Welcome to Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church

5631 N Adams Road
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304
Phone: 248.646.5041
Website: www.blscmi.org

Sunday Worship Schedule
9:00 – Traditional
11:15 – Contemporary style
3rd Sunday of the month at 10:15—
Service of the Word for Wholeness

Repeat the Sounding Joy

"Daring to Do Differently"

11:15—December 22, 2024

Mary, the mother of Jesus, was a young teenage girl when he was conceived in her womb. Today's gospel contains a song, often called the Magnificat, which was her response to and description of the great ways God would change the world for the better through the birth of her son. We follow Mary's example of daring to do things differently and welcoming God to do new things through us.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Flowers given in loving memory of Sue Hoffman

GATHERING WORSHIP MUSIC *"Waiting Here for You"* Martin Smith

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING SONG *"What a Beautiful Name"*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that binds us, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR MISSION STATEMENT

P: Although as individuals we are unique in many and various ways, we gather as a congregation for a common mission.

C: Beautiful Savior is a biblically grounded community who unites to follow and share the way of Jesus.

MEMORY VERSE *Hebrews 11:1* Marilyn Lochner

A: Together, let us recite the memory verse:

C: Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

FIRST READING *Micah 5:2-5a*

A: The first reading according to Micah, the fifth chapter.

2 But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me
one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. 3 Therefore he shall give them up
until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of
Israel. 4 And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord
his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; 5 and he shall be the one of
peace. If the Assyrians come into our land and tread upon our soil, we will raise against them seven shepherds
and eight installed as rulers.

A: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING *Hebrews 10:5-10*

A: The second reading according to Hebrews, the tenth chapter.

5 Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired but a

body you have prepared for me; [6] in burnt-offerings and sin-offerings you have taken no pleasure. [7] Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will, O God' (in the scroll of the book it is written of me)." [8] When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt-offerings and sin-offerings" (these are offered according to the law), [9] then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. [10] And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

A: The word of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL *Luke 1:46-55*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the first chapter.
C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[46] And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, [47] and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, [48] for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; [49] for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. [50] His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. [51] He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. [52] He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; [53] he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. [54] He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, [55] according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants for ever."
P: The Gospel of the Lord.
C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON The Rev. Dr. Niklaus C. Schillack, Senior Pastor

SONG OF THE DAY *"People, Look East"*

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH Marilyn Lochner

A: As we prepare for Emmanuel, God-with-us, let us pray for all people and places that long for God's presence.

A brief silence.

A: God our uniter, increase communication and cooperation in our relationships with those of other faith traditions. Root your church in the power of your incarnation and what it means that out of love you walked in our shoes in the person of Jesus Christ. Lord, in your mercy,
C: receive our prayer.

A: God our creator, we praise you for the beauty that surrounds us. Awaken in us a renewed sense of care for the wildlife in our communities. Form us into faithful stewards of what you have made. Lord, in your mercy,
C: receive our prayer.

A: God our sovereign, Mary proclaims a new way of life that lifts up the lowly and fills the hungry with good things. Nurture in local governments and municipalities a desire to care for all who are overlooked and ignored. Lord, in your mercy,
C: receive our prayer.

A: God our beacon, as the northern hemisphere begins its slow turn toward more daylight, remind us that even in the deepest nights, you are there. Comfort the lonely and bereaved. Hold closely the frightened, anxious, depressed, and ill (*especially those we now name aloud or in the quiet of our hearts*). Lord, in your mercy,
C: receive our prayer.

A: God our guide, shepherd the leadership of this congregation. Bless the council and staff in discerning future ministry and open their hearts to the voices of the community. Lord, in your mercy,
C: receive our prayer.

A: God our life, you remember the promises you have made to your people. We praise you for your faithfulness throughout history. We thank you for the witness of those who have died in faith toward you (*especially those we now name aloud or in the quiet of our hearts*). Lord, in your mercy,
C: receive our prayer.

A: Faithful God, you chose the shepherds tending their flocks by night to be the first to hear the news of our savior's birth. As we await the birth of Jesus, our Good Shepherd, let us continue to pray for the one you have chosen to help guide our flock. Lord, in your mercy,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Savior of the nations, come, and receive these prayers and the pleas of our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

STEWARDSHIP READING *Proverbs 18:10-11*

The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous run into it and are safe. The wealth of the rich is their strong city; in their imagination it is like a high wall.

VIDEO OFFERING ***"****Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"*

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray. Creator God, you made the whole world, even the farthest stars, and you draw near to feed us. We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine. Strengthen us with this food that we may live in expectation for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

LORD'S PRAYER – sung to the tune of *Away in a Manger*

Our Father in heaven, all praise to your name!
Your kingdom among us, your will done the same;
by mortals and angels, come, Lord, reign alone;

oh hear us and bless us from heaven's high throne.
The bread that we yearn for provide us each day;
as we forgive others, our sins take away;
in times of temptation, to lead us be near;
from evil deliver your children most dear.

For yours is the kingdom; o'er all things you reign.
And yours is the power; all things you maintain.
To you be the glory, resounding again,
From all of creation, forever. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

POST HOLY COMMUNION BLESSING

BENEDICTION – sung to the tune of *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

Now may the good Lord bless and keep, his love in us increase;
Lift up his face with shining grace, and grant eternal peace.
To Father, Son, and Spirit, Eternal One-in-Three.
Be thanks and praise through all our days. And to eternity!

SENDING SONG *"Joy to the World"*

DISMISSAL



*Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church

Advent & Christmas
Fellowship & Worship

Advent by Candlelight
Tuesday, December 3 @ 7:00 p.m.
bslcmi.org/post/advent2024

Youth-led Worship Service
Sunday, December 15 @ 9:00 a.m.
Contemporary Worship Service @ 11:15 a.m.

Christmas Eve Worship
Tuesday, December 24
4:00 p.m. | 7:00 p.m. | 10:00 p.m.

Alexander Zonjic Concert
Friday, December 13 @ 7:00 p.m.
bslcmi.org/concerts

Community Art Program
Thursday, December 19 @ 5:00 p.m.
bslcmi.org/post/kidsart

Christmas Day Worship
Wednesday, December 25 @ 10:00 a.m.

Special Sunday Worship
Sunday, December 29 @ 10:00 a.m.
*SPECIAL TIME, ONE SERVICE ONLY *

BSLCMI.ORG | 5631 N. Adams Rd. Bloomfield Hills, MI | (248) 646-5041 | office@bslcmi.org