



OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

138 3rd Street NW, Valley City, ND 58072

(701) 845 - 1328 | oursaviorsvc.org

JULY 26th, 2026, 9:30 am + CHRISTMAS IN JULY

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (*please rise in body and/or spirit)

P: In the Name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Let us chase away the darkness, and welcome Jesus into our lives.

(a moment of silence for reflection)

P: Mary accepted your call to be the mother of Jesus:

C: Forgive our stubborn doubts and failures of faith.

P: Your Son was born in a humble stable:

C: Forgive our neglect of the poor and needy.

P: The shepherds left their flocks and went to Bethlehem:

C: Forgive our slowness to move and take action.

P: The Magi followed the Star to find the Savior:

C: Forgive our reluctance to seek and worship you.

P: And the Angel said, "You shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." With joy, I announce to you the forgiveness of all your sins, in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen! Thanks be to God!

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you always.
And also with you."

KYRIE

pg. 138

CAROL OF PRAISE

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

#283

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, **you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

CAROL

"The First Noel" (v.1)

#300

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

ADVENT HYMN:

"Light One Candle to Watch for the Messiah" (vs.1-4)

#240

FIRST READING: Isaiah 9:2-7

This poem promises deliverance from Assyrian oppression, a hope based on the birth of a royal child with a name full of promise. While Judah's king will practice justice and righteousness, the real basis for faith lies in God's passion for the people: The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this!

² 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. ³ You have multiplied exultation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. ⁴ 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. ⁵ For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. ⁶ 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. ⁷ Great will be his authority, 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.

Response: The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 96 (Read Responsively)

¹ Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.

² **Sing to the LORD, bless the name of the LORD; proclaim God's salvation from day to day.**

³ Declare God's glory among the nations and God's wonders among all peoples.

⁴ **For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised, more to be feared than all gods.**

⁵ As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; but you, O LORD, have made the heavens.

⁶ **Majesty and magnificence are in your presence; power and splendor are in your sanctuary.**

⁷ Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD honor and power.

⁸ **Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the holy name; bring offerings and enter the courts of the LORD.**

⁹ Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; tremble before the LORD, all the earth.

¹⁰ **Tell it out among the nations: "The LORD is king! The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will judge the peoples with equity."**

¹¹ Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that is therein.

¹² **Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your coming, O LORD, for you come to judge the earth.**

¹³ You will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with your truth.

SECOND READING: Titus 2:11-14

The appearance of God's grace in Jesus Christ brings salvation for all humanity. Consequently, in the present we live wisely and justly while also anticipating the hope of our Savior's final appearance.

¹¹ The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, ¹² training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, ¹³ while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. ¹⁴ He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Response: The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: (*please rise in body and/or spirit) "Joyous Light of Heavenly Glory"(v.1) #561

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 2nd chapter...***Glory to you, O Lord.***

GOSPEL: Luke 2 1-20

¹ In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴ 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. ⁵ He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷ 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 in the guest room. ⁸ Now in that same region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ 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: ¹¹ to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, ¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" ¹⁵ 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." ¹⁶ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child, ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them, ¹⁹ and Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, just as it had been told them.

Response: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

APOSTLE'S CREED (*please rise in body and/or spirit)

p. 105

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.*

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SHARING OF THE PEACE

THANKSGIVING FOR OFFERING AND PRAYER

(offering plates are located on the table at the back of the sanctuary. The offering plates are brought forward during the singing of our offering hymn.)

OFFERING HYMN:

"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"

#282

HOLY COMMUNION

p. 152

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

p.153

It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy...we join their unending hymn:

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.*

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

p. 154

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.

COMMUNION HYMNS

**"What Child Is This" #296
"O Little Child of Bethlehem" #279**

DISTRIBUTION

POST COMMUNION PRAYER (*please rise in body and/or spirit)

p. 146

CANDLE LIGHTING AND PRAYER

*As ushers come down the aisle, we pass the light from one candle to another
by tilting the UNLIT candle towards the lit candle.*

CANDLE LIGHT CAROL

"Silent Night, Holy Night"

#281

CHRISTMAS BLESSING

May the everlasting God enfold you in blessing, may the embrace of the Holy Child ✝ comfort you, and may the Spirit's light shine upon you and keep you this night and always. **Amen.**

CHRISTMAS PROCLAMATION & SENDING

Christ the Savior is born! Repeat the sounding joy, proclaim this good news.
Glory to God in the highest, and peace to all on earth!

Candles may be extinguished prior to the Sending Hymn.

HYMN

"Joy to the World" (vs.1-4)

#267

SENDING (p. 146)

Go in peace. Keep awake. **Thanks be to God.**

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GIVE ONLINE

We, Our Savior's Lutheran Church, welcome all to share Christ's love, grow in faith, and to live a life of service glorifying God.

Today's Radio Broadcast is sponsored by Derrel Diegel in memory of his wife, Beverly.

Preschool Sunday School Open House - Families with preschool children entering kindergarten in 2027 are invited to a Sunday School Open House on Sunday, July 19 from 4-5pm where they will have a chance to learn more about our Sunday School program, meet caring adults and youth, and participate in fun activities. This is a great chance to welcome and invite friends and neighbors who are not yet connected with Our Savior's. All are welcome!

Splash into Faith - Registration Open - All families with Children K-6 are invited to register for a fun water themed day of VBS at Chautauqua Park (Dakota Pavillion) on Wednesday, August 5th from 9:30-2pm. Adult and Youth Volunteers are need to welcome families and greet children. This event is open to the whole community and a great chance to connect with non-member families. Red Willow staff will lead activities, camp songs, and games.

Great Plains Foodbank Distribution - Epworth UMC is hosting the next food distribution on Tuesday, August 4 from 1:30pm - 3pm. Volunteers are needed to help distribute food to local households

The Summer Grocery Store through The Bridges Backpack Program will be open again this year. It will be open every Wednesday evening from June 4 through August 6, 5-7pm. Enter the High School through door #W6 and watch for the OPEN sign by the door. This is a free program open to everyone during the summer when school lunches are not available. The program receives some food from the Great Plains Food Bank but is also supported by local churches and organizations. Perishable items such as fresh fruits and veggies, and refrigerated or frozen items, can be dropped off at Faith Lutheran Church and they will make sure they are given to the Store. Suggested donation items include: canned chicken or tuna, soup, fruit, ravioli, Spaghetti O's, boxed cereal, pasta and mac & cheese, Hamberger Helper, potato chips, syrup, baking items and rice. These items can be left in the tote in the Gathering Area here at OSLC. **Donation checks can be made out to and mailed to: Bridges Backpack Program, Inc, 674 10th Ave SW, Valley City, ND 58072.** If you would like to volunteer on one of these Wednesdays, please contact Pr Jared or the office.

Radio Broadcasts: There are currently many Sundays open to sponsor. Please contact Ann in the office if you would like to help with this important outreach ministry. If you have a special Sunday in mind, please reserve it as soon as possible to ensure it is available. The cost to sponsor each Sunday broadcast is \$100.

Good Samaritans Quilters are always looking for used sheets and fabric: the quilters are asking, as you clean closets and downsize, to keep them in mind. They are looking for used sheets (no white, please) and fabric (cotton preferred). If you have questions, please contact Ann in the office.

IN OUR PRAYERS:

We're continuing a practice at Our Savior's to be mindful of our prayer for one another. Each week, staff will be praying for, and congregation members are encouraged to pray for families of the congregation, by name. This week we pray for Brian Bitz, Melissa Bitz, Loren Bjerke, Doris Blume and Judy Bowen families. *"First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone" 1 Timothy 2:1*

A look ahead at the week of July 26th to August 2nd, 2026.

TODAY: 8:45 am | Coffee and Fellowship
 9:30 am | Worship
 9:30 am | Facebook Worship Livestream
 11:00 am | KOVC 1490 AM/96.3 FM Radio Broadcast

MON: 6:30 pm | PEO

TUES: 9:00 am | Quilters
 1:30 pm | Text Study

WEDS: 9:30 am | Bible Study

SAT: 7:30 am | Men's Bible Fellowship

SUN (7/26): 8:45 am | Coffee and Fellowship
 9:30 am | Worship – Christmas in July
 9:30 am | Facebook Worship Livestream
 11:00 am | KOVC 1490 AM/96.3 F Radio Broadcast

