



Our Savior Lutheran Church & Pre-School

*What in God's Name
is
Going on Here?*



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*Our Savior Lutheran Church
and Pre-School
St. Charles, Missouri*

We welcome you in Jesus' name to our spiritual family here at Our Savior. Our congregation has been serving God's people in this area with Word and Sacrament since 1959. We would like to serve all your spiritual needs too. We have prepared this brief summary of our congregation's beliefs, practices, and programs so that you might get to know us better.

Our Savior is a congregation affiliated with the Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod (LCMS). As Missouri Synod Lutherans we believe—

- in one God who has revealed Himself to us in three Divine Persons—God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit;
- that this Triune God has caused His Word to be perfectly recorded in the Old and New Testament Scriptures by inspiration of the Holy Spirit; therefore, the Bible has no mistakes or errors of any kind and can be absolutely trusted yesterday, today and forever;
- that by His almighty Word, God created a perfect world in six (24-hour) days, but that this perfect world was ruined by Adam and Eve's rebellion. Their sin has corrupted all humanity so that all people are now conceived and born dead in sin and under God's wrath;
- that out of pure, undeserved love God sent His eternal Son into our sinful world to assume our flesh and to satisfy God's anger against our sins by His perfect life and His innocent suffering and death on the cross;

- that this same Son of God, Jesus Christ, not only died for the sins of humanity, but that He rose bodily from the dead after three days;
- that for Jesus' sake God has graciously pardoned the entire world and this is the good news or "Gospel" which Jesus wants His Church to proclaim to all people;
- that God distributes His forgiveness and is present today among His people through the "*means of grace*" (His Word and Sacraments);
- that Baptism is one of these "*means of grace*" through which God, by water and His Word, calls people (including infants and little children) into His Church and family, gives them the new birth of faith, and forgives them all their sins;
- that the Lord's Supper is another "*means of grace*" in which our risen Savior gives His true body to eat and His true blood to drink hidden in, with, and under the outward forms of bread and wine for the forgiveness of all their sins;
- that since those who do not believe in the bodily presence of Christ Jesus in the Sacrament also receive Jesus' true body and blood with the bread and wine, we ask those who are uninstructed or who do not agree with the doctrines of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod to refrain from receiving the Lord's Supper "closed communion" until they are properly instructed;
- and finally, that our risen Savior Jesus will return visibly to this world on the last day and as He has promised to assign all unbelievers to eternal punishment in hell but to take all true believers to live with Himself in Paradise forever.

As a unified family, we expect all our members to actively participate in:

1. DIVINE WORSHIP SERVICES are regularly held every Sunday morning at 8:15 am - Traditional and 11:00 am - Contemporary. Other worship services are conducted during the year to celebrate special events in the life and ministry of our Lord; these service times are announced in the church bulletin.
2. THE LORD'S SUPPER at the Reformation the Lutheran Churches celebrated the Lord's Supper "*every Sunday and on other festivals*" (Apology XXIV, 1). We follow this fine custom and so offer the Lord's Supper every Sunday alternating weeks between services. Individual glasses and the common cup are offered at each Divine Service.

Since we believe that our Lord wants people to agree in faith and doctrine before joining at the Communion Table (see 1 Corinthians 1:10; 10:17; Romans 16:17), we respectfully ask those who are not members in a congregation affiliated with the LCMS and not in complete agreement with the teachings and practices of our congregation to make arrangements to consult with the Pastor or one of the Elders before participating in the Lord's Supper.

We ask those attending the Sacrament to register their attendance by filling out the registration book that is passed in each pew. Once it is filled out please pass the book to the outside of the pew. We also encourage communicants to prepare themselves to attend our Lord's Supper by reading Luther's "*Christian Questions and Answers For Those Who Intend to Go to the Sacrament*" (see the Small Catechism, pages 40-44 or Lutheran Service Book inside cover).

3. CHRISTIAN EDUCATION has always been a top priority at Our Savior Lutheran Church. Jesus commanded, "*Make disciples of all nations baptizing them...and teach them to keep everything I have commanded you*" (Matthew 28).

- † CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRY: serves children from birth through sixth grade and their families. We believe that a child's spiritual growth and education is home centered, church supported. Therefore, we provide opportunities for children and families to learn and grow in their faith through fellowship opportunities with other Christians, Bible Studies, take-home resources, and more. We also provide opportunities, resources, and support for parents to use in their daily lives as they encourage and educate their children in their spiritual journey.
- † SUNDAY SCHOOL & ADULT BIBLE STUDY is held for all ages Sunday mornings from 9:45–10:45 year long, staffed by qualified and dedicated teachers.
- † OUR SAVIOR'S PRE-SCHOOL is a ministry that supports families with young children by building strong bonds of friendship, gently guiding the children as they grow and helping them learn about Jesus by celebrating the wonder of God's love. Our Savior's Pre-School accepts children from 3 years old to school-age. The Lord urges us, "*Bring up your children in the training and instruction of the Lord*" (Ephesians 6). For more info, contact Barbara Hunt at oslc.preschool@sbcglobal.net or by calling the church office.
- † Leading to confirmation, classes are offered to youth in grades 7–8. Classes are held Sunday Mornings during the Sunday School hour. The Bible and Luther's Small Catechism are the text books. We expect all youth to attend these classes regularly and faithfully in preparation for confirmation. Specific dates and times of extra curricular activities are determined at the beginning of each school year and announced both directly to parents and in the Sunday bulletin
- † ADULT CATECHESIS OR DISCIPLESHIP 101, classes are held about twice a year, both for members who wish to review our Lutheran doctrine and for non-members who wish to learn more about the doctrines and practices of the Lutheran Church or for those who wish to become members of Our Savior Lutheran Church.

4. OFFERING ENVELOPES are available to all our members so that they might, in a tangible way, express their gratitude to God for all the gifts of His love and grace and confess before others that they recognize His generosity and benefits. Electronic giving is also available; please contact the office for more info.

We encourage all our members to give—

- **regularly** (1 Corinthians 16:1-2),
- **proportionately** as God has blessed you (2 Corinthians 8:3 & 12)
- **cheerfully** out of gratitude for His blessings,
- **trusting** the countless promises in His Word (2 Corinthians 9:6; Malachi 3:9) and
- **remembering** the grace, which our Lord Jesus has shown us, that “though He was rich, yet for our sakes He became poor, that we through His poverty might become rich” (2 Corinthians 8:9).

5. SMALL GROUP MINISTRIES Our Savior offers several group ministry opportunities such as—

- LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE (LWML) Women who are finding avenues to use their God-given talents as they meet the challenges to share the Gospel message.
- C.O.P.E. (Christians Organized for Parochial Education) – this group hosts our annual Trivia Night and meets together to promote Christian education within our congregation.
- MELODRAMA has been putting on plays for over 35 years. Auditions begin right after the New Year and the cast and crew come together to bring a great adventure to our congregation as well as our community that brings a smile to everyone face.

6. OUR CONSTITUTION provides for a Congregational Assembly, which meets at least twice a year, our Leadership Team is charged with planning and implementing the congregation's mission, and various other working boards and committees to serve in fulfilling the Great Commission. All communicants 18 years and older are encouraged to become members of the Congregational Assembly.

7. Luther's Small Catechism urges that all baptized members "shall daily recall the significance of their Baptism and daily, by contrition and repentance, drown the Old Adam with all sins and evil desires so that the New Man will daily emerge and arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever."

Further our congregation urges that all "communicants shall—

- a. *faithfully attend Divine Services and Bible classes and attend the Lord's Supper regularly;*
- b. *willingly support the extension and promotion of Christ's Kingdom in this congregation with their time, talents, and treasures as God so blesses them;*
- c. *lead a sober Christian life (Galatians 5:19-21);*
- d. *not hold membership in any religious organizations which maintain principles, doctrines, or conduct conflicting with God's Word and sound Lutheran doctrine (e.g. Lodge);*
- e. *readily submit to and support the Constitution and By-Laws of this congregation;*
- f. *regularly support and pray for the Pastor of the congregation, give him the honor and respect due his office, and insofar as he faithfully preaches the Gospel and administers the holy Sacraments and teaches God's Word purely; (Small Catechism; 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13; Hebrews 13:17);*
- g. *regularly support and pray for all Professional Church Workers in the congregation, and for all elected and appointed officers and workers in the congregation;*
- h. *support all the various educational programs of the parish including the support and maintenance of Our Savior's Pre-School."*

8. PASTOR Our pastor, Rev. Dr. Mike A. Iannelli Jr. is always happy to serve you in any way he can. Feel free to contact him if you ever have any personal or family concerns.

Pastor Mike can be reached at the church office 636-947-8010 or by email pastormikossc@gmail.com.

Our Savior's Dedicated Staff

Administrative Pastor

Visitation Pastor

Director of Children & Family Life

Director of Christian Education

Pre-School Director

Office Manager

Comptroller

Receptionist

Director of Choral Music

Organist

Children's Choir Director

Rev. Dr. Mike A. Iannelli Jr.

Rev. Dr. Edward Arle

Cari Hannon

Mark Engelhardt

Barbara Hunt

Ann Broeker

Janet Brett

Lu Kelley

Scott Taylor

Billie Derham

Kathy Bhat



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"In Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given us"
(Romans 12:5-6)