



February 3-4, 2024
Epiphany 5

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
359 North Leonard Street, West Salem, Wisconsin
608-786-0030 office@oursaviorswestsalem.org
www.oursaviorswestsalem.org

Pastor Jonathan M. Schmidt
Pastor Jean R. Schmidt



WELCOME TO WORSHIP! God gathers us through Word and Sacrament to celebrate God's presence and to receive God's gift of grace. God has made us his people through our baptism and keeps us close to him through the preaching of the word and God's presence in the bread and wine of Holy Communion. We give thanks today for the gift of faith God has planted in us, and we depart to be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ.

We extend a special **welcome** to those who are our guests. May God bless this time of worship for you as we are blessed by your presence. If you have no church home we invite you to join with us and consider Our Savior's as your church home. If you are not baptized and would like to talk about baptism as part of your faith journey, please speak with one of the pastors.

FELLOWSHIP PADS: We ask everyone to sign and pass the fellowship pad in the pew and return it to the rack when done.

OFFERING: No offering is collected during our worship this day; however, we do welcome your support of our ministries and thank you for your gifts. Together we make a difference in the lives of others.

Offering plates are available as you leave the sanctuary. For online giving go to the church website: oursaviorswestsaalem.org/giving. Or text your gift amount to 608-471-7267 and follow the instructions on the response you receive. Or use the QR Code to the right. Thank you for your generosity and support of our work together.



Order of Worship

*Please stand as you are able

PRELUDE

WELCOME

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, creator of darkness and light, word of truth, wind sweeping over the waters.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

God, our rock and refuge,

we pour out our hearts before you.

We have known you but have not always loved you. We have wounded one another and sinned against you.

We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit dwelling in each of us.

Remember your covenant.

Renew your creation.

Restore us, that we might proclaim your good news to all.

Amen.

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters.

God has spoken: The time of grace is now.

In Jesus, the reign of God has come near.

By the authority of Jesus Christ,
your sins are forgiven.

You are God's beloved.

Amen.

HYMN*"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"****#858**

1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre - a - tion!
 2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won-drous-ly reign - ing
 3 Praise to the Lord, who will pros - per your work and de - fend you;
 4 Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me a - dore him!



O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and sal - va - tion!
 and, as on wings of an ea - gle, up - lift - ing, sus - tain - ing.
 sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy shall dai - ly at - tend you.
 All that has life and breath, come now with prais - es be - fore him!



Let all who hear now to his tem - ple draw near,
 Have you not seen all that is need - ful has been
 Pon - der a - new what the Al - might - y can do
 Let the a - men sound from his peo - ple a - gain.



join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
 sent by his gra - cious or - dain - ing?
 if with his love he be - friend you.
 Glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore him!

***GREETING**

page 98 (in front of the hymnal)

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

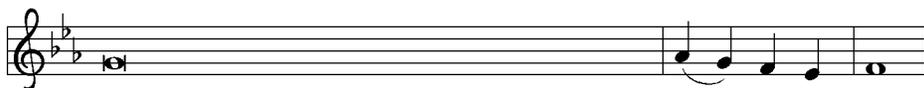
*KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



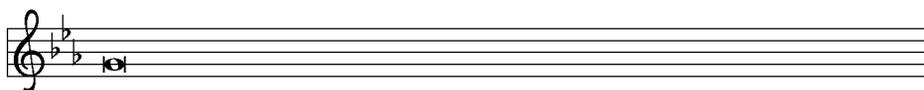
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



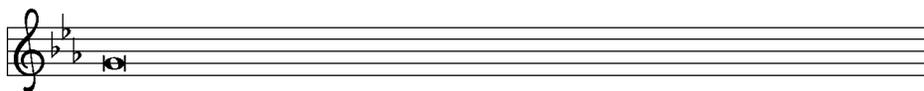
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and

blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:

Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to

Refrain

hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

Refrain

gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

READING

Isaiah 40:21-31

²¹Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? ²²It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in; ²³who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing. ²⁴Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble. ²⁵To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One. ²⁶Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing. ²⁷Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"? ²⁸Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. ²⁹He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. ³⁰Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; ³¹but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first two phrases: 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,'. The second staff continues with the melody for the next two phrases: 'al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.' The lyrics are written below the notes.

***GOSPEL**

Mark 1:29-39

The Gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁹As soon as Jesus and the disciples left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John.

³⁰Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. ³¹He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them. ³²That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. ³³And the whole city was gathered around the door. ³⁴And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him. ³⁵In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. ³⁶And Simon and his companions hunted for him. ³⁷When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." ³⁸He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." ³⁹And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.**SERMON*****HYMN****"Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness" #843**



1 Praise the One who breaks the dark-ness with a lib - er - at - ing light;
2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren with a strong yet gen - tle word;
3 Praise the one true love in - car - nate: Christ, who suf - fered in our place;



praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners, turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight.
praise the One who drove out de - mons with a pierc - ing, two - edged sword.
Je - sus died and rose for man - y that we may know God by grace.



Praise the One who preached the gos - pel, heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease,
Praise the One who brings cool wa - ter to the des - ert's burn - ing sand;
Let us sing for joy and glad - ness, see - ing what our God has done.



calm - ing storms and feed - ing thou - sands with the ver - y bread of peace.
from this well comes liv - ing wa - ter quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.
Praise the one re - deem - ing glo - ry; praise the One who makes us one.

***APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Amen.

***PRAYERS**

P: As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

*(After a brief silence...The **congregation** is invited to read aloud individually the prayer petitions as the spirit moves them. If more than one person reads the petition, all the better!)*

Everlasting God, you bring your healing power to the church. Give your church a spirit of unity and prayer, that we discern your way for us in the world. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

Creator of the ends of the earth, you make the grass grow and send rain for the soil. Bring your creation into harmony and balance. Give animals their food and provide healthy shelter for your people. Inspire us to honor the miraculous beauty of all you have made. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

God without equal, your steadfast love endures forever. Bring the leaders, elected officials, and peacekeepers of our towns and countries into understanding and unity. Guide them to serve with compassion and understanding. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

God who strengthens, you lift up with your hand any who are suffering. Heal those who are brokenhearted and strengthen the weak and all in need. Accompany those who are isolated, alone, or homebound, especially Helen. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

God who gives power to the faint, challenge us to share the faith stories of what God has done in our lives, and in the lives of our living faith partners at Bethany Mauston. Open us to receive the unique ways God is at work in your people, especially those whose perspectives challenge our own. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

God of faithfulness, make your servants faithful disciples of Jesus. Be with our confirmation students, especially Darrell, Claire, and Lauren as they seek to grow in their discipleship, and guide their families that together they may reflect your love and grace. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God who calls each star by name, we remember all who have died. Shelter all who mourn with your mercy and care, and give us hope in your promised salvation. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

P: Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

***PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

Please share a sign of peace with those around you.

MISSION MOMENT

***GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed our right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
 pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
 name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

***EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

***LORD'S PRAYER** page 112 (*in front of hymnal*)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

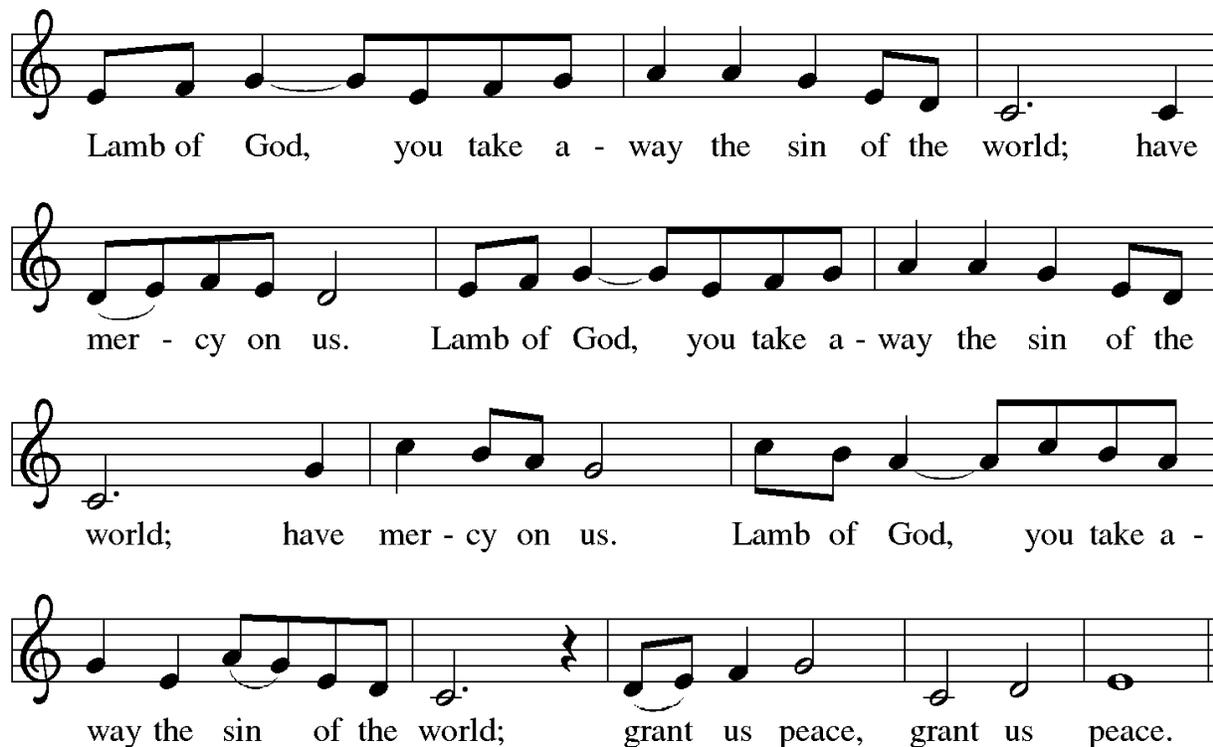
***INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one.
Come and see.

HOLY COMMUNION *All who believe that our Lord Jesus Christ is truly present in the bread and wine of Holy Communion, bringing to us the gift of forgiveness and the promise of eternal life, are welcome to gather at the Lord's Table. Younger children are invited to come forward to receive a blessing.*

*Both wine and grape juice are available – grape juice glasses are purple.
Gluten free wafers are also available.*

AGNUS DEI "Lamb of God"



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" #773

***POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever.

Amen.

***SENDING OF HOME COMMUNION**

*BLESSING

God who names you, Christ who claims you, and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you, bless you and remain with you always.

Amen.

*HYMN

"Rise, Shine, You People!"

#665



1 Rise, shine, you peo - ple! Christ the Lord has en - tered
2 See how he sends the pow'rs of e - vil reel - ing;
3 Come, cel - e - brate; your ban - ners high un - furl - ing,
4 Tell how the Fa - ther sent the Son to save us.



our hu - man sto - ry; God in him is cen - tered. He comes to
he brings us free - dom, light and life and heal - ing. All men and
your songs and prayers a - gainst the dark - ness hurl - ing. To all the
Tell of the Son, who life and free - dom gave us. Tell how the



us, by death and sin sur - round - ed, with grace un - bound - ed.
wom - en, who by guilt are driv - en, now are for - giv - en.
world go out and tell the sto - ry of Je - sus' glo - ry.
Spir - it calls from ev - 'ry na - tion God's new cre - a - tion.

*DISMISSAL *(Done from the back of the church)*

Go in peace. You are God's beloved.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

OUR SAVIOR'S WORSHIP TEAM

www.oursaviorswestsalem.org

Pastor Jonathan Schmidt, Senior Pastor 612-0217

Email: pastorjon@oursaviorswestsalem.org

Pastor Jean Schmidt, Associate Pastor 612-0217

Email: pastorjean@oursaviorswestsalem.org

Linda Berg, Organist/Choir Accompanist/Director of Music

Email: linda@oursaviorswestsalem.org

Laurie Noelke, Handbell Choir Director/Assistant Worship Musician

Eric Sorenson, Senior Choir Director

CARD MINISTRY - Please be sure to sign the card for this week's shut-in, Helen Friell. The card is on the table by the Pre-K/K classroom.

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP - A time for fellowship and treats between services on Sundays! Please sign up to bring treats or to serve what others have provided.

CONFIRMATION AFTER SCHOOL & CLASS

Wednesday, February 7

No After School

6 pm – 6 Confirmation Class

6 pm – 7 Confirmation Class

7 pm – 8 Confirmation **w/Parents**

7 pm – 9 Confirmation **w/Parents**

WORSHIP LEADERS

6 p.m.
Worship Assistant Olivia Sprehn
Communion Assistant Jon Hetland
Welcoming Team Todd & Inger Michael

8 a.m.
Worship Assistant Alana Steinke
Reader Lynette Ender
Communion Assistant Jim Quamme
Welcoming Team Erin & Jayme Hansen Family

10:30 a.m.
Worship Assistant Addy Tlustosch
Communion Assistant Michelle Witte
Welcoming Team Wayne & Darlene Affeldt
Home Communion Bev Bockenbauer
Altar Guild for February Cindy Averbeck/Jaime Fortier

WEEKLY WATER FACT - In just one day, 200 million work hours are consumed by women collecting water for their families. Collectively, South African women and children walk a daily distance equivalent to 16 trips to the moon and back to fetch water. A gallon of water weighs about 8 pounds

SCRIP CARDS AVAILABLE

Help support Our Savior's Sugar Creek Bible Camp Camperships and World Hunger!



Culver's, Kwik Trip, Kwik Trip car wash, Woodman's, and Ship Shape car wash.

Check out the February newsletter (www.oursaviorswestsalem.org) to find out more.

HUNGRY JAR OFFERING FOR FEBRUARY
LaCrosse Warming Center

The weather outside is frigid ... this *is* Wisconsin! The La Crosse Warming Center's mission is to work with the greater La Crosse community to better serve those experiencing homelessness with dignity and respect by providing a safe and warm place for homeless adults 18 years and older to get in out of the cold during the winter months from November 1 until May 1. The Warming Center is located at 413 South Third Street in La Crosse. Guests are able to take a shower and wash their clothes. To keep the doors open, hundreds of volunteers from area churches and the community are needed to staff the center. Please be generous as we care for those who are hurting.



CARE AND SHARE FOOD PANTRY - is open Saturdays, 10 AM to Noon. We are thankful for all the donations we have recently received. Many local families have benefited from your generosity. Monetary, food, and personal items are always appreciated.

If you missed it last year, not to fear ... it's back! ... bring a dish to share or just come and enjoy the treats ...



**Second annual
Mardi Gras fest
Potluck Sampler**

Shake off the winter blahs!

Come one ... come all

**Sunday, February 11
3 - 5 PM**

Join us for ...

Food ... prizes ... music ... activities for kids ...

Cook up a batch of your favorite recipe, bring it to church, along with a copy of your recipe. We'll serve small samples, and see whose recipes are the favorites! Talk to Pastor Jean for more details. Sign up in the Gathering Area!

Sample the food ... and vote for your favorites!

Ash Wednesday Worship
February 14 - 6:15 PM

Ashes and Holy Communion

Ashes and message, music and hymns, and the Sacrament, as we begin the journey of Lent.



Lenten Worship

It's "Round Robin" Season!

Wednesdays February 21- March 20 @ 6:15 PM

Weekly worship featuring Holden Evening Prayer, with a message focusing on the "wandering heart" of the Apostle Peter. Come and explore with us a very imperfect, yet faithful servant of Jesus, and consider how Peter's story is...ours too!

An added treat this year is different voices! We are joining several congregations in a "round robin," as Pastor Jon travels...and other pastors join us to share the message!

February 21 – "Jesus sought me" (*Pastor Jon*)

February 28 – "Rescue me from danger"

(Pr Jason Stanton, First Lutheran, Onalaska)

March 6 – "I'm fixed upon it"

(Pr Dan McCurdy, West Salem Presbyterian)

March 13 – "Praise the mount" (*Pastor Jon*)

March 20 – "Teach me"

(Pr Kary Jonas, Prince of Peace, La Crescent)



We will have a simple meal, along with dessert, prior to the service each week at 5:30 PM. We still need folks to provide dessert for these meals. A sign-up sheet can be found in the Gathering Area.