



September 26-27, 2026

Pentecost 18

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



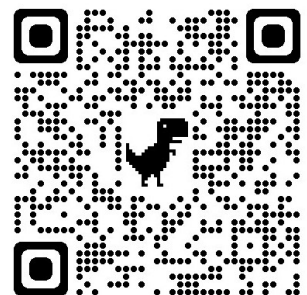
WELCOME TO WORSHIP! God gathers us through Word and Sacrament to celebrate God's presence and to receive God's gift of grace. God has made us his people through our baptism and keeps us close to him through the preaching of the word and God's presence in the bread and wine of Holy Communion. We give 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.

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

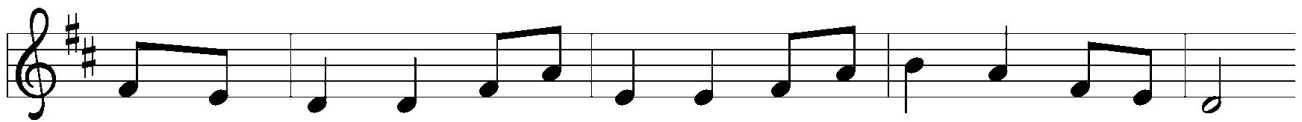
*HYMN

"Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

#807



1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be;



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan-d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end-less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,
Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan-d'ring from the fold of God;
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good-ness prove.
he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre-cious blood.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735–1790, alt.

Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

*GREETING

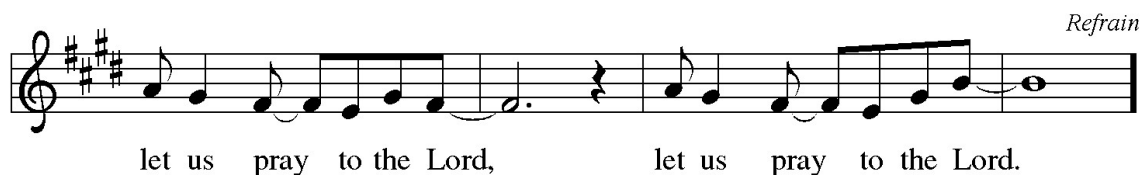
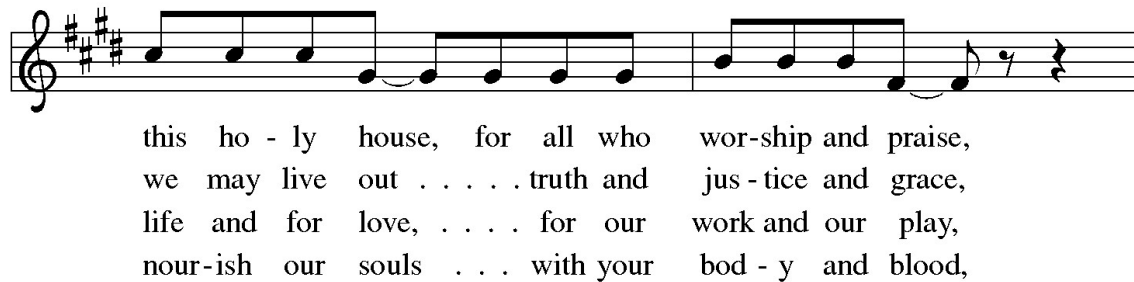
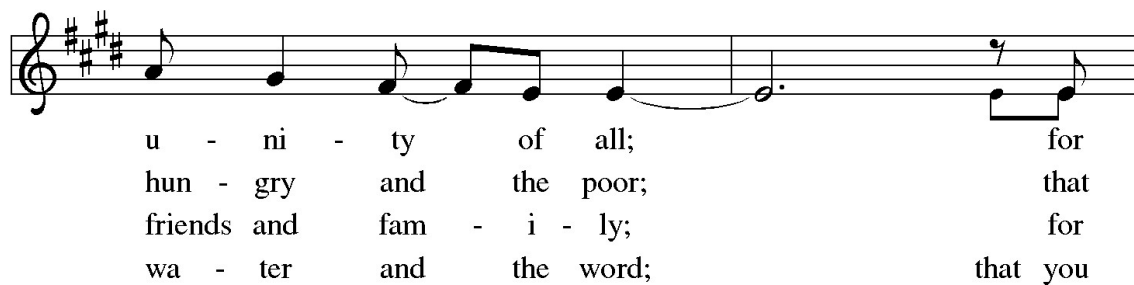
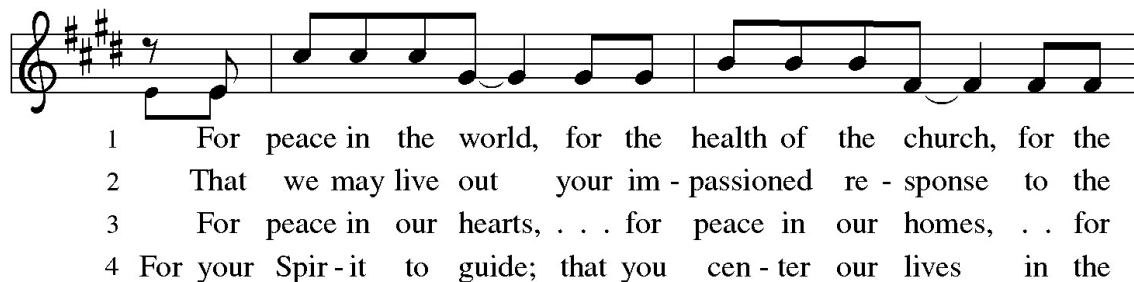
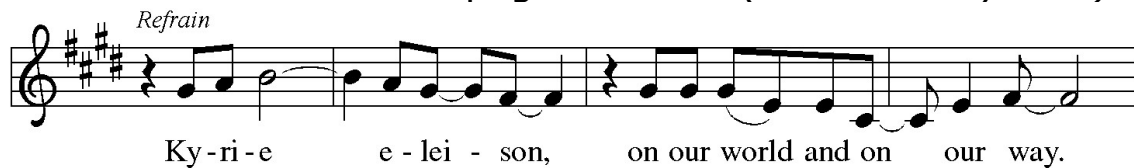
page 184 (*in front of hymnal*)

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 ELEISON

page 184-185 (in front of hymnal)



*PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Help Us Accept Each Other"
Senior Choir

8 A.M.

As the anthem is sung please use this time for prayer and meditation. As the music concludes we ask to continue in silence. No applause please!

READING

Genesis 11: 1-9

¹ Now the whole earth had one language and the same words.

² And as they migrated from the east, they came upon a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there. ³ And they said to one another, "Come, let us make bricks and fire them thoroughly." And they had brick for stone and bitumen for mortar. ⁴ Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city and a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a name for ourselves; otherwise we shall be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth."

⁵ The LORD came down to see the city and the tower, which mortals had built. ⁶ And the LORD said, "Look, they are one people, and they have all one language, and this is only the beginning of what they will do; nothing that they propose to do will now be impossible for them. ⁷ Come, let us go down and confuse their language there, so that they will not understand one another's speech." ⁸ So the LORD scattered them abroad from there over the face of all the earth, and they left off building the city. ⁹ Therefore it was called Babel, because there the LORD confused the language of all the earth, and from there the LORD scattered them abroad over the face of all the earth.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

***GOSPEL** Matthew 21:23-32

The Gospel according to Matthew
Glory to you, O Lord.

²³ When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" ²⁴ Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵ Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why, then, did you not believe him?'" ²⁶ But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd, for all regard John as a prophet." ²⁷ So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. ²⁸ "What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' ²⁹ He answered, 'I will not,' but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰ The father went to the second and said the same, and he answered, 'I go, sir,' but he did not go. ³¹ Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³² For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it you did not change your minds and believe him.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN*"Shout to the Lord"****#821**

My Je - sus, my Sav - ior, Lord, there is none like you.

All of my days I want to praise the won - ders of your might - y love.

My com - fort, my shel - ter, tow - er of ref - uge and strength;

let ev - ry breath, all that I am nev - er cease to wor - ship you.

Shout to the Lord, all the earth; let us sing pow - er and maj - es - ty, praise

to the King. Moun - tains bow down and the seas will roar at the

sound of your name. I sing for joy at the work of your hands;

for - ev - er I'll love you, for - ev - er I'll stand.

Noth - ing com - pares to the prom - ise I have in you.

Text: Darlene Zschech, b. 1965
Music: SHOUT TO THE LORD, Darlene Zschech

***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 pr.ayer petitions as the spirit moves them. If more than one person reads the petition, all the better!)*

Center your church in humility as we strive to follow in your way. Help us listen to the cries of those who have been unfairly hurt by the church and dare to name difficult truths. Show all your love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You call us to care for your creation. Lead us into your promise of a better world through sustainable practices and respect for your handiwork. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great

Inspire all in positions of authority to act honorably. Remind them of their call to use their authority for the sake of the common good. Give them the gift of humility. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Comfort those who come before you in fear and trembling. Calm troubled hearts with your forgiveness and help all those in need.

Accompany those who are isolated, alone, or homebound, especially Lana and Gary & Leca. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Change this congregation's heart when we say no to your call. Open us to courageous learning and service in our community, especially in new or challenging places. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Work within your servants to be faithful disciples of Jesus. Be with our confirmation students, especially Alise 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.

Your steadfast love holds all the saints who have finished their work and are at rest. As we grieve, remind us of your mercy so we may also give thanks. 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 (sung)

Our Fa - ther, which art in heav - ven, hal-low-ed be Thy name.

Thy king-dom come, Thy will be done on earth as it

is in heav - ven. Give us this day our dai - ly bread, and for-give us our

debts as we for-give our debt-ors. And lead us not in-to temp - ta-tion, but de - liv-er us from

c - vil, for Thine is the King-dom and the power and the

Glo - ry for - ev - er. A - - men.

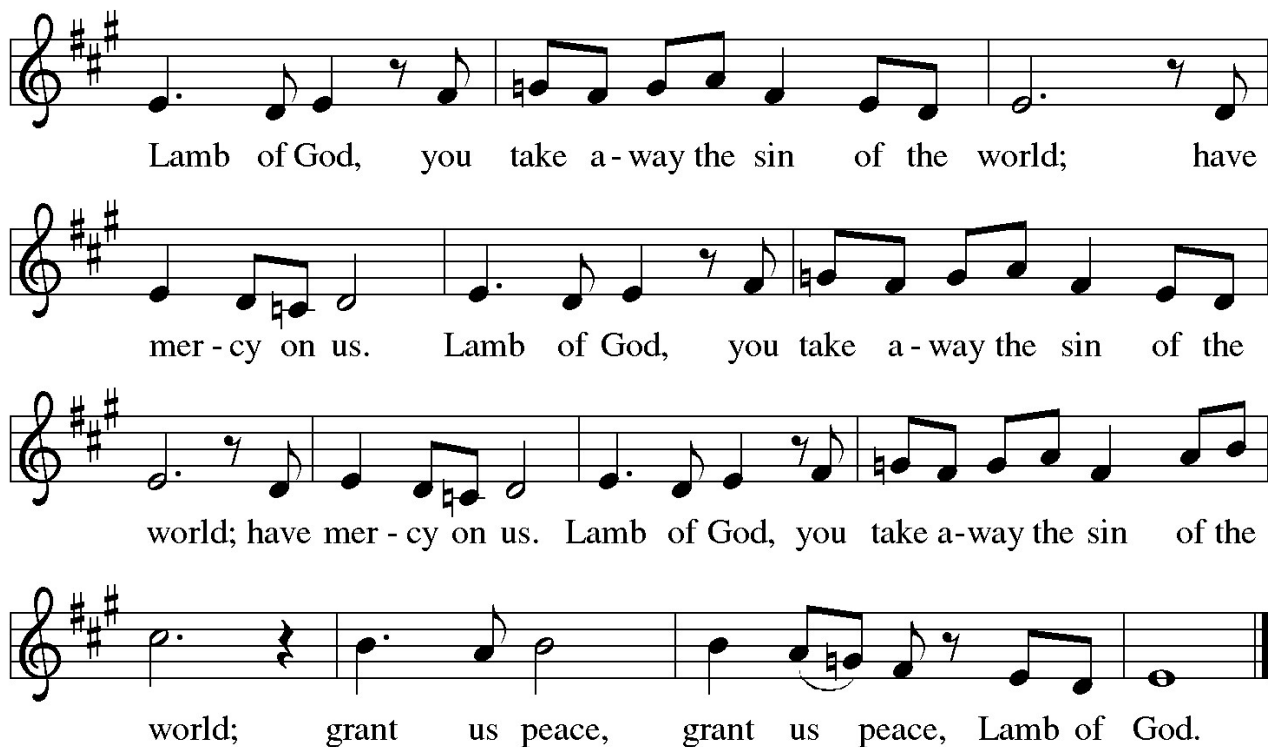
*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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 is 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, Lamb of God.

COMMUNION HYMNS

"One Bread, One Body"

#496

"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 a 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

"The Lord Now Sends Us Forth"

#538



En - via - do soy de Dios, mi ma - no lis - ta es - tá
The Lord now sends us forth with hands to serve and give,
pa - ra cons - truir con él un mun - do fra - ter - nal.
to make of all the earth a bet - ter place to live.
Los án - ge - les no son en - via - dos a cam - biar
The an - gels are not sent in - to our world of pain
un mun - do de do - lor por un mun - do me - jor;
to do what we were meant to do in Je - sus' name;
me ha to - ca - do a mí ha - cer - lo rea - li - dad.
that falls to you and me and all who are made free.
A - yú - da - me, Se - ñor, a ha - cer tu vo - lun - tad.
Help us, O Lord, we pray, to do your will to - day.

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

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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OUR SAVIOR'S WORSHIP TEAM

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Email: pastorjean@oursaviorswestsalem.org
Linda Berg, Organist/Choir Accompanist/Director of Music
Email: linda@oursaviorswestsalem.org
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Email: youthoursaviorswestsalem@gmail.com
Laurie Noelke, Handbell Choir Director/Assistant Worship Musician
Email: laurienelke@gmail.com
Joey Barnett, Senior Choir Director 715-896-3825
Email: barnetjos@gmail.com

WORSHIP LEADERS

6 p.m.

Worship Assistant Owen Christianson
Communion Assistant Trudy Drugg
Welcoming Team Stugen Family

8 a.m.

Worship Assistant Noah Evenson
Communion Assistant Corey Sjoquist
Welcoming Team Jen Evenson Family

10:30 a.m.

Worship Assistant Addison Inglett
Communion Assistant Wendy Amundson
Welcoming Team Tim & Denise Jones

Home Communion Rasmussen Family
Altar Guild for Sept Wendy Amundson

CARD MINISTRY - Please be sure to sign the cards for this week's shut-ins, Lana Helgeson and Gary & Leca Wedwick. The cards are 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.



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

7th & 8th Grade Confirmation Students ...
[All parents are invited to join us]

Wednesday, October 7 at 6 PM

Speaker: Heidi Overson, The Amara Rose Foundation



The Amara Rose Foundation (amararosefoundation.org) was founded in 2022 by Randall & Heidi Overson and Jeff Richardson. On January 7, 2022, they lost their daughter, Amara, to fentanyl poisoning. Amara died alone on a cold kitchen floor, miles from home. She was 31.

Amara had struggled with substance abuse, insecurity, and poor mental health for eight years. But fentanyl is what killed her. The foundation was started for a beautiful life lost, but also in honor of all those whose lives have been lost to substance abuse, fentanyl poisoning, and mental illness. They stand on the verse: *"... You meant evil against me, but God made it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives."* Genesis 50:20

Confirmation Parents and anyone else with a passion for kids ...



Wednesday, October 14 at 6 PM

Speaker: Al Erickson
Adults Saving Kids (ASK)
(www.adultssavingkids.org)

ASK works to train and equip parents and grandparents with the tools they need to build up the lives of their children. They carry out their mission with a special concern for the human trafficking of young people.



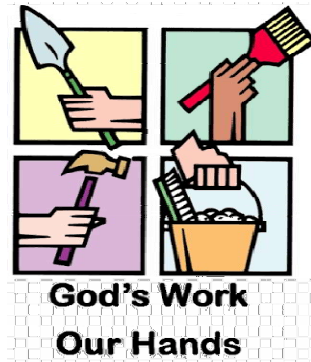
Hungry Jar Offering for September – Lutheran Disaster Response

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. 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.

Save the Date!
Thursday, October 22,
8:30 AM

Watch for a sign up sheet!

Many hands make the work light on specialized cleaning and other projects inside the church. Suggestions for detailed cleaning or potential projects? Notify the church office or text/call Rich Westpfahl at 608-780-4377.



Care and Share Food Pantry ...

is open Saturdays, 10 AM to Noon. The food pantry could use Hamburger Helper, pasta sauces, and SPAM. Money, other non-perishable food items, and personal care items are always welcome. Thank you for being so supportive of the pantry

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.



Facebook Page - Our Savior's ELCA – West Salem

Instagram Page – oursaviors_ws

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

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