

Baptism of Our Lord
January 12, 2025 | 8:30 a.m.



Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Setting 8

Saron Lutheran Church

Jeanne Larsen, Interim Pastor

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Welcome to Saron worship—in person or on [Facebook Live!](#)

Large-print copies of the bulletin are available at Saron's entrances.

Prelude

Kurt Elliott

Welcome/Announcements

The assembly stands.

Call to Worship | For Unto Us

A musical score for a call to worship, consisting of four systems of music. Each system has a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are: "For un-to us a chi-ld is born. Un-to us a son is gi-ven and the gov-ern-ment shall be up-on his shoul-der and his name shall be called won-der-ful coun-sel or the migh-ty God - The ev-er last-ing fa-ther and the prince of peace is he".

For un-to us a chi-ld is born. Un-to us a son is gi-ven

and the gov-ern-ment shall be up-on his shoul-der and his name shall be

called won-der-ful coun-sel or the migh-ty God - The ev-er last-ing

fa-ther and the prince of peace is he

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life. **Amen.**

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God, **you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.**

God proclaims these words of assurance: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine." In ☩ Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God. **Amen.**

Gathering Song | ELW 423: Shall We Gather at the River



- 1 Shall we gath - er at the riv - er, where bright an - gel feet have trod,
- 2 On the mar - gin of the riv - er, wash - ing up its sil - ver spray,
- 3 Ere we reach the shin - ing riv - er, lay we ev - 'ry bur - den down;
- 4 Soon we'll reach the shin - ing riv - er, soon our pil - grim - age will cease;



with its crys - tal tide for - ev - er flow - ing by the throne of God?
we will walk and wor - ship ev - er, all the hap - py gold - en day.
grace our spir - its will de - liv - er, and pro - vide a robe and crown.
soon our hap - py hearts will quiv - er with the mel - o - dy of peace.

Refrain



Yes, we'll gath - er at the riv - er, the beau - ti - ful, the beau - ti - ful riv - er;



gath - er with the saints at the riv - er that flows by the throne of God.


Text: Robert Lowry, 1826–1899
Music: HANSON PLACE, Robert Lowry

Greeting

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

Kyrie

Refrain



Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.



Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.



- 1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
- 2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the
- 3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
- 4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



u - ni - ty of all; for
hun - gry and the poor; that
friends and fam - i - ly; for
wa - ter and the word; that you



this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,
life and for love, for our work and our play,
nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

Refrain

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit and revealed him as your beloved Son. Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called children of God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The assembly is seated.

First Reading | Isaiah 43:1–7

- ¹ But now thus says the LORD,
he who created you, O Jacob,
he who formed you, O Israel:
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name, you are mine.
- ² When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
and the flame shall not consume you.
- ³ For I am the LORD your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.
I give Egypt as your ransom,
Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.
- ⁴ Because you are precious in my sight,
and honored, and I love you,
I give people in return for you,
nations in exchange for your life.
- ⁵ Do not fear, for I am with you;
I will bring your offspring from the east,
and from the west I will gather you;
- ⁶ I will say to the north, “Give them up,”
and to the south, “Do not withhold;
bring my sons from far away
and my daughters from the end of the earth—
- ⁷ everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made.”

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

Psalm | Psalm 29

Read responsively.

- ¹ Ascribe to the LORD, you gods,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
- ² **Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God’s name;
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**
- ³ The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders;
the LORD is upon the mighty waters.
- ⁴ **The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice;
the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.**
- ⁵ The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees;
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;
- ⁶ **the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**
- ⁷ The voice of the LORD
bursts forth in lightning flashes.

**8 The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

9 The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare.
And in the temple of the LORD all are crying, “Glory!”

**10 The LORD sits enthroned above the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.**

11 O LORD, give strength to your people;
give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace.

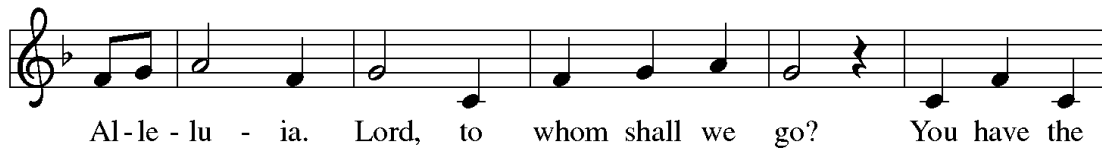
Second Reading | Acts 8:14–17

14 Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. **15** The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit **16** (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). **17** Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

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

The assembly stands.

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel | Luke 3:15–17, 22

The holy gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

15 As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, **16** John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. **17** His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

²¹ Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²² and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The assembly is seated.

Children’s Sermon/Sermon | Pastor Jeanne Larsen

The assembly stands.

Hymn of the Day | ELW 459: Wade in the Water

Refrain
All



Wade in the wa - ter, wade in the wa - ter, chil - dren,
wade in the wa - ter, God’s a-goin’-a trou-ble the wa - ter.

Leader All



1 See that host all dressed in white,
2 See that band all dressed in red, God’s a-goin’-a trou-ble the
3 Look o - ver yon - der, what do I see?
4 If you don’t be-lieve I’ve been re - deemed,



wa - ter; the lead - er looks like the Is - ra - ’lite,
looks like the band that . . . Mo - ses led,
the Ho - ly Ghost a - com-ing on me,
just fol - low me down to . . . Jor - dan’s stream,

All *Refrain*



God’s a - goin’ - a trou - ble the wa - ter.

Text: African American spiritual
Music: WADE IN THE WATER, African American spiritual

Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

After each petition: God of grace, receive our prayer.

Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace. Then the assembly is seated.

Offering

Thank you for your offerings that support the ministry of Saron Lutheran Church (offering plate)! Scan code if you would like to give your offering securely online.

*Your noisy offerings will support **ELCA Good Gifts Farms** (jar).*



The assembly stands.

Offering Prayer

God of grace, **your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. Amen.**

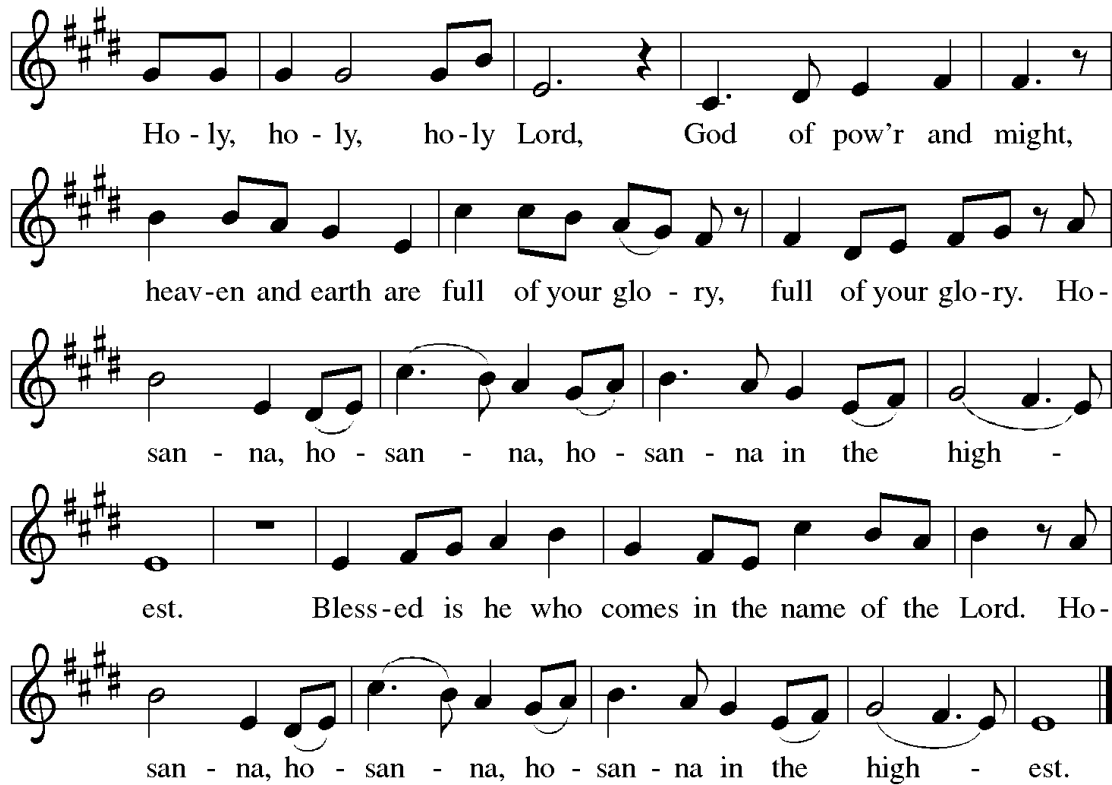
Great Thanksgiving

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.**

It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Thanksgiving at the Table

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.

Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread,

and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,

and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,

shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this in remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

The assembly is seated until invited by the usher to come forward for Holy Communion.

Holy Communion

You are invited to come forward during communion and receive the edible gifts of God's grace. Gluten-free wafers and white grape juice are available. You are also invited to kneel or stand by the railings and cross for a time of meditation.

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the



world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

The assembly stands.

Blessing after Communion

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

Prayer after Communion

Nourishing God, **at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray, Amen.**

Blessing

The Spirit of the triune God ✕ bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love. **Amen.**

Sending Song | ELW 543: Go, My Children, with My Blessing



- 1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.
- 2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
- 3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.
- 4 "I the Lord will bless and keep you, and give you peace.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
 Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
 Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.
 I the Lord will smile up - on you, and give you peace.



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.
 Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.
 Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here his ten - der com - fort stilled you.
 I the Lord will be your Fa - ther, Sav - ior, Com - fort - er and Broth - er.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."
 Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."
 Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free."
 Go, my chil - dren, I will keep you, and give you peace."

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919

Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh

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Dismissal

Go in peace. Live in hope. **Thanks be to God.**

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Musician: Kurt Elliott | **Sound:** Patrick Tangeman

Annual Congregational Meeting

Saron’s Annual Congregational Meeting is Sunday, January 26 following 8:30 a.m. worship. The purpose of the meeting is to review 2024 ministry, adopt a budget for 2025, elect council members and a synod assembly member, and address any additional church business.

Little Free Pantry

Saron’s Little Free Pantry continues to be an essential resource to our neighbors in need. Thank you to all who donate food and funds to keep the pantry stocked. Saron’s noisy offering continues to support the Little Free Pantry. Jackie reports that these items are especially needed at this time:

- peanut butter
- cereal
- canned fruit or fruit cups
- dried milk
- tuna or other canned meats
- chili
- Chef Boyardee or Spaghetti O's
- canned veggies
- toilet paper
- tooth paste and tooth brushes
- soap

When you choose Saron Lutheran Church as the recipient of your neighborhood rewards, all funds received support the Little Free Pantry. To sign up for neighborhood rewards for Saron:

1. Go to your King Soopers app
2. Click on the three bars at the top left
3. Click on Soopers Card Rewards
4. Find Saron Lutheran and select it

Saron Lutheran Church – celebrating 110 years!

Mission Statement:

Saron Lutheran welcomes all in the name of Christ:
 to know Christ’s love | to grow in Christ’s love | to give in Christ’s love