



# Our Saviour's *Lutheran Church*

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | ORANGE, CA | JANUARY 2021

## Pastor's Message

**Happy New Year! As this new year begins, we continue to journey through this pandemic with anticipation and hope.**

Epiphany – also known as Three Kings' Day – is a Christian festival, which starts on 6 January. It is a special date in the Christmas story as it is when people celebrate how a star led the Mag – also known as the Three Kings or the Wise Men – to visit the baby Jesus after he had been born (online dictionary). We celebrate even in the midst of a pandemic. We celebrate the life that we have been given in Christ to share the good news.

I know the last 10 months has been difficult for all of us. We just need to be patient. There is a team of people working on getting us ready for in-person worship when we are able. Until that time, we continue to worship online. I have also included below an Epiphany Blessing for the home. Each week we continue to meet for Bible Study via Zoom. You are always welcome to join us!

A new email has been set up to contact me: [pastor@orangeoslc.org](mailto:pastor@orangeoslc.org). My cell phone is 714-904-2511, if you don't have it. If you, a family member or friend would like to be placed on our weekly mailing list, which contains worship and event information, please email me your name and address. If you prefer to have your newsletter emailed to you, please let the church office know at [office@orangeoslc.org](mailto:office@orangeoslc.org).

At our Congregational Meeting Part 1, we elected Carol Youngman, for a one year term, and Christina Garcia, for a three year term, on our congregational council. I would like to thank Lorraine Lundquist and Melissa Pool for their years of service on our council.

As we begin 2021 let your LIGHT SHINE!

Blessings,  
Pastor Jennifer

## January Birthdays

- Jan 3 Marsha Embree
- Jan 3 Melissa Pool
- Jan 3 Joan Theilen
- Jan 6 Hannah Walker
- Jan 6 Paige Walker
- Jan 19 Christopher Ekdale
- Jan 19 Noelle Ekdale
- Jan 22 Tyler Davis
- Jan 25 Isaiah Meyers

## Blessing for a Home at Epiphany

Matthew writes that when the magi saw the shining star stop overhead, they were filled with joy. “On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother” (Matt. 2:10-11). In the home, Christ is met in family and friends, in visitors and strangers. In the home, faith is shared, nurtured, and put into action. In the home, Christ is welcome.

Twelfth Night (January 5), Epiphany of Our Lord (January 6), or another day during the time after Epiphany offers an occasion for gathering with friends and family members for a blessing for the home. Someone may lead the greeting and blessing, while another person may read the scripture passage. Following an eastern European tradition, a visual blessing may be inscribed with white chalk above the main door; for example, 20 + CMB + 21. The numbers change with each new year. The three letters stand for either the ancient Latin blessing *Christe mansionem benedicat*, which means “Christ, bless this house,” or the legendary names of the magi (Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar).

### Greeting

May peace be to this house and to all who enter here. By wisdom a house is built and through understanding it is established; through knowledge its rooms are filled with rare and beautiful treasures. (*Proverbs 24:3-4*)

### Reading

As we prepare to ask God’s blessing on this household, let us listen to the words of scripture. In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being, and the life was the light of all people. The Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father’s only son, full of grace and truth. From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. (*John 1:1-4, 14, 16*)

### Inscription

*This inscription may be made with chalk above the entrance:*

20 † C M B † 21

*Write the appropriate character (left) while speaking the text (right).*

The magi of old, known as

C Caspar,

M Melchior, and

B Balthasar,

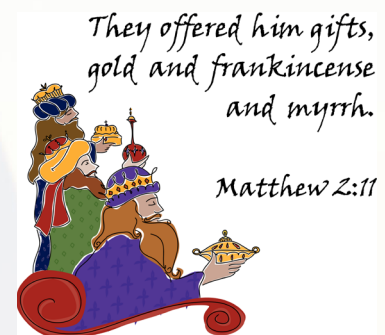
followed the star of God’s Son who came to dwell among us

20 two thousand

21 and twenty years ago.

† Christ, bless this house,

† and remain with us throughout the new year.



### Prayer of Blessing

O God, you revealed your Son to all people by the shining light of a star. We pray that you bless this home and all who live here with your gracious presence. May your love be our inspiration, your wisdom our guide, your truth our light, and your peace our benediction; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Then everyone may walk from room to room, blessing the house with incense or by sprinkling with water, perhaps using a branch from the Christmas tree. An acclamation may be sung during the procession, such as Music Sourcebook for All Saints through Transfiguration #S560.*

Adapted from *Come, Lord Jesus: Devotions for the Home* (Augsburg Fortress, 1996). See also “Blessing for a Home” in *Evangelical Lutheran Worship Pastoral Care*, pp. 337–353.

## **Report from the President**

Can you believe it is 2021? Where does the time go? Hope you all had a Merry Christmas in spite of the COVID stuff. I am very hopeful that with the vaccinations beginning to be distributed that we will be back together sooner rather than later.

Hope you all were able to watch our Christmas Eve service on either Facebook (Our Saviour's Lutheran Church-Orange), or the church website ([www.orangeoslc.org](http://www.orangeoslc.org)), or on our YouTube channel ([bit.ly/oursaviourslutheran](http://bit.ly/oursaviourslutheran)). There was lots of great music, a children's message, and of course the message that Jesus who was born for us is always, always there for us.

I participated in the OSCC preschool board monthly meeting on December 14. In addition to me, Bob Hunter was also there as was the preschool board (Jennifer Gates, Betty Dierking, Nelly Walker, Kathleen Berg, Melissa Pool, Janice Bosecke, Barbara Hunter and Pastor Jennifer). The preschool has been operating in the red since they opened after closing for the pandemic. This is because the number of children in the school is about half of what it was before closing for the pandemic when they were doing well and making expenses. This up until now has not been a problem because the church received the PPP loan for just over \$81,000 and the preschool was given about \$61,000 of the \$81,000. Well, the PPP loan is now depleted. Plus, now the COVID stuff has kicked back in at full force which has resulted in the school losing three students (less tuition). With that the school is now losing approximately \$10,000 per month. If that continues, they will probably have to close their doors in the next three months.

To decrease expenses, Jennifer Gates, OSCC director, has laid off one of the teachers. During the month of December, the school is closed between Christmas and New Year's day so there are less expenses. But that is only a short stopgap. When they fully open again in January their expenses (payroll, etc.) will then again exceed their tuition income by something less than \$10k per month. (Jennifer did share that she is anticipating three new students starting in January. If that occurs that \$10k will be reduced.)

To help out the school until they can get their enrollment back up to cover costs, Bob has looked at the church budget to see how the church can help. Currently the preschool gives the church around \$2,000 per month. This is for their portion of the utilities, liability insurance, workman's comp, etc. Bob proposed that the church suspend that for the next several months, maybe up until June/July, when hopefully the COVID-19 vaccinations will be out, life is back to normal and the preschool enrollment is up to cover costs. Also, Bob proposed that the \$4,000 gift from Pastor's friend (which was given to be used for the mission of the church and not normal operating expenses) be set aside and available for the preschool if needed.

The preschool is a mission of the church. To ensure that it continues, the church needs to help. So, the congregational council voted unanimously to authorize the financial help proposed.

Part I of the annual congregational meeting was held on Saturday, December 19, at 11:30AM. Over 36 people attended to do two items of business: elect two council members and approve our 2021 spending plan. Carol Youngman was elected to the one-year council position to complete Lorraine Lundquist's term and Christine Garcia was elected to the three-year position replacing Melissa Pool. We owe Melissa and Lorraine a big thank you for serving on council and welcome Carol and Christine to the council. The 2021 spending plan was also approved which was mailed out to each of you at the beginning of the month. As is typical, it is a deficit budget and every year I have been a member we have always come through each year meeting all our obligations. I am looking forward to great things for OSLC in 2021.

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Continue to keep OSLC members in your prayers that we all will make it through this COVID-19 pandemic and that we will be getting together sometime during the first half of 2021 to make a joyful noise to our God. Again, thank you for your continued mailings of contributions and/or your contributions on the church website.

Blessings to you all, continue to stay safe, and Happy New Year 2021!

Steve

***Annual Report articles need to be in the church office by end of day January 11.***

### ***Remember in Prayer***

*Katie Patriole (best friend of Mavis Crissinger), Jean Thompson-Hailstone, Marge Boelman, Wes Hayes (next-door neighbor of Janice Bosecke), Lance Thompson-Hailstone, Bryan Rivers (friend of Michelle Johnson), Kristin Maxwell, Rebekah Simmet, Greg Peck, Gerry Tolentino, Evelyn Heine, Joyce Denzin, Bob & Dorothy Daw, Bishops Elizabeth Eaton & Andrew Taylor. All who have been affected by COVID-19, fires, and storms. Police officers, firefighters, medical professionals and all who are serving on the front lines during these uncertain times. All military chaplains and all others serving in the military.*

## **Our Saviour's Children's Center**

Happy New Year! OSCC was touched by COVID in December. One of our staff members tested positive just before we were set to close for the Christmas holiday. After much discussion and talks with the health department, we decided to close a few days earlier than planned. All families were advised of the information we had been given. The teachers sanitized and cleaned classrooms. Sylvia was notified so that the janitorial crew could sanitize as well. Several of the staff members tested and were all negative! It was definitely not the way we had hoped to end the year, but thankfully everyone is healthy.

Our Christmas program went off without a hitch! It was great to be able to see the children singing together. We held our program outside and it was AMAZING! It may be something we look at continuing to do in the future. This month, we are expecting a few re-enrollments of children that haven't been back since we shut down in March. We are looking forward to seeing faces we have missed for so long. Our enrollment is still down from what it normally is, but it is slowly creeping up. We still have no babies (and we miss them greatly) and our toddler room is only half full, but the preschool side is growing slowly.

OSCC is always in need of the items listed below. If you would like to donate anything, we would gratefully accept them in the office during the week.

Wheat Thins, Cheeze-It and Ritz crackers, cereal, facial tissue, Chex Mix, saltines, paper plates, napkins, sanitizing wipes, Lysol-type spray

Thank you for your continued support of the school.  
-Jen Gates



**Missing us in worship?**

**All of our worship services have been placed on YouTube.**

**Here is the link:  
[bit.ly/oursaviourslutheran](https://bit.ly/oursaviourslutheran)**

## Resources for Daily Worship at Home

O Lord, open my lips,  
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise. Glory 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.

### **PSALMODY**

Give | glory to God, our | light and our life.

**Oh, come, let us worship and praise.**

**Come, let us sing to the Lord: let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation. Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving and raise a loud shout to the Lord with psalms. For you, Lord, are a great God, and a great ruler above all gods. Come, let us sing to the Lord: let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation. In your hand are the caverns of the earth; the heights of the hills are also yours. The sea is yours, for you made it; and your hands have molded the dry land. Come, let us sing to the Lord: let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation. Come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord our maker. For the Lord is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand. Come, let us sing to the Lord: let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.**

### **READINGS CAN BE FOUND ON THE CALENDAR INCLUDED**

#### *Morning Prayer Benedictus*

**In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us. Blessed are you, Lord, the God of Israel, you have come to your people and set them free. You have raised up for us a mighty Savior, born of the house of your servant David. In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us. Through your holy prophets, you promised of old to save us from our enemies, from the hands of all who hate us, to show mercy to our forebears, and to remember your holy covenant. This was the oath you swore to our father Abraham: to set us free from the hands of our enemies, free to worship you without fear, holy and righteous before you, all the days of our life. In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us. And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare the way, to give God's people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins. In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us, to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace. In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us.**

### **PRAYERS**

Mighty God of mercy, we thank you for the resurrection dawn, bringing the glory of our risen Lord who makes every day new.

Especially we thank you—

- for the sustaining goodness of your creation . . .
- for the new creation in Christ and all gifts of healing and forgiveness . . .
- for the gifts of relationship with others . . .
- for the communion of faith in your church . . .

*Other thanksgivings may be added.*

Merciful God of might, renew this weary world, heal the hurts of all your children, and bring about your peace for all in Christ Jesus, the living Lord.

Especially we pray—

- for those who govern nations of the world . . .
- for the people in countries ravaged by strife or warfare . . .
- for all who work for peace and international harmony . . .
- for all who strive to save the earth from carelessness and destruction . . .
- for the church of Jesus Christ in every land . . .

Almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us in safety to this new day. Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin nor be overcome in adversity. In all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## 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.**

## BLESSING

Let us bless the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**  
Almighty God, the Father, ✝ the Son,  
and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve  
us.  
**Amen.**

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**Pastor:** *The Rev. Jennifer Zahnow*  
**Director of Music:** *Chelsea Dehn*  
**Organist:** *Kevin Phan*  
**Bell Choir Director:** *Sara Moreno*  
**Interim Office Admin:** *Melissa Pool*  
**Children's Center Director:** *Jennifer Gates*  
**Children's Center Phone:** 714-771-5040  
**OSLC Phone:** 714-639-9390  
**OSLC Email:** [Office@orangeoslc.org](mailto:Office@orangeoslc.org)  
**OSLC Website:** [orangeoslc.org](http://orangeoslc.org)  
**OSLC Facebook:** *Our Saviour's Lutheran Church-Orange*

## 2021 Council Members

Steve Vannier, Kristin Tolentino, Bob  
Hunter, Lawton Miller, Steven  
Yoshizumi, Christine Garcia, Carol  
Youngman, Violet Yoshizumi.

## *Bible Study via Zoom on Wednesday Evenings*

Bible study 6:30 pm  
Each study will be one hour in length.

Each film is about 10 to 14 minutes of Christian teaching related to real-life situations. Each short story covers a specific topic, usually by relating various experiences from a Christian perspective. Each NOOMA video features the teaching of former Mars Hill Bible Church teaching pastor Rob Bell.

January 6 theme: Luggage: "It isn't always easy to forgive."

January 13 theme: Dust: "Does God believe in us?"

January 20 theme: Bullhorn: "Can we separate loving God and loving others?"

January 27 theme: Rhythm: "What does it mean to have a relationship with God?"

February 3 theme: Matthew: "Suffering the loss of someone we love can be the most difficult thing in life to deal with."

February 10 theme: Rich: "Maybe God has blessed us with everything we have so we can bless and give to others."

Zoom link for the 6:30 pm study is:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83959432344>

# JANUARY DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR HOME WORSHIP DURING PANDEMIC

SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

*“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.” – 2 Corinthians 5:17*

*“Glory to God in highest heaven, Who unto man His Son hath given; While angels sing with tender mirth, A glad new year to all the earth.”  
– Martin Luther*

**01** Numbers 6:22-27  
**02** Psalm 148  
Proverbs 1:1-7  
James 3:13-18  
Psalm 8  
Galatians 4:4-7  
Luke 2:15-21

**03** **04** **05** **06** **07** **08** **09**

Psalm 110  
Proverbs 1:20-33  
James 4:1-10  
Psalm 110  
Proverbs 3:1-12  
James 4:11-17  
Psalm 110  
Proverbs 22:1-9  
Luke 6:27-31  
Isaiah 60:1-6  
Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14  
Ephesians 3:1-12  
Matthew 2:1-12  
Psalm 110  
Exodus 1:22—2:10  
Hebrews 11:23-26  
Psalm 110  
Exodus 2:11-25  
Hebrews 11:27-28  
Psalm 110  
Exodus 3:7-15  
John 8:39-59

**10** **11** **12** **13** **14** **15** **16**

Genesis 1:1-5  
Psalm 29  
Acts 19:1-7  
Mark 1:4-11  
Psalm 69:1-5, 30-36  
Genesis 17:1-13  
Romans 4:1-12  
Psalm 69:1-5, 30-36  
Exodus 30:22-38  
Acts 22:2-16  
Psalm 69:1-5, 30-36  
Isaiah 41:14-20  
John 1:29-34  
Psalm 1  
Judges 2:6-15  
2 Corinthians 10:1-11  
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18  
Judges 2:16-23  
Acts 13:16-25  
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18  
1 Samuel 2:21-25  
Matthew 25:1-13

**17** **18** **19** **20** **21** **22** **23**

1 Samuel 3:1-10 [11-20]  
Psalm 1 39:1-6, 13-18  
1 Corinthians 6:12-20  
John 1:43-51  
Psalm 86  
1 Samuel 9:27—10:8  
2 Corinthians 6:14—7:1  
Psalm 86  
1 Samuel 15:10-31  
Acts 5:1-11  
Psalm 86  
Genesis 16:1-14  
Luke 18:15-17  
Psalm 62:5-12  
Jeremiah 19:1-15  
Revelation 18:11-20  
Psalm 62:5-12  
Jeremiah 20:7-13  
2 Peter 3:1-7  
Psalm 62:5-12  
Jeremiah 20:14-18  
Luke 10:13-16

**24** **25** **26** **27** **28** **29** **30**

Jonah 3:1-5, 10  
Psalm 62:5-12  
1 Corinthians 7:29-31  
Mark 1:14-20  
Psalm 46  
Genesis 12:1-9  
1 Corinthians 7:17-24  
Psalm 46  
Genesis 45:25—46:7  
Acts 5:33-42  
Psalm 46  
Proverbs 8:1-21  
Mark 3:13-19a  
Psalm 111  
Deuteronomy 3:23-29  
Romans 9:6-18  
Psalm 111  
Deuteronomy 12:28-32  
Revelation 2:12-17  
Psalm 111  
Deuteronomy 13:1-5  
Matthew 8:28—9:1

**31**

Deuteronomy 18:15-20  
Psalm 111  
1 Corinthians 8:1-13  
Mark 1:21-28

*During the time after Epiphany we focus on how Jesus is made manifest, made known to us. Through music in its many forms and styles, Christians from all times and places have learned to know Jesus. We have inherited a treasure trove of songs from our ancestors and are blessed to share in singing songs with fellow Christians from around the world.*

Email: [office@orangeoslc.org](mailto:office@orangeoslc.org)  
Website: [orangeoslc.org](http://orangeoslc.org)  
Phone: 714-639-9390

Due to the coronavirus, Our Saviour's has cancelled all onsite services and activities. The church office is only open if you have a scheduled time to meet with Pastor Jennifer. Feel free to leave a message or send an email and Pastor or Melissa will get back to you as soon as possible.

Join us Sunday mornings at 10am for live streaming  
of our worship service.  
Live streaming on Facebook: *Our Saviour's Lutheran Church-Orange*  
Videos are also uploaded to our website – *orangeoslc.org*



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