

November 8, 2026

Pentecost 24

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** "My Lord, What a Morning" **#438**

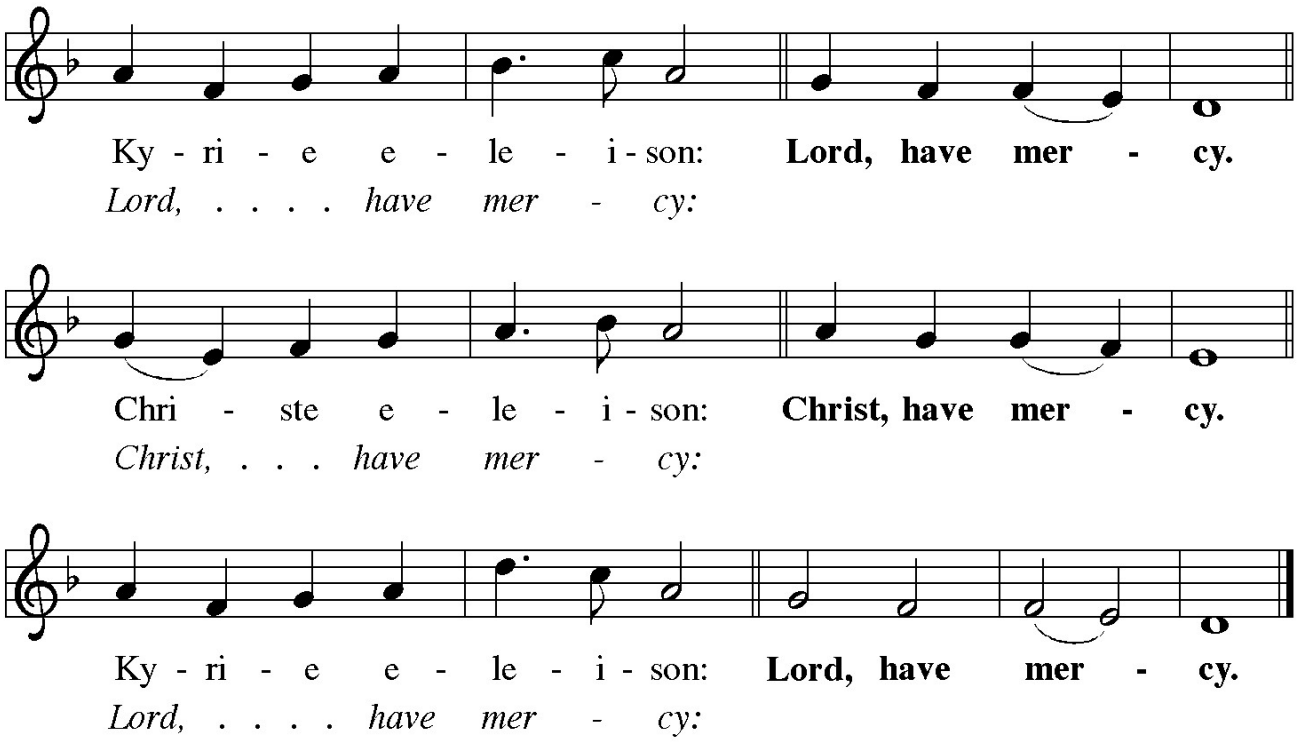


Text: African American spiritual
Music: BURLEIGH, African American spiritual

***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.

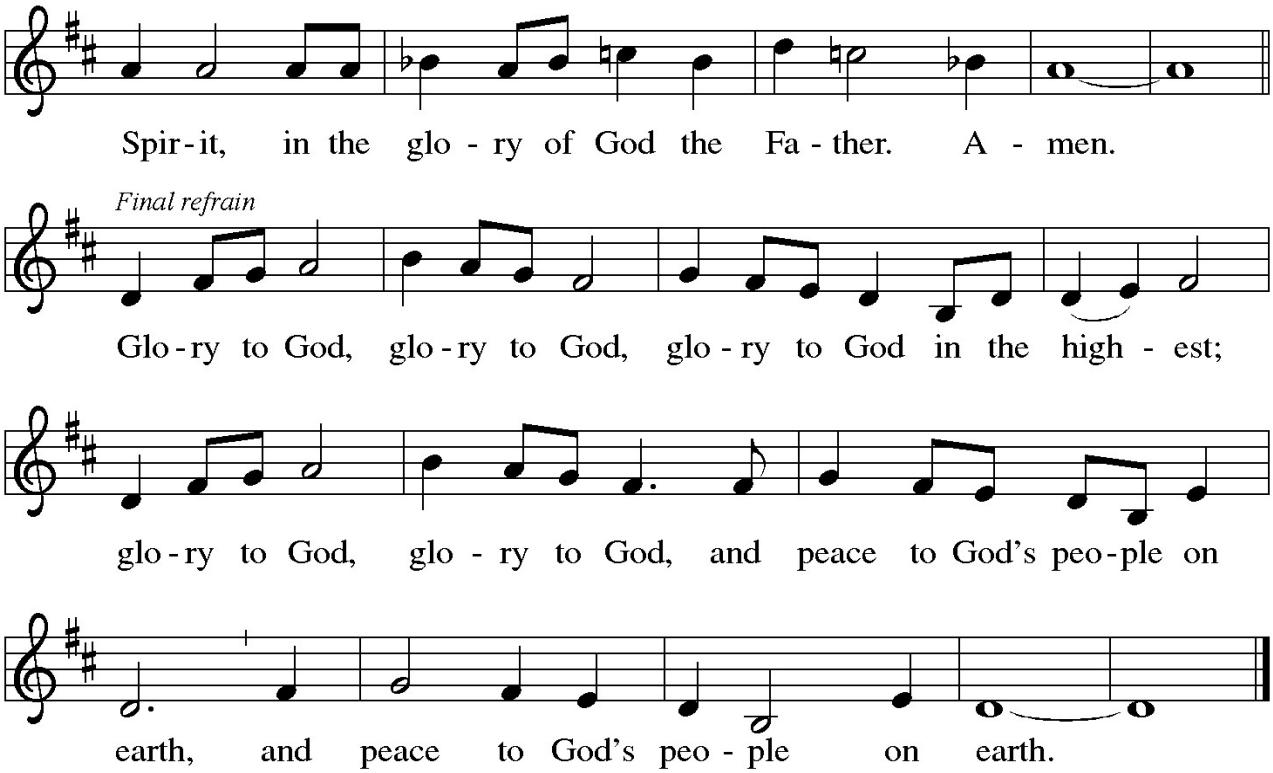
*KYRIE page 213 *(in front of the hymnal)*



*CANTICLE OF PRAISE pp 213-215 *(in front of the hymnal)*




glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the
right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.
Refrain
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.
3 For you a-lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly



***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

SPECIAL MUSIC Senior Choir 8:00 AM
"Knowing You"

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

READING 1 Kings 17: 8-16

8Then the word of the Lord came to Elijah, saying, 9"Go now to
Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and live there, for I have
commanded a widow there to feed you." 10So he set out and went
to Zarephath. When he came to the gate of the town, a widow
was there gathering sticks; he called to her and said, "Bring me a
little water in a vessel, so that I may drink." 11As she was going to
bring it, he called to her and said, "Bring me a morsel of bread in
your hand." 12But she said, "As the Lord your God lives, I have
nothing baked, only a handful of meal in a jar and a little oil in a
jug; I am now gathering a couple of sticks so that I may go home
and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it and
die." 13Elijah said to her, "Do not be afraid; go and do as you have
said, but first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and
afterward make something for yourself and your son. 14For thus
says the Lord the God of Israel: The jar of meal will not be
emptied and the jug of oil will not fail until the day that the Lord
sends rain on the earth." 15She went and did as Elijah said, so
that she as well as he and her household ate for many days.
16The jar of meal was not emptied, neither did the jug of oil fail,
according to the word of the Lord that he spoke by Elijah.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** page 216 *(in front of hymnal)*



***GOSPEL** Matthew 25: 1-13

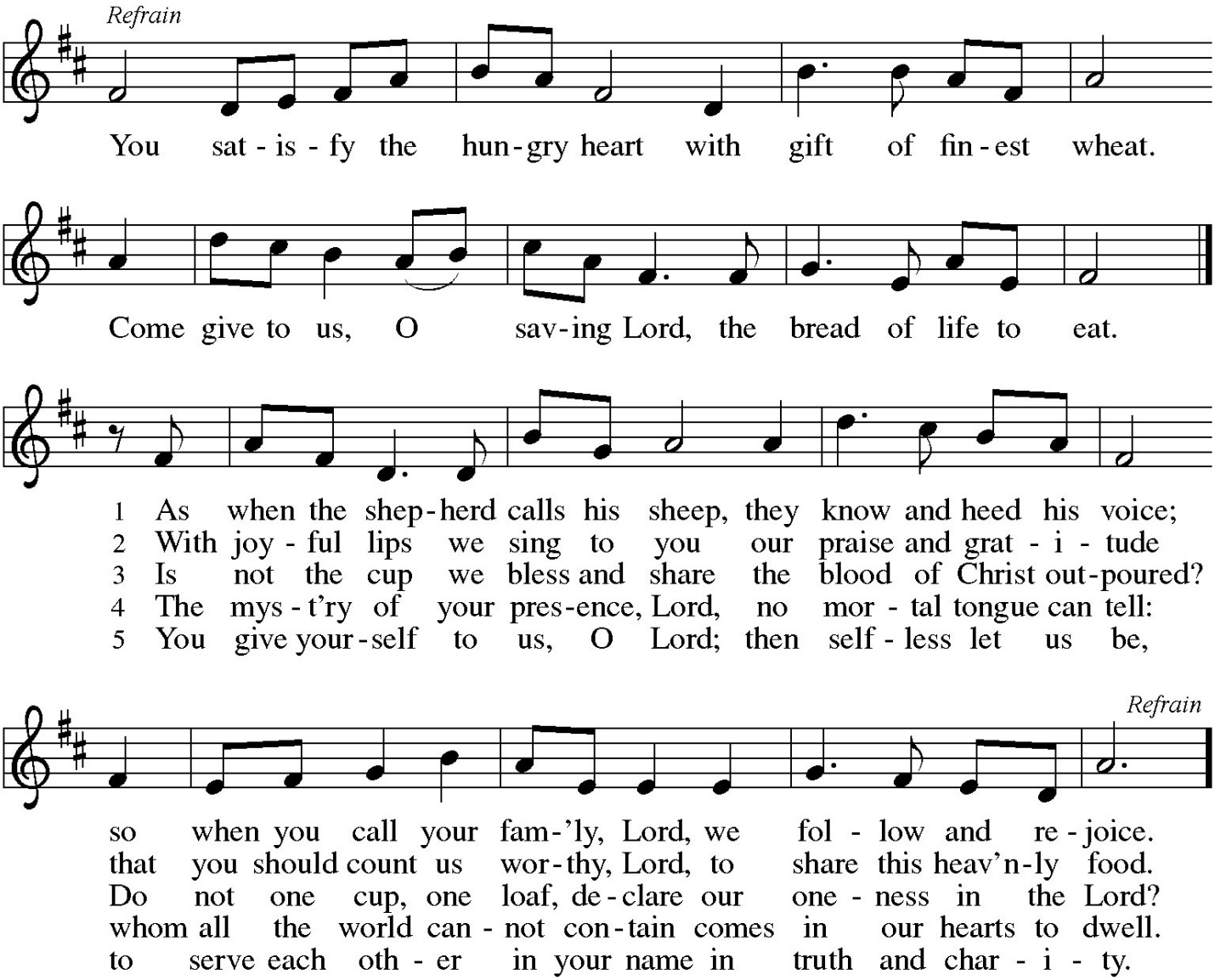
The Gospel according to Matthew
Glory to you, O Lord!

[Jesus said to the disciples:] 1 "Then the kingdom of heaven will
be like this. Ten young women took their lamps and went to meet
the bridegroom. 2 Five of them were foolish, and five were wise.
3 When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them,
4 but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. 5 As the
bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept.
6 But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the
bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' 7 Then all those young
women got up and trimmed their lamps. 8 The foolish said to the
wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' 9 But
the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us;
you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.'
10 And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those
who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet, and the
door was shut. 11 Later the other young women came also,
saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' 12 But he replied, 'Truly I tell you,
I do not know you.' 13 Keep awake, therefore, for you know
neither the day nor the hour."

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

SERMON

***HYMN** "You Satisfy the Hungry Heart" **#484**



Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997
Music: BICENTENNIAL, Robert E. Kreutz, 1922–1996

*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: United with the great cloud of witnesses, we offer our prayers for 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!)*

You illumine the church with the hope of your new day. Prepare our hearts and minds for the inbreaking of your kingdom, that we might awaken to your transforming love at work all around us. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

You create and sustain the earth's natural rhythms so that all life might thrive. Show us the wisdom and wonder of nature's balance; make us careful stewards of our common home. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

You make justice roll down in all places and among all nations. Encourage all who protect vulnerable communities and help rebuild in the aftermath of conflict. Uphold veterans and those who care for them. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

You hasten to heal our wounds and make whole what is broken. Comfort individuals facing a difficult diagnosis, receiving palliative care, or facing uncertain treatment options. Accompany those who are isolated, alone, or homebound, especially Lana and Ella Mae. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

You give rest to weary hearts and bodies. As the days grow shorter in the north, help us to move more slowly and intentionally through our days, honoring the need for quiet and stillness. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

You promise to work within your servants to be faithful disciples of Jesus. Be with our confirmation students, especially Jackson and Bailey as they seek to grow in their discipleship, and guide their families that together they may reflect your love and grace. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

You welcome those who have come before us in faith into the joys of heaven. Sustain us by your grace and guide us into the promise of everlasting life. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

P: Into your steadfast love, faithful God, we entrust all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus, your beloved.
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.

*EUCHARISTIC 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

In bread and cup the reign of Christ is breaking in. Come, receive what Christ has prepared.

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"



COMMUNION HYMNS

"When Peace Like A River" **#785**
"Nothing Can Trouble" **#1033**



Text: Teresa of Avila, 1515–1582; adapt. Taizé Community
Music: NADA TE TURBE, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994

***POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

Holy God, we have received your never-ending mercy in this meal. You continuously seek the lost, bind the injured, and feed your people abundantly. Now send us out, awake to your presence, now and forever.
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 holy Trinity, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you with wisdom to welcome the reign of God, today and always.
Amen.

*HYMN "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" #733



Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866–1960
Music: FAITHFULNESS, William M. Runyan, 1870–1957

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

Go in peace. Encourage one another.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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OUR SAVIOR'S WORSHIP TEAM
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CARD MINISTRY - Please be sure to sign the cards for this week's shut-ins, Lana Helgeson and Ella Mae Johnson. 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.

WORSHIP LEADERS

6 p.m.
Norwegian Dinner, No Worship

8 a.m.

Worship Assistant	Garrett Pederson
Communion Assistant	Scott Gilbertson
Welcoming Team	Karl & Kathy Wehrs

10:30 a.m.

Worship Assistant	Trenton Stellick
Communion Assistant	Gillian Twite
Welcoming Team	Kyle Twite
Home Communion	Judy Gilbert
Altar Guild for November	Jill Illiff/ Susan Giblin



2027 Stewardship During November we invite you to **consider the part God calls you to play in our work together**, and especially in the financial support of our ministries. We encourage you to return to us the estimate of giving card included in the stewardship mailing. Your estimate of giving for 2027 helps us to build a responsible ministry plan for next year.



Coffee & Conversation
will meet in the Church Library
9:30 AM on Tuesday, November 10

Lakeview Caring Tree

Lakeview Health Center is once again offering an opportunity to share a gift with a resident. The caring tree is available .You can pick up a tag at church or call the office (608-786-0030) and we will get one for you. You then purchase a simple gift for the nursing home resident on your tag. The ***wrapped gift, along with the tag on the outside of the package***, should be returned to church by **December 6.**



Thank you for helping to make Christmas just a little brighter for our neighbors!



No classes will be held on November 25 – come and join us for Thanksgiving Eve worship, here at Our Savior's, at 7 PM!



Ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve Worship and Pie Festival

Wednesday, November 25
7 PM at Our Savior's

Together with our Brothers and Sisters in Christ from the West Salem Presbyterian Church and St. Teresa of Kolkata, we will come and give thanks to a gracious God for all the gifts of life! We also hope to have a joint community choir.

Bring one or more items for the food pantry to leave up at the altar.

Following worship …



This year, and as we did three years ago, we will celebrate with PIE!!!
To make this event a huge success, we are asking members to make and donate an extra Thanksgiving pie to be served after the service. We will also have coffee, hot apple cider, and of course whipped cream for topping.

Sign up with your name and type of pie you will bring! Plan to have your pie at church by 6:45 PM. And remember, *Variety is the Spice of Life!!*

Hungry Jar Offering for November – LaCrosse Warming Center

As we anticipate the cold weather ... 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. The food pantry could use *Hamburger Helper, pasta sauces, and SPAM.* Money, other non-perishable food items, and personal care items are always welcome.

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**

the November newsletter www.oursaviorswestsalem.org) to find out more.

GOSPEL MESSAGE
November 8, 2026
The Challenge of Waiting

For many of us, waiting is not a pleasant experience. Whether our waiting is mundane, like waiting in a long line at the grocery store checkout counter, or profound, like waiting for a medical diagnosis or for a new stage of life to begin, we often feel anxious or uneasy, impatient or frustrated, longing for the wait to be over. Over the course of our lives, we get plenty of experience with waiting but might never learn to be patient, even amid the frustration.

As uncomfortable as waiting may be, it is a necessary aspect of the life of faith. We live in the days between Christ's coming at his birth and his return, that longed-for day of hope and promises fulfilled. Seasons of our liturgical life train us in the art of holy waiting. We wait during Advent for Christ's birth, longing for the joy of his arrival as a child in Bethlehem. We wait during Lent for the bright joy of resurrection, abstaining from "alleluias" and quieting ourselves with prayer and fasting. Just as the young women in today's parable had to continue their daily living until the bridegroom returned (all of them, even the wise ones, went to sleep that night!), in all seasons we go about our lives faithfully, even as we wait with eager longing.

Many generations after the telling of this parable, how are we living as people prepared for the coming of Christ? How are we opening our daily lives to the possibilities that Christ will come among us at any moment? We are invited to live with eager expectation, watchful for the grace and love of God through Jesus Christ, which meets us when we least expect it.

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