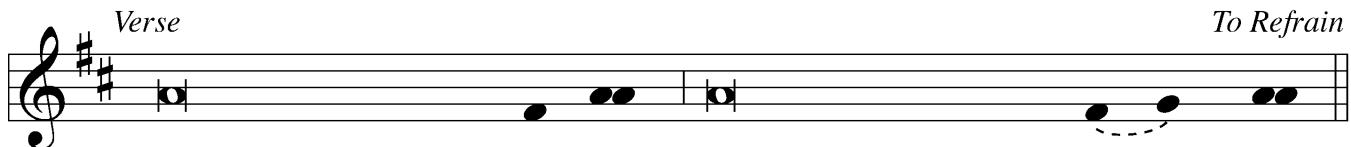
what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled: “He shall be called a Nazarene.”

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Common Responsory

LSB 221



Verse

L 1 Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.
2 Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.
3 Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it.



To Refrain

C Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glo-ry dwells.

Sermon

“Innocent Suffering and Death”
Matthew 2:13-23

C 1 We praise You, O God; we acknowledge You to be the Lord.
 2 Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sab - a - oth;
 3 The noble army of martyrs praise You.

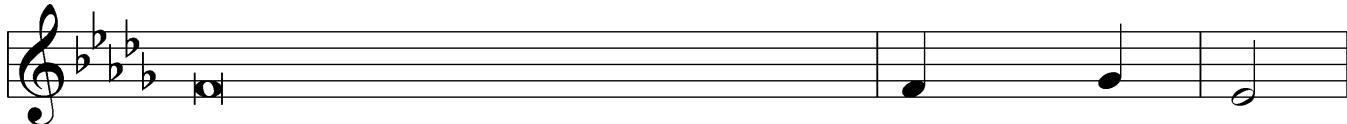
1 All the earth now worships You, the Fa-ther ev - er - last - ing.
 2 heaven and earth are full of the majes - ty of Your glo - ry.
 3 The holy Church throughout all the world does ac - knowl-edge You:

1 To You all angels cry aloud, the heavens and all the pow'rs there - in.
 2 The glorious company of the apostles praise You.
 3 The Father of an infinite majesty; Your adorable, true, and on - ly Son;
 4 You are the king of glory, O Christ;

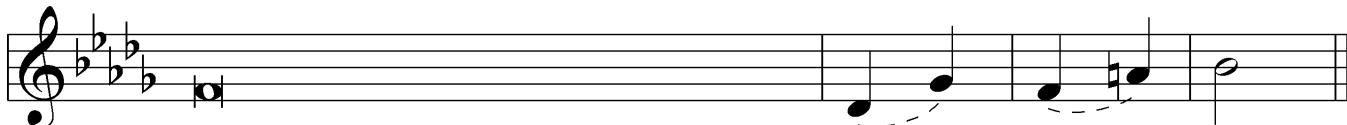
1 To You cherubim and seraphim con - tin - ual - ly do cry:
 2 The goodly fellowship of the proph - ets praise You.
 3 also the Holy Ghost, the Com - fort - er.
 4 You are the everlasting Son of the Fa - ther.

5 When You took upon Yourself to de - liv - er man,
 6 You sit at the right hand of God

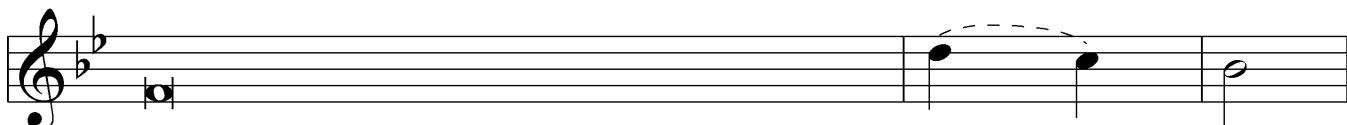
5 You humbled Yourself to be born of a vir - - gin.
 6 in the glory of the Fa - ther.



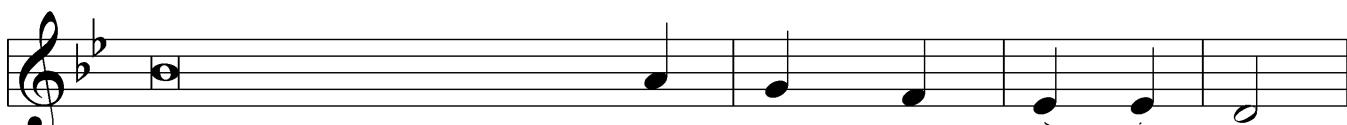
5 When You had overcome the sharpness of death,
6 We believe that You will come



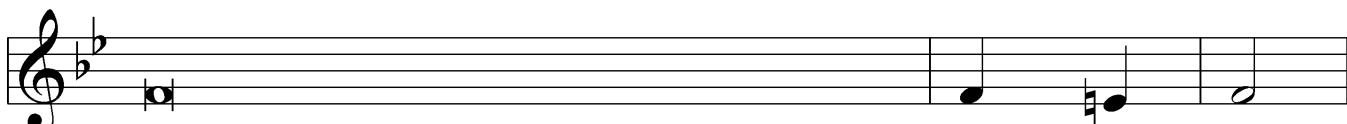
5 You opened the kingdom of heaven to all be - liev - ers.
6 to be our judge.



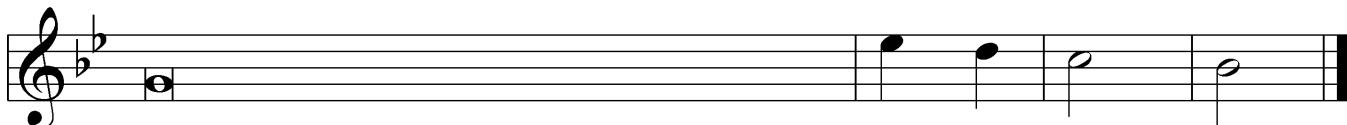
7 We therefore pray You to help Your ser - vants,
8 O Lord, save Your people and bless Your . . . her - i - tage.
9 Grant, O Lord, to keep us this day with - out sin.



7 whom You have redeem - ed with Your pre - cious blood.
8 Govern them and lift . . . them up for - ev - er.
9 O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy up - on us.



7 Make them to be numbered with Your saints
8 Day by day we magni - fy You.
9 O Lord, let Your mercy be upon us, as our trust is in You.



7 in glory ev - er - last - ing.
8 And we worship Your name for - ever and ev - er.
9 O Lord, in You have I trusted; let me never be con - found - ed.

Offering

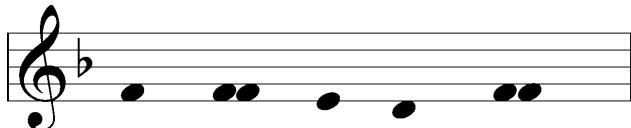


C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

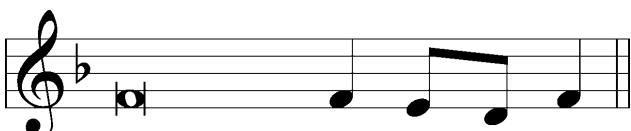
Lord's Prayer

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.

Collects



L O Lord, hear my prayer.



C And let my cry come to You.

Prayer of the Church

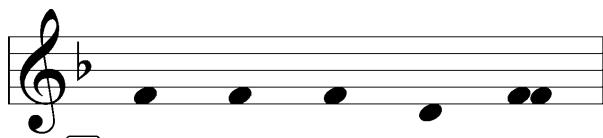
P In peace let us pray to the Lord:
C Lord, have mercy.

Collect of the Day

Collect for Grace

Benedicamus

LSB 228



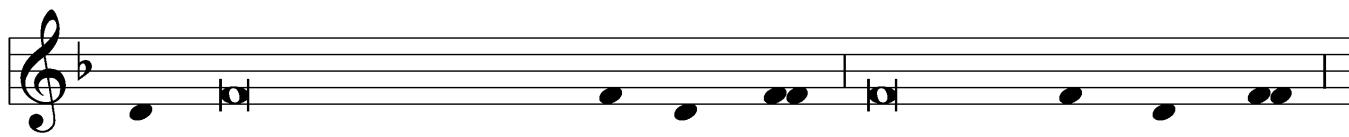
L Let us bless the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

LSB 228



P The grace of our Lord [†] Je - sus Christ and the love of God



and the communion of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.



C A - men.

Closing Hymn

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

LSB 380



1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, “Glo - ry to the new - born King;
2 Christ, by high - est heav’n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
3 Hail, the heav’n-born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righ-teous-ness!



Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!”
Late in time be - hold Him come, Off - spring of a vir-gin’s womb.
Light and life to all He brings, Ris’n with heal - ing in His wings.



Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God-head see, Hail the in-car - nate De - i - ty!
Mild He lays His glo - ry by, Born that man no more may die,



With the an - gel - ic host pro - claim, “Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!”
Pleased as Man with man to dwell, Je - sus, our Im - man - u - el!
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them sec - ond birth.



Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88, alt.
Tune: Felix Mendelssohn, 1809–47
Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Matins from Lutheran Service Book

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Events This Week

Today: Worship at OSLC, 9am
Today: Worship at Good Shepherd, 11:30am
Tuesday: *Bulletin Deadline, 10am*
Tuesday: Pastor Vacation starts
Fri - Mon: Pastor out of town

Those Serving at OSLC

	12/28/25	1/4/26
Elder	Neil Rieches	Justin Schroeder
Organist	Theta Lee	Linda Kellerhals
Radio Monitors	Patrick and Dawn Teig	Dean Lingley Patty Bruens
Sound Board	Patty Bruens	Kendra Morts
Greeters	Pastor and Renee Minton	Norman and MaryAnne Anderson
Acolyte	Hailey Schwartz	Avery Schroeder
Head Usher	Elders	Landon Reutter
Altar Guild	Sheila Selk Patty Bruens	Renee and Anna Minton

Announcements

WOMEN'S CARE CLINIC OF DANVILLE: As you shop this holiday season, prayerfully consider turning your purchases into PURPOSE by helping support families that are choosing life. You can purchase baby items from their Amazon Wish List to fill their Baby Market with essentials that moms can earn by completing their educational goals. Visit <https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/W8GZQPHS8E9T> to view and make purchases. Thank you for helping!

JANUARY IS LIFE MONTH: Women's Care Clinic in Danville continues to care for those faced with an unexpected pregnancy. They provide pregnancy tests, ultrasounds, counsel, and prayer to many in our community. As we have done in the past, please pick up a Baby Bottle from the narthex to fill with money during the month of January. You can also donate baby items – diapers, wipes, lotions, sleepers, etc. Please return filled bottles and baby items by Sunday, February 8, 2025.

THANK YOU to those that donated cookies, candy, milk, and juice for our Cookie Reception after the Sunday School program last week. Your generosity is appreciated.

THANK YOU to everyone that came and had a meal and time of fellowship before our Advent Services. We were able to bless others with your generous offerings.

OFFICE HOURS AND SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK:

Pastor and Renee will be in the office Monday, December 29.

Pastor will be on vacation Tuesday, December 30 – January 5, returning to the office on Tuesday, January 6.

Pastor will be out of Milford Friday, January 2 – January 5.

If a need arises, he can be reached on his cell phone.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4 SERVICE will be led by Rev. Dennis Fangmeyer. Rev. Fangmeyer is from Indianapolis. There will not be communion on January 4, 2026. Communion in January will be the 11th and 18th.

UPDATES FOR THE 2026 DIRECTORY are needed. During the month of January, I will be updating the church directory. **Please look over your information and any other members of your family listed.** Send me any changes or corrections to your address, phone number, or email address by January 28. If you have tried to call someone using the information in the directory and it no longer works, please let me know that as well. Thanks for helping me keep information up to date.

WE WILL UNDECORATE THE SANCTUARY next Sunday following service. All help is appreciated.

THE SMALL CHURCH SUMMIT for Winter 2026 will feature a presentation by SID President Heath Curtis titled “The Small Town Lutheran Church.” Sectionals will be on “Shepherding our Strays,” technology in small churches, and safety standards.

St. Paul Lutheran Church, Lexington – on Feb. 21 or (if weather is bad then the date is Feb. 28)

Sign-in will be at 9:30 a.m., opening devotion will commence at 10:00, and closing prayer will be at 2:30 p.m. Register by January 3, 2026 at <https://forms.gle/eujwE5hmRC48wF7MA> If you think your church is small, YOU are invited. And everyone is welcome!

LUTHERANS FOR LIFE QUOTE: “Look back at how God changed you. Look ahead to what God promises for you. The future looks bright when you’re connected to the crucified and risen Lord Jesus. May the Lord continue to strengthen you to live in your baptismal grace all the days of your life.” *Rev. Peter Sulze, St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls, Minnesota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

Prayer List

Those celebrating a birthday:

Jahni Lavicka	Tuesday
Randall Schleef	Friday

Those suffering from cancer:

Linda Buhrmester
Ethel Lucht
Nancy Tobeck
Joey, radio listener
Dale Colvin, cousin of Jim Winder
Janet Doyle, friend of Patty Bruens
Tim Evans, brother in law of Bob Storm
Lisa High, friend of Becky Hiles
Kris Hines, daughter in law of Bonita Hines
Kendra Howard, niece of Doug Benner
Pamela Howard, sister of Doug Benner
Joe Judd, brother in law of Dennis Selk
Sue Schreier, friend of Renee Minton
Fred Wright, brother of Marvin Wright

Those requesting your prayers:

Larry Tobeck, recovering from surgery

Homebound Members

Dianne Estes	Joann Sloan
Delmer Henrichs	Brenda St. Peter
Mary Kamin	

Those serving in our Armed Forces and our local Law Enforcement, especially those connected to the OSLC family:

Armed Forces

Karl Gibbs - serving as a chaplain in the U.S. Navy

Justin McGahan - Milford community member, serving in the U.S. Army

Corey Moore - OSLC Member and son of Kevin and Kasey Moore, serving in the U.S. Marine Reserves

Timothy Raddatz - nephew of Phil and Cindy Raddatz, serving in the U.S. Coast Guard

Kaleb Waldbeser - friend of Bob and Donna Flesher, serving in the U.S. Marine Corp.

Law Enforcement

Wyatt Alt - Iroquois County Sheriff Department

Central Illinois District Congregations: Risen Savior in Buffalo during their vacancy.

Iroquois Circuit Congregations: Immanuel in Loda and St. Peter in Thawville and Earl Kinnee as he preaches for them.

Those studying at the Seminary:

Seminarian Simon Niemtschk, Concordia Seminary, St Louis, MO.

Vicar Jacob Bergstedt, Redeemer Lutheran, Gresham, OR.

Those serving in the Mission Field:

Rev. Jordan Andreasen, his wife Alison, and children, Abigail, Bethany, Benjamin, Aaron, and Ethan, our international missionary, currently serving in Romania. Rev. Andreasen works with the Confessional Lutheran Church in Romania and in the surrounding Balkan-Mediterranean subregion.

