

# Good News!



## PUBLICATION OF BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH 1947-2025

Advent is Here!

by The Rev. Leah R. Lawson

Happy New Year - well at least according to the church calendar! By the time you read this article, we will be in the season of Advent. During this very busy time of the year, I hope that you will take some time for intentional rest and reflection. One way to take a break is to join for Wednesdays in Advent! Please join us on December 3, 10, and 17 for our Advent Soup & Sandwich Supper at 6:15 PM and Holden Evening Prayer at 7:00 PM.

Back by popular demand, it was decided to go back to our traditional format for these suppers. Please bring your favorite soups, sandwiches, or desserts to share! Also, if you can help with set up or clean up, that would be greatly appreciated!

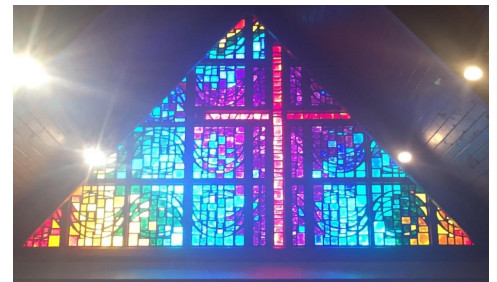
During our Holden Evening Prayer Services, I will be sharing devotions and reflections from the book, *The Advent Tree: Meeting Jesus in God's Big Story* by Kara Eidson. The book focuses on the tradition of the Jesse tree. If you are interested in purchasing a copy of the book for your own devotional time during Advent, the book is available on Amazon for \$17 plus tax and shipping. If you have any questions, please let me know. I'm excited to be sharing the Jesse Tree tradition during our time together. It will be an educational journey for all of us!

I have also invited our siblings in Christ from St. Peter's Episcopal Church, to join us for Wednesdays in Advent. I had a conversation with Mother Beverly earlier in November. They are still waiting to sell their property. As they continue waiting, we wait with them. Waiting is so difficult, but that's a big part of Advent. We wait with great anticipation to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ and we also wait for his triumphant return. "Oh Lord, how long?" That is the question! As we wait, let us wait with hope, peace, joy, and love.

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### Worship

*Sundays Mornings  
9:30 AM with communion*



**Office Hours -**  
**Monday - Thursday,**  
9:00AM-12:00PM, 1:00-3:00PM  
(closed during the noon hour)  
Friday, 9:00AM- 12:00 PM

#### Staff:

**Leah Lawson, Pastor**  
**Cheryl Hall, Office Manager**  
**Marsha Moller, Music Director**

Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church

## Treasurer's Report October Fiscal Year 2025

Month

### INCOME

#### OFFERINGS

	Actual	Budget
GENEAL FUND ENVELOPE	19,295.20	19,333.33
GENERAL FUND LOOSE	115.00	83.33
OTHER RECEIPTS		
BUILDING USE	870.00	458.33
MISCELLANEOUS	20.00	20.83

Total Income 20,300.20 19,895.82

#### EXPENSE

Total Expense 17,820.08

### General Fund Offering and Attendance

#### November 2

general fund: 4822 attendance: 53

#### November 9

general fund: \$4265; attendance: 54

#### November 16

general fund: \$1566; attendance: 60

#### November 23

general fund: \$7740; attendance: 53

November 30 N/A



## Council met on November 17 for a business meeting.

### Attendance:

**Council Members:** Pastor Leah Lawson, Spencer Berry, Deanna Rosenthal  
Mark Newman, Gene Reneau, Blair Berg, Linda Allen

**Office Manager:** Cheryl Hall

**Council Members Absent:** Jeff Worley, Nancy Conley, Ann-Marie Shadduck

**Finance**— We expect our year-to-date giving totals to be right on budget and our expenses have been kept in check.

### **Social Concerns**

- Food Pantry fed 225 during the month of October 2025.
- We have obtained 72 holiday hams from High Plains Food Bank. We will give out 25 Thanksgiving ham boxes on 19 November during Food Pantry hours and also give out 25 Christmas ham boxes in December.
- High Plains Food Bank (HPFB) continues to have food shortages. The government shutdown put more pressure on HPFB along with BSLC Food Pantry. The number of personnel coming to BSLC Food Pantry has increased.
- May thanks to BSLC members that have stepped up to address the Food Pantry shortages and providing items to put in the Thanksgiving boxes.
- Dianne Reinschmidt and others are collecting winter cloths to give to the poor.
- New thermometer has been placed in Food Pantry dry storage room to record ambient temperature. This is a new requirement from HPFB.

### • **Property**

- A water valve leak has been repaired.
- The church office furniture has be re-stained.
- New carpet will be installed after Christmas.
- Fall fertilizing will not be done this year.
- Tree removal discussion has been tabled until Spring 2026.
- Property is addressing the parsonage painting needs.
- Property is planning gutter cleaning for the church and parsonage.
- The church floors will be buffed before Christmas.

**Worship**—Diane Wisker has been substituting for Linda Allen and handling all things worship for the past few weeks. Diane is a great organizer and delegator and we are most grateful for her support.

### Church Council:

**Spencer Berry**, Council President; **Jeff Worley**; VP, **Blair Berg**, Treasurer; **Nancy Conley**, Secretary; **Deanna Rosenthal**, Education/Youth; **Ann Marie Shadduck**, Fellowship; **Gene Reneau**, Property; **Mark Newman**, Social Concerns, **Linda Allen**, Worship

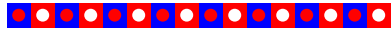
# Meetings & Misc. Calendar

GOOD NEWS  
Volume 65 Issue 12  
December 2025

**Advent**  
**December 3, 11, 17**

- **6:15 pm**  
**Soup & Sandwich Suppers** (Bring your favorite to share).

- **7:00 pm Holden Evening Prayer**



- **Keenagers** meet on Wednesday, December 5 at noon for a Christmas pot-luck lunch.

- **The Women's Study Group** will not meet in December

- **The Wired Word** will meet on Thursdays, December 4 & 11.

- **Council** meets Monday, December 15 at 7 pm

- **7:00 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**



12/02 Linda Allen  
12/04 Bill Tietgens  
12/05 Jessica Berg  
12/08 Arliss Johnson  
Jeff Worley  
12/09 Hal Wisker  
12/11 Mary Eckert  
12/13 Beatrice Kirkeeng  
12/15 Dustin Rosenthal  
12/17 Laluna Nation  
12/19 Florance Eckert  
12/28 Melinda Flatt  
12/31 Kenneth Huckabee

## REMEMBER IN PRAYER

### For our members

Audrey Holman, Sonia Sanchez, Ann-Marie Shadduck, Linda Allen

### For our family members and friends

Elizabeth, Erin, Allen & Rhonda, Deborah W., Aiden, Lana K., Steve, Nickie, Mark, Donnie, Cynthia, Mike, Sharon, Brant, Holly, Wayne, Melissa, Monica, Judy L., Mary L., and Hattie.

Please keep Pr. Mike & Sharon Holmes in your prayers. Pr. Mike is currently navigating health challenges.

### For our homebound members

Kenneth Huckabee, Beverly Roush, Donna Nuss, Jon Edler, Beatrice Kirkeeng, Betty Loomis, and Bill Tietgens

For those serving in the military - Major Erik Lawson

For the world - We pray for our siblings in Christ who are experiencing violence and persecution in Sudan & Nigeria.

We pray for the people of the Caribbean affected by Hurricane Melissa.

### 2025 NT-NL Prayer Partners

Pray for World Hunger Relief and Lutheran Disaster Relief

San Gabriel, Alvarado; Upbring; ELCA Conference of Bishops

The Bullock Family and the people of First Lutheran Church in Longview

*Just keep  
praying.*

*1 Thessalonians 5:17*

If you need pastoral care of a visit or phone call, contact the church office at 359-9483 (Pastor Leah's office hours are 9 am to 4 pm Monday – Thursday) .

To add prayer requests into the church's prayers in the weekly bulletin and/or the prayer chain call/email the church. To join the prayer chain by email, contact the church office at [beautifulsavioramarillo@gmail.com](mailto:beautifulsavioramarillo@gmail.com)

# Sunday Scripture Readings

GOOD NEWS  
Volume 65 Issue 12  
December 2025

## Sunday, December 7

### **First Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10**

*Isaiah describes the coming of a future, ideal ruler who will renew David's royal line (the stump of Jesse). Gifted by the spirit of God, this ruler will reign with perfect justice. Enmity and danger will be restored to harmony and peaceful coexistence.*

### **Psalm: Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19**

*May the righteous flourish; let there be an abundance of peace. (Ps. 72:7)*

### **Second Reading: Romans 15:4-13**

*God's promise to include Gentiles within the circle of God's blessed people has been fulfilled in Jesus Christ. Christians live out their unity by welcoming and encouraging each other just as Christ has welcomed them into God's family.*

### **Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12**

*Just before Jesus begins his public ministry, John the Baptist appears, calling people to mend their ways and speaking of a powerful one who is to come.*

## Sunday, December 14

### **First Reading: Isaiah 35:1-10**

*The prophet describes the return from the Babylonian captivity as a joyous procession to Zion. God's coming reign will bring a renewal of creation in which health and wholeness will be restored. There is no need for fear, for God is coming to save.*

### **Psalm: Psalm 146:5-10**

*The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down. (Ps. 146:8)*

### **Second Reading: James 5:7-10**

*In anticipation of the Lord's coming, Christians are called upon to cultivate patience rather than discontent.*

### **Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11**

*John the Baptist expects the Messiah to bring God's judgment upon the earth (Matt. 3:11-12). From a prison cell, he wonders whether Jesus is the one who will do this. Jesus' response indicates that God's reign is indeed being fulfilled already through healing and restoration.*

## Sunday, December 21

### **First Reading: Isaiah 7:10-16**

*An Israelite and Aramean military coalition presented a serious threat to King Ahaz of Judah. In response, Ahaz decided to secure his throne and kingdom by seeking Assyrian help. Isaiah reminds Ahaz that human attempts to establish security will fail. The prophet gives the sign that is the only source of true safety: Immanuel, God is with us!*

### **Psalm: Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19**

*Let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved. (Ps. 80:7)*

### **Second Reading: Romans 1:1-7**

*The gospel's content is the promised coming of Christ, and Paul's mission is to bring about the obedience of faith among all nations, including his Roman audience.*

### **Gospel: Matthew 1:18-25**

*Matthew's story of Jesus' birth focuses on the role of Joseph, who adopts the divinely-begotten child into the family of David and obediently gives him the name Jesus, which means "God saves."*

## Sunday, December 28

### **First Reading: Isaiah 63:7-9**

*God does not delegate divine intervention to a messenger or angel. God's own presence brings salvation.*

### **Psalm: Psalm 148**

*The splendor of the Lord is over earth and heaven. (Ps. 148:13)*

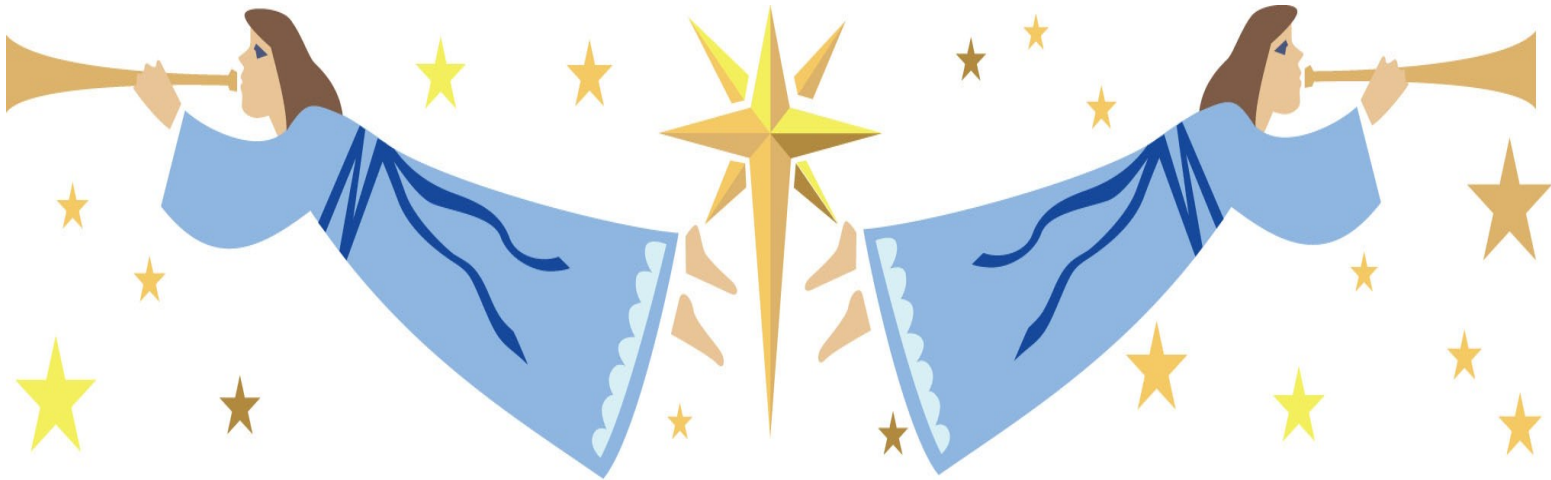
### **Second Reading: Hebrews 2:10-18**

*Through Jesus' suffering and death, the trail to eternal salvation has been blazed for us. We do not fear death, because he has conquered the power of death. Thus Christ, our merciful and faithful high priest, has the final say over the destiny of our lives.*

### **Gospel: Matthew 2:13-23**

*In a dream, Joseph is warned to flee to Egypt to protect the infant Jesus from the jealousy of Herod.*

If you are not sure how to pronounce some of the names in the readings, below is a link to help you and also a link to look up readings from the NRSVUE Bible. <https://biblespeak.org/>  
NRSVUE Bible Online: Bible Gateway.com



### The Angels' Song in Three Words

On the very first Christmas Eve, frightened shepherds were suddenly surrounded by light and music. A choir of angels filled the night sky, singing: “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men” (Luke 2:14, KJV).

Nineteenth-century pastor Charles Kingsley reflected on how those three simple words — glory, peace, and good will — still capture the meaning of Jesus’ birth and the hope it brings.

**Glory.** God’s glory isn’t shown in dazzling displays of power but in humility and mercy. The baby in the manger revealed God’s greatness by stooping low, forgiving, and showing love.

**Peace.** True peace is more than the absence of conflict. It comes when we follow God’s example of selflessness, giving up pride and selfish ambition to live in harmony with one another.

**Good will.** God’s good will toward us is a gift that transforms our lives. Through Jesus, God invites us out of selfishness and sin into a life marked by love, kindness, and community.

The angels’ song wasn’t meant only for shepherds long ago. It still sings to us today, calling each of us to live in glory, peace, and good will.





# December 2025

**Sun      Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat**

	1	2	3 FP 10-12 12 pm Keenagers 6:15 pm Advent Supper 7 pm Holden Evening Prayer	4 10 am & 7 pm Wired Word	5	6 <i>9:30 am Decorate the Church</i>
7 <b>9:30</b> Worship <b>10:30</b> -Fellowship -Choir	8	9	10 FP 10-12 12 pm Keenagers 6:15 pm Advent Supper 7 pm Holden Evening	11 10 am & 7 pm Wired Word	12	13
14 <b>9:30</b> Worship <b>10:30</b> -Fellowship Choir Cantata	15 7 pm Council	16	17 FP 10-12 12 pm Keenagers 6:15 pm Advent Supper 7 pm Holden Evening	18	19	20
21 <b>9:30</b> Worship <b>10:30</b> -Fellowship -Choir	22	23	24 7 pm Christmas Candlelight Service	25	26	27
28 <b>9:30</b> Worship <b>10:30</b> -Fellowship -Choir	29	30	31 FP 10-12			



**BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR  
LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
3500 Bowie  
Amarillo, Texas 79109  
*December 2025*

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**FYI - Our worship services are now live streamed on Beautiful Savior's Facebook page: [Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church-Amarillo](#) Pass it along.**