

AN ORDINARY SUNDAY ... WITH AN EXTRAORDINARY SPIRIT!!

All Saints Lutheran Church "Oasis of Joy" USA

13350 LaGrange Road Orland Park, IL 60462

Don Boring, Pastor 708-448-2939

Worship 8:30 & 11 Thursday evenings 7:30

Sunday School & Breakfast Club 9:45 Adult Choir 9:30

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TODAY IS ----- SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2009

Worship at All Saints is a time of quiet celebration and joy.

We hope your soul is nourished, being with us today. We enjoy having kids in church ... but when they are noisy & disruptive ... we ask you kindly to RESPECT the quiet and dignity ----- both of your neighbor and our worship experience. We have a fine nursery for kids age 5 and under ... and our good-looking, highly paid, over-achieving, and moderately festive staff is anxious to care for your children. Please accompany your son/daughter to the nursery and introduce yourself to the staff. Most of all ---- welcome ... and help yourself to the "coffee of your dreams" in Charter Hall.

welcome ... with an announcement or two

a "love-bucket" word or two

opening prayer

Lord, I don't know if I'm ready for the change of the seasons ---- the cold, the short days, the long nights, the flurries & the wind.

It feels good: hunkering down by the tree ... "the first Noel" ... the promise of Christmas. I realize, Lord, in the quietness of this place ... my life has "seasons." The seasons change ... so do I.

The seasons have different "feels" to them ... so do I.

The colors, the wind, the climate ... they can vary with each passing day ... so can I. In the midst of all the changes going on around me ...

I NEED A FOUNDATION!!

Something that doesn't waver. Something that doesn't change with the wind. Something I and others can count on.

Its' you, Lord.

You son. It's your "walk in the goodness of life."

It's the gentle-but-gripping power of kindness and forgiveness.

From the manger to the cross ... from the homes of sinners to leper colonies ... from kings who wanted to take you down, to the child-like faith of those who thought they were forgotten ... YOU STAND BY US.

Now ... empower us to stand by and to hold each other up. Life has many seasons, as we do. May each season be laced with hope & love, born of your son ----- amen.

opening song

"Prepare the royal highway" 26

the liturgy ... page 78

readings for the day

"will my younger friends come forward?" ... kids' time

song

"Once in royal David's city" 643 (blue)

meditation

the creed ... page 85

offering and offertory

choir anthem, 8:30 ----- " Mary, Mary"

prayers and sharing the Lord's Supper

Communion songs: 626 (blue), 41 & 205 (2x) – green book
"alleluia, he's my savior, alleluia"

closing song

"The first Noel" 56

benediction and 3-fold "amen"

The eternal light shines brightly this morning.

**from the Kelch family, in loving memory of Dawn ... on the first anniversary of her death.*

**from the O'Malley family, in honor of Michael & Mary's 20th anniversary.*

We have beautiful altar flowers gracing our sanctuary.

*from the Kelch family, in loving memory of Dawn ... who died one year ago.

*from the Dignan/O'Bradovic families, in honor of the baptism of Danielle Maree O'Bradovic.

*from the Mitchell family, in honor of Jack's 11th birthday.

Thanks to all for the gifts of flowers and light!!

A FEW REMINDERS AND HAPPENINGS!!

Today is UNITY SUNDAY for our Sunday School & parents. We gather at 9:30 here in the sanctuary ... welcome to our guests.

This Thursday (6:30) and next Sunday ---- OUR ARTISTS' FAIRE.

We'll have appetizers before and after worship on Thursday ... worship at 7:30.

We'll have another Advent Supper on Dec. 17, 6:30. RSVP today.

THIS YEAR OUR STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM is dedicated to GLADYS GUNNERSON ... "our church is a love-bucket, give with Gladness!!"

Notice the big LOVE BUCKET in the narthex ... thanks Chuck Ellis.

We appreciate the witness of Tom Tomas and Linda Dodge today, There's a sheet with some basic "financial facts" in the narthex. A stewardship mailing with pledge forms will be coming this week ... pledge forms will be out beginning next Sunday in the narthex.

POINSETTIA PLANTS ... they are beautiful this year ... payment envelopes and forms are in the narthex. As you purchase them ... they will be delivered to the church for our Advent & Christmas worship.

WE DELIVER GIFTS on Sunday, December 20. Between now and then, if you can help us with a check/cash donation ... our love – buckets and mailboxes and open and say "thank-you."

SPECIAL THANKS to the Buikemas for the tree in Charter Hall ... and to the Nussles for the tree in the sanctuary ... they are beautiful.

COPIES OF OUR NEWSLETTER, along with past sermons ... are available in the narthex.

our always humble and festive staff

Debbie Facius and Kathy Janik, office administrators

Linda McAley, custodian Craig Nelson, pastoral support

Mark Nussle, organist Kathy Klang, comptroller

Mike Hefter, organist Ed Steele, Mr. Fix-it