

OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Phone: (925) 283-3722 ❖ Email: spirit@oslc.net ❖ Webpage: www.oslc.net

EPIPHANY
(January 8-February 19, 2023)
9:30 a.m. Worship



WHO WE ARE

We are a community grounded in the life and teachings of Jesus.

- We embrace an open approach to every spiritual journey.
- We ask questions together and value every voice.
- We strive for justice through service to the world.

We seek to be transformed by the path we walk together.

WE ARE A RECONCILING IN CHRIST CONGREGATION

We are a community embraced by the mystery of God's love for all creation.

We look for the Christ shining in every race, every child and family shape, every sexual orientation and gender identity, every physical and mental ability, every economic status, and every faith perspective. Within this dynamic community, we foster meaningful connections and experiences as we live into faith and face the issues of our time.

Together, we strive to live with loving hearts, open minds, and hands extended to all.

"... for all of you are one in Christ." – Gal. 3:2

TELL ME A STORY: THE POWER OF PARABLES

Long before written language, story-telling was the vehicle through which history was recalled, heroes lauded, family lore passed on, morals learned. In modern times, story-telling continues to be vital to community: a shared children's story at bedtime; a homespun tale that generates laughter; a current novel debated over wine at the monthly book club. Jesus knew the power of a story as a teaching tool, so he used parables to captivate and educate an audience. This season, we take a look at some of Jesus' most powerful parables.

WORSHIP SERVICE

PRELUDE

see insert

Please rise as you are able.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are bathed in God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism. Holy God, you are the river of life; you are the everlasting wellspring, you are the font of rebirth.

We thank you for oceans and lakes, for rivers and streams.

We thank you for cloud and rain, for dew and snow.

Your waters are below us, around us, above us: our life is born in you.

Through the waters of the flood, you delivered Noah and his family.

Through the sea, you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.

At the river, Jesus was baptized by John.

We thank you for the water of baptism and for your Word that claims us in this sacrament.

Breathe your Spirit into all who are gathered here, and into all creation.

Enlighten our days. Enliven our bones. Dry our tears. Satisfy our thirst with your living water. Amen.

The community is seated.

WELCOME

L OPENING DIALOG

Tell me a story.

Help me to understand.

Give me characters, a plot, a moral.

Give me wisdom from the experience of others.

A sower scatters seed across many types of soil.

What type of soil am I?

A mustard seed grows into a mighty tree.

Do I have the faith to grow so well?

A person of despised origin becomes a hero.

Can I see the light within each of God's children?

Tell me a story.

Help me to understand.

HYMN

see insert

FIRST READING

see insert

Please rise as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Hal - le - lu - jah! We sing your prais - es, all our



hearts are filled with glad - ness. Hal - le - lu - jah! We sing your



prais - es, all our hearts are filled with glad - ness.

PARABLE

see insert

The community is seated.

SERMON

Please rise as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY

see insert

L A SIMPLE CREED

**There is a God whose name is Endless Love.
There is a Son whose name is Sacrificial Living.
There is a Spirit whose name is Lavish Grace.
There is a People whose name is Holy Community.
There is a Fire whose name is Justice for Everyone.
There is a Peace whose name is I Am With You Always.
There is a Person whose name is God Within.
And that person is me. Thanks be to God.**

SHARING THE PEACE

L May the peace of the One who told truth through parables be with you always.
And also with you.

The community is seated.

SPECIAL MUSIC

see insert

L PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

After each petition,

Liturgist: God who helps us write the stories of our lives,
Hear our prayer.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P God is with us and within us.

Our God is shining through us.

Let your hearts rejoice!

We offer them with gladness.

Let your hearts be grateful.

We offer them with thanks.

PREFACE

It is with rejoicing and gratitude that we welcome the presence of God in our lives, as our loving Creator breathes life into our souls and generates a light within us that brightens the entire world. And so, with reverence and joy, we praise God with our singing:

HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dores you.

My heart is glad to say the words: You are ho - ly, God.

The musical score consists of two systems of music. Each system has a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The lyrics are written below the treble clef staff. The first system ends with a double bar line. The second system ends with a double bar line and a fermata over the final note.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever.
Amen.**

COMMUNION INVITATION AND SERVING

As a joyful symbol of our welcome to all, the communion wafers are gluten-free, and in addition to wine (red), there is a no-alcohol option (white grape juice) in the trays.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS *see insert; please join in singing as communion is shared*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please rise as you are able.

HYMN *see insert*

L CLOSING DIALOG

Tell me a story.

Help me to understand.

A beloved child burns bridges, but then is joyfully received on his return.

With whom do I need to reconnect? Who needs my joyful reception?

A landowner sends many messengers.

What message do I need to listen to? Who is sending it?

One who is forgiven does not forgive.

I have received grace. Have I treated others with the same grace?

As we leave this place, remember the stories. Remember the grace, and pay it forward!

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *see insert*

If you would like to give a gift/offering today, please place it in one of the brass offering trays located in the middle and back of the sanctuary. Thank you!

WORSHIP INSERT

January 22, 2023

Leading Worship Today

Pastor: Dan Senter

Dir. of Worship/Music: Martin Morley

Liturgist: Laura Burbidge

Prelude arr. Gilbert Martin
"Lord of All Hopefulness"

First Hymn ELW 314
"Arise, Your Light Has Come!"

Scriptures
Isaiah 9:1-4
Matthew 13:31-32

Hymn of the Day ELW 765
"Lord of All Hopefulness"

Offering of Music Choir
"Make Me a Channel of Your Peace"
Temple/Holstein

Distribution Hymns
ELW 492,490,491

Sending Hymn ELW 843
"Praise the One Who Breaks the
Darkness"

Postlude Friedrich Zachau
"All Glory Be to God on High"

Our current Covid-19 guidelines make masking optional, but still highly recommended. Please distance your seating 6-10 feet from other individuals/family pods.

Pride Sunday

January 29th, 9:30 am

In the spirit of OSLC's commitment - as a Reconciling in Christ congregation - to welcome ALL people just as they are, we hope you'll join us to celebrate each other - just the way we are! Kids can participate in an art project on the courtyard, enjoy snacks, chase bubbles and more! Hope to see you there.

Soul Forum Presents: Guest Speaker Series

Sunday, February 5th, 10:30 am

New this year! On the first Sunday of each month, Soul Forum will be hosting a guest speaker from the Graduate Theological Union (GTU) to share and discuss an array of perspectives on the spiritual life. Our first session welcomes Chai Motupalli. Chai has a PhD through the GTU and currently serves as the Director of Student Life, the International Students & Scholars. His presentation will focus on the work he has done to integrate notions of restorative justice into the environmental challenges we face as a planet. Grab a cup of coffee after church and join us in Oakview 3.

New Instagram Accounts!

We are happy to announce that we have two new social media accounts, one for OSLC and one for Creekside Commons! Please open the camera on your phone, click the link that pops up for the QR code to follow one or both of these accounts that will keep you up to date on events and moments that shape our congregation and our work in community.



Prayer Requests

Prayers of consolation for the Spahr family on the passing of Jennifer's mother, Lois.
Prayers of healing for Bob Ruh.