

# Our Saviour's & Balsamlund Lutheran Church; ELCA E-News

For December 1, 2024

DAILY BIBLE READINGS 12/1/24—12/7/24



SUNDAY Revelation 19:11-21  
MONDAY Malachi 1:1-14  
TUESDAY Malachi 2:1-17  
WEDNESDAY Malachi 3:1-18  
THURSDAY Malachi 4:1-6  
FRIDAY Isaiah 7:1-25  
SATURDAY Isaiah 8:1-20

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## OSLC WEEKLY CALENDAR

### 12/1 First Sunday of Advent

9am Fellowship & OSLC Adult Choir practice

9am Sunday School

10am Worship / Holy Communion

4pm 4H

### 12/6 Wednesday

9am Quilters

11am WELCA

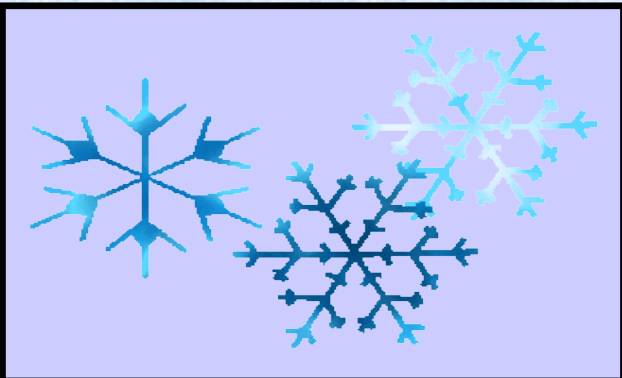
1-5pm Janet Eckman SAM in-office

### 12/8 Second Sunday of Advent

9am Fellowship & OSLC Adult Choir practice

9am Sunday School

10am Worship



## BALSAMLUND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**If you know of someone who would like a visitation,** please let the office or Janet Eckman SAM know and we will accommodate the request in the best possible way.

**Confirmation Classes** are every 4th Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm-7:30pm in the church basement. \*\*\*The November 27th Confirmation Class is reset.

**December 8, Christmas Program by youth.**

**December 24, Christmas Eve service at 6:00pm.**

## OSLC ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**Fellowship Hall Reservations:** Every first Sunday of the month, at 4pm, is reserved for the 4H; December 10, 10am-3pm for Homemaker's Club; December 28, 8am-4pm for a private family function.

**Stress-free giving is here! VANCO!** It is an electronic automatic online offering method available to all who have a bank account. Simply fill out a form (ask Rita) along with a voided check and return it to the office to get processed. No cost to sign-up & forms are free. It's simple and efficient.

**Calling all OSLC Adult Choir members!** On Sundays, during Fellowship Hour, gather by the piano to practice for the upcoming Thanksgiving Eve (11/27) and Christmas Eve (12/24) special services.

**Operation Christmas Child is in full swing!** As of 1pm on Wednesday (11/27), there are 12 remaining of 31 boys & girls to choose from to fulfill wish lists of needy Wadena County families this holiday. Please make your selection and take an instruction sheet from the bulletin board between the Pastor Office and Secretary Office down the hallway.

**December 1, 8am–Noon,** Lions Club Pancake feed at the Sebeka Senior Community Center.

**December 15, Sunday School Christmas program at 10am.** Second Offering for Sebeka Angel Fund after the program and a "Potluck" to follow. Let's celebrate with good food and fellowship.

**Christmas Eve Worship:** December 24, 4:00pm at OSLC.

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As we enjoy our Thanksgiving this week, I think it is perfect time to give Thanks and to prepare for Advent.

*"Advent is a journey towards Bethlehem. May we let ourselves be drawn by **the light** of God made man."*  
Pope Francis

Each week we as we prepare of the birth of Jesus we will light the Advent wreath.

The first candle is purple, and it is a candle symbolizing Hope. This Hope that was promised to us in the Old Testament where Isiah foretells of the birth of Jesus.

The second candle is again purple, and it is a candle symbolizing Peace. This candle reminds of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem to give birth to Jesus. After all of the division and destruction of the Old Testament Jesus is our sign of peace.

The third candle is pink, and this candle symbolizes Joy. In Luke 2: 10-12

*"But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.'"*

As we continue towards Christmas the joy of anticipation grows more and more.

The fourth and final candle is purple and symbolizes Love. It is also called the Angel Candle. This is a symbol of God's love for us that he sent his only son Jesus to die for our sins.

The good news is in our Gospel this week in Luke 21: 25-28

### **The Coming of the Son of Man**

<sup>25</sup> "And there will be signs in the sun, in the moon, and in the stars; and on the earth distress of nations, with perplexity, the sea and the waves roaring; <sup>26</sup> men's hearts failing them from fear and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. <sup>27</sup> Then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup> Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near."

In Faith,  
Janet Eckman  
Synod Authorized Minister