We are a Biblical church giving God's Word first place in our faith and life. We are a Lutheran church that proclaims forgiveness for all through Jesus Christ. We are a Christian church that gathers to praise God, to be strengthened by His Word, and to reach out to those around us in Christian love.

2010 NE Division Street Gresham, Oregon 97030
Pastor Tim Bartels; Organist John Rakos
Phone 503 665-7283
www.savedbygracelutheranchurch.org
(Saved By Grace is a Member Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod)

Welcome! We are glad you can join us for our service. If you are a guest, please sign our guest register to the left through the double doors as you leave the sanctuary today. May God bless the hearing of his Word!

Communion Announcements: Members, please announce for communion on the sheet in the narthex. Guests, please talk to the pastor before communing.

Luke/Acts Series Today begins a new year in the church. As this new year begins a series of alternate texts to the standard Gospel, arranged by ELS pastor, Alex Ring, will be used. During the festival half, the texts are from The Gospel According to St Luke and, during the non-festival half of the year, the texts from The Acts of the Apostles.

Today's text is the announcement to Zechariah by the angel, Gabriel, that he and Elizabeth will have a son, John John, will prepare the way for the King of kings.

Ammo Can: This is the last Sunday the Ammo Can will be available in the narthex for donations until the Month of May The Lutheran Military

Support Group [LMSG]. LMSG provides physical, emotional and other support to members of our fellowship who have served our country in the military. Thank you for any donations you may be able to give.

Upcoming Canvass: The Saved by Grace Church council is organizing a canvas of the community with the help of Bethany Lutheran College students. The canvas is scheduled for March 6th-12, 2027. The canvass will include collecting food donations from community neighbors for Snow Cap. Our congregation's president, David's Sparley, has organized the steps that need to be taken and has identified volunteers needed for this event. Volunteers needed include: host families, a van / car driver, church greeters and helpers, canvas team helpers, meal preparers, etc. In order for this canvass to go forward, the congregation needs volunteers to sign up by the end of November. Please consider what you can do to help and indicate so on the volunteer sign up sheet in the narthex.

Calendar

- Wednesday
    - 5 PM, Advent Vespers
- Thursday
    - 10;30 AM, Bible Class
- Sunday -
    - 9 AM, Sunday School;
    - 10 AM Rite II without Communion

Luke 2:5-25 There was in the days of Herod, the king of Judea, a certain priest named Zacharias, of the division of Abijah. His wife *was* of the daughters of Aaron, and her name *was* Elizabeth. And they were both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless. But they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and they were both well advanced in years.

So it was, that while he was serving as priest before God in the order of his division, according to the custom of the priesthood, his lot fell to burn incense when he went into the temple of the Lord. And the whole multitude of the people was praying outside at the hour of incense. Then an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing on the right side of the altar of incense. And when Zacharias saw *him,* he was troubled, and fear fell upon him.

But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zacharias, for your prayer is heard; and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John. And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth. For he will be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink. He will also be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb. And he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God. He will also go before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah, 'to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children,' and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord."

And Zacharias said to the angel, "How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is well advanced in years."

And the angel answered and said to him, "I am Gabriel, who stands in the presence of God, and was sent to speak to you and bring you these glad tidings. But behold, you will be mute and not able to speak until the day these things take place, because you did not believe my words which will be fulfilled in their own time."

And the people waited for Zacharias, and marveled that he lingered so long in the temple. But when he came out, he could not speak to them; and they perceived that he had seen a vision in the temple, for he beckoned to them and remained speechless.

So it was, as soon as the days of his service were completed, that he departed to his own house. Now after those days his wife Elizabeth conceived; and she hid herself five months, saying, "Thus the Lord has dealt with me, in the days when He looked on *me,* to take away my reproach among people."