



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

December 26, 2021

DAILY BIBLE READINGS 12/26 – 1/1/22



SUNDAY- Luke 2:12-40
MONDAY- Luke 2:41-52
TUESDAY- Luke 3:1-20
WEDNESDAY- John 1:19-34
THURSDAY- John 1:35-51
FRIDAY- Psalm 117:1
SATURDAY- Ephesians 1:1-14

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Pastor Eric Email: pastor.eric.clapp@gmail.com
Pastor Eric Cell: 701-261-2394
Church Website: www.oslcsebekka.org

12/24
4pm Christmas Eve Worship

12/26 First Sunday after Christmas
9am Fellowship
9am Sunday School
10am Worship, led by Janet Eckman

12/29
No 9am Quilters, *next session is 1/5/22*

1/2/22
9am Fellowship
9am Sunday School
10am Worship / Holy Communion



Balsamlund Announcements : No Sunday Worship on 12/26

Join us for Christmas Eve worship on December 24th at 6:30pm!

OSLC Announcements:

- * We are looking for someone to head up the Adult Vocal Choir and the Bell Choir. If you are interested in helping out with one or both of these groups please contact Pastor Eric for more info.
- * As we head into winter, if you are not on Pastor Eric's call list, but would like to be, please contact Rita at the OSLC office or Pastor Eric's cell phone.
- * A holiday greeting, "Merry Christmas to all at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church. Blessings, Stan & Betty Stephenson."
- * It has come to our attention that the piano needs a new lamp. If you are interested in gifting one, please call the office.

* Pastor Eric is on vacation 12/26-12/30.

* The Wednesday Quilters will resume activities on January 5, 2022. Happy New Year!

* The baptismal "Cradle Roll" position is available. Open immediately. Please inquire at the office if interested.

* If you are interested in being on the church council as the **Financial Secretary/Bookkeeper**, please contact Council President Richard Gronlund and/or the office.

* For any changes to service times or activities due to weather or last minute changes, please watch our Facebook page and we will also update the church answering machine.

* A warm thank you in advance for Janet Eckman in leading us in Sunday Worship, 12/26.

Join us for Christmas Eve worship 4pm on December 24th!

*Oh little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by
Yet in thy dark streets shineth,
the everlasting light
The hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.*

It is, indeed, this week where the whole world was changed. As we gather at Our Saviour's and Balsam-lund to celebrate the birth of Jesus, we remember the story of God doing incredible things in another little town long ago.

After the year that we have had, filled with hopes and fears as God's people have held forever, it is important that we take time this Christmas season to remember the promise of God that comes to us this season – the promise so we'll captured by this hymn.

The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

God meets us with all of our hopes and all of our fears and the good news at Christmas is that God doesn't abandon us in our hope or fear, but joins us in the midst of it.

The hope of a brighter year ahead.

The fear of tragedy striking.

The hope of a full recovery.

The fear of struggling to be well.

The hope of healed relationships.

The fear of brokenness and pain.

The hope of the fulfillment of dreams deferred.

The fear that next year will have the same struggles as the past.

All of it.

All of our hopes and all of our fears are met by the God who is born at Christmas. We are met by the God who restores and makes all things. We are met not because of our own doing or accomplishment but because of the goodness and grace of God.

O holy God, wherever we are in this Christmas season, meet us there. And guide us forward into healing, wholeness, and life. Amen.

Blessings to you in this Christmas season!

Grace + Peace,

Pastor Eric