



September 12-13, 2026

Pentecost 16

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

359 Leonard Street North, 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.

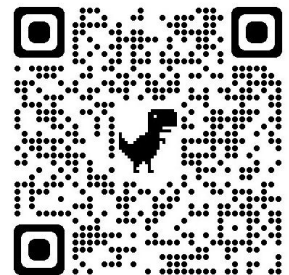
We extend a special **welcome** to those who are our guests. May God bless this time of worship for you as we are blessed by your presence. If you have no church home we invite you to join with us and consider Our Savior's as your church home. If you are not baptized and would like to talk about baptism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

PEACEKEEPER BAGS FOR CHILDREN to use during worship are available in the coat room.

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: oursaviorswestsalem.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 & FORGIVENESS** pp 211-212 *(in front of hymnal)*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our
hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may
perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from
you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly
sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us
our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and
things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and
uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you
in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and
Lord. Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in
sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have
been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.
Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit,
that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

***HYMN** "Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death"

#452



- 1 A - wake, O sleep - er, rise from death, and Christ shall give you light;
- 2 To us on earth he came to bring from sin and fear re - lease,
- 3 There is one bod - y and one hope, one Spir - it and one call,
- 4 Then walk in love as Christ has loved, who died that he might save;
- 5 For us Christ lived, for us he died, and con - quered in the strife.



so learn his love, its length and breadth, its full - ness, depth, and height.
 to give the Spir - it's u - ni - ty, the ver - y bond of peace.
 one Lord, one faith, and one bap - tism, one God who made us all.
 with kind and gen - tle hearts for - give as God in Christ for - gave.
 A - wake, a - rise, go forth in faith, and Christ shall give you life.

Text: F. Bland Tucker, 1895–1984

Music: AZMON, Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829

***GREETING** page 213 (*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** page 213 (*in front of the hymnal*)



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: Lord, have mer - cy.
 Lord, have mer - cy:



Chri - ste e - le - i - son: Christ, have mer - cy.
 Christ, . . . have mer - cy:



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: Lord, have mer - cy.
 Lord, have mer - cy:

*CANTICLE OF PRAISE

pp 213-215 (in front of the hymnal)



Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;



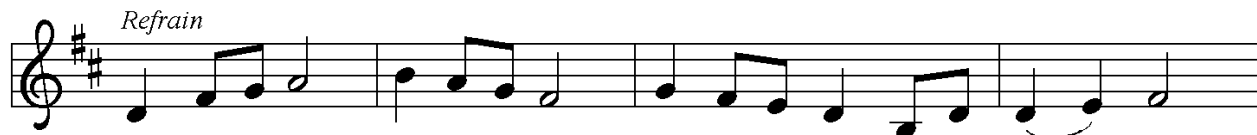
glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



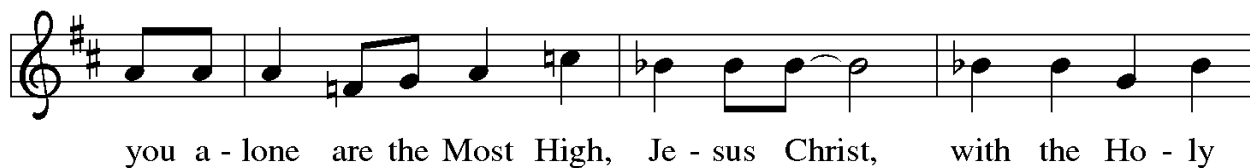
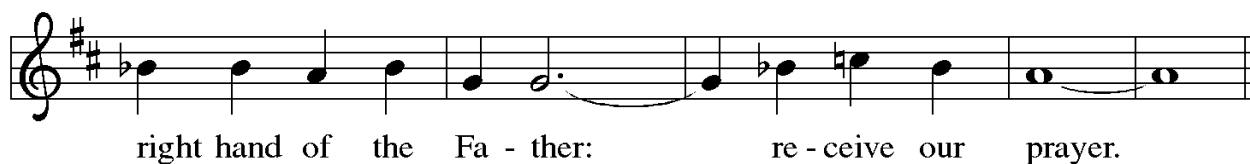
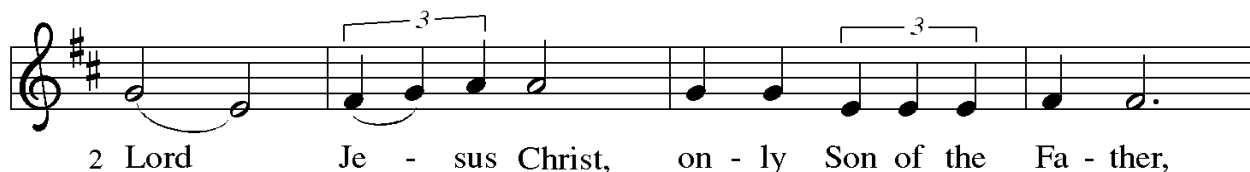
1 Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al - might-y God and Fa - ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;





Spir-it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.



Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;



glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on



earth, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

READING Genesis 50: 15-21

¹⁵ Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" ¹⁶ So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, ¹⁷ 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸ Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." ¹⁹ But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰ Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. ²¹ So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

page 216 (*in front of hymnal*)



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? Al - le -

lu - ia. You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

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

***GOSPEL**

Matthew 18: 21-35

The Gospel according to Matthew

Glory to you, O Lord!

²¹ Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if my brother or sister sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" ²² Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

²³ "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴ When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him, ²⁵ and, as he could not pay, the lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions and payment to be made. ²⁶ So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' ²⁷ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸ But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you owe.' ²⁹ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' ³⁰ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹ When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³² Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³ Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' ³⁴ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵ So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ!

SERMON

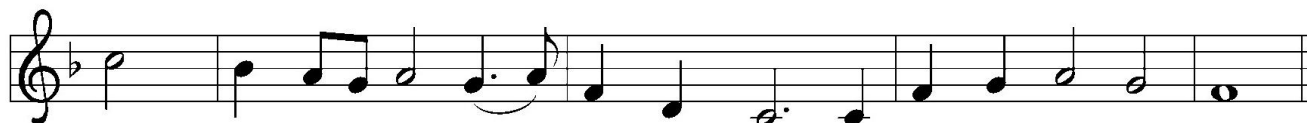
*HYMN

"Where Charity and Love Prevail"

#359



- 1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;
- 2 With grate-ful joy and ho - ly fear, God's char - i - ty we learn;
- 3 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's ho - ly Son;
- 4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; let all con - ten - tions cease.
- 5 Let us for - give each oth - er's faults as we our own con - fess,



brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.
let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in re - turn.
as mem - bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.
Be God's the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.
that we may love each oth - er well in Chris - tian gen - tle - ness.

Text: Latin hymn, 9th cent.; tr. Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt.

Music: TWENTY-FOURTH, attr. Lucius Chapin, 1760–1842

*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: Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers, confident that God hears us.

*(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!)*

Move your church throughout the world away from judging and despising others. Lead us to embody the forgiveness you have given us in Jesus. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

The endless beauty of your creation reminds us of your mercy. Protect those who care for farms and ranches. Guide those who lead us to wonder at your creation. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Raise up leaders to hold all in authority accountable for any misuse of the power entrusted to them. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Calm the fears of all in need with your promises. Compassionately free the lives of any who feel bound by their failures. Remember your children in need and accompany those who are isolated, alone, or homebound, especially Shirley and Jane. Hear us, O God,

Your mercy is great.

Ground this congregation in the welcome you show us in forgiving our sin. Inspire each of us to welcome others for your honor and glory. Hear us, O God,

Your mercy is great.

Work within your servants to be faithful disciples of Jesus. Be with our confirmation students, especially Ava as she seeks to grow in her discipleship, and guide her family that together they may reflect your love and grace. Hear us, O God,

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

With you is found the joy and promise of eternal life. Keep us in that joy as we remember all those who have gone before us.

Hear us, O God,

Your mercy is great.

P: Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask, and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

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.

***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 the 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**

Christ invites you to this table. All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

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"



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

COMMUNION HYMNS

"All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly"

#461

"Eat This Bread"

#472

***POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

Amen.

*SENDING OF HOME COMMUNION

Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care:
As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist
XXX in this ministry on which she is/he is/they are sent forth.
Bless her/his/ their time with YY, and in your love and care,
nourish and strengthen them in this sacrament, that through the
body and blood of your Son we all may know the comfort of your
abiding presence. Amen.

*BLESSING

The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind, in the
body of Christ Jesus. The God of hope grant you strength and joy
in all circumstances through the interceding of the Spirit. The
God of grace bless you now and forever.

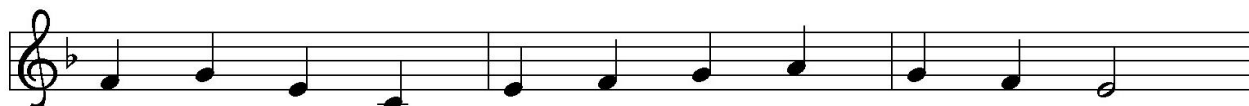
Amen.

*HYMN

"Praise the Lord, Rise Up Rejoicing"



1 Praise the Lord, rise up re - joic - ing, wor - ship, thanks, de -
2 Scat - tered flock, one shep - herd shar - ing, lost and lone - ly,
3 Sins for - giv - en, wrongs for - giv - ing, we go forth a -



vo - tion voic - ing: glo - ry be to God on high!
one voice hear - ing, ears at - ten - tive to your word;
lert and liv - ing in your Spir - it, strong and free.



Christ, your cross and pas - sion shar - ing, by this eu - cha -
by your blood new life re - ceiv - ing, in your bod - y,
Part - ners in your new cre - a - tion, seek - ing peace in



rist de - clar - ing yours the fi - nal vic - to - ry.
firm be - liev - ing, we are yours, and you the Lord.
ev - 'ry na - tion, may we faith - ful fol - l'wers be.

Text: Howard C. A. Gaunt, 1902–1983, alt.

Music: ALLES IST AN GOTTES SEGEN, Johann Löhner, 1645–1705, adapt.

#544

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.
Thanks be to God.

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15

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.



Fall Rehearsals have begun
on Wednesday evenings!

Handbells at 6:00 PM in the Music Room

Choir at 7:30 PM in the balcony

Come and join us!

We've Got Quilts and Kits...

You've Got Wheels???

Our quilts and school kits are almost ready to hit the road – but we need some help. If you have a pickup or van that can help us transport our boxes to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in La Crosse on Saturday morning, **October 10**, see Pastor Jon or Pastor Jean. This is a great way to be a part of an important ministry!



IT'S SCHOOL KIT TIME!

We are collecting school supplies through September for the school kits we assemble and send around the world through Lutheran World Relief!

Each School kit contains the following:

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| 1 – 30 cm ruler/12 inch | 1 – pencil sharpener |
| 1 – BLUNT scissors | 5 – UN sharpened pencils |
| 1 – box 24 crayons | 1 – 2-1/2-inch eraser |
| 4 – 70 sheet notebooks (no loose-leaf paper) | |
| 5 – blue or black ball point pens (no gel ink) | |

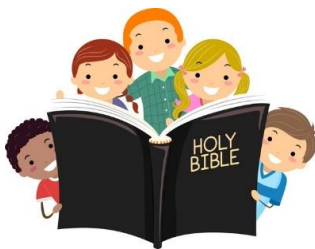
Our greatest needs are **notebooks and pens**. We are thankful to be well supplied with other items. Our goal is 200 kits this year! A collection box is in the gathering area. Thank you for making a difference in the lives of children!

**Young Adult/Family...
September Gathering**

Sunday, September 20, @ 4:00 PM
Hosted by Kaytie & Tadd Duescher
(N5027 Oakview Drive, West Salem)

*Please bring a dish to pass to go along with
brats and hot dogs!*

Young adults, couples, and families with young children are welcome to join us.



3rd Grade Bible Workshop
Sunday, September 27
1:30-3:00 PM

Parents and students gather for class.
Students will receive their Bibles in worship on Sunday,
October 11

**Hungry Jar Offering for September –
Lutheran Disaster Response**



Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR) is the ELCA's ministry to accompany disaster survivors, as they work with congregations, synods, and local partners in affected communities. When families are displaced by floodwater, your support helps meet immediate needs such as food, shelter and clean water, and makes recovery assistance possible. When extreme heat creates life-threatening conditions, your generosity helps provide safe and welcoming cooling spaces that support vulnerable neighbors. When wildfires force evacuations and leave devastation behind, your gifts help sustain relief and recovery ministries long after media attention fades. One of the unique strengths of LDR is their commitment to accompany communities for the long haul. They do not simply arrive in the immediate aftermath of a disaster and then move on. They walk alongside affected communities as they rebuild homes, restore stability, and find hope again.



Shoe Box Christmas Project ...

This project is starting with the Confirmation kids in the fall. Our goal is to collect personal care items, put them into a shoe box, and deliver them to the Boys & Girls Club and/or the West Salem Schools to give a young adult a little something for Christmas.

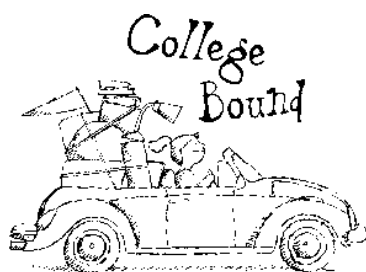
The continued request is for: shoe boxes, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, socks, shampoo, and body wash. Items can be placed in the basket in the Gathering Area.

If you would like to give a monetary donation, please write the check out to *Our Savior's* and on the memo line put "*Shoe Box Christmas*". We will do the shopping for you!

SCRIP CARDS AVAILABLE

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

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



college+ connection

Whether you're going to WTC and living at home or traveling to the far ends of the country, we need your **campus address** and your **email address**! You are important to us and we want to keep in touch –

Please get the information to the office or to Pastor Jean.



CARE AND SHARE FOOD PANTRY - is open Saturdays, 10 AM to Noon. The food pantry could use canned fruit, especially pineapple, mandarin oranges, and applesauce. Money, other non-perishable food items, and personal care items are always welcome. Thank you for being so supportive of the pantry!



Facebook Page - Our Savior's ELCA – West Salem

Instagram Page – oursaviors_ws

YouTube Channel (for livestream and recording of worship) - [youtube.com/@techoslcl](https://www.youtube.com/@techoslcl)

Check out the September newsletter www.oursaviorswestsalem.org to find out more.