



February 22-23, 2025

Epiphany 7

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.

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

"This is the Day"
Bell Choir

WELCOME

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, our creator,
our protector, our wellspring of life.

Amen.

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,

you speak blessing and compassion into the world.

**Forgive us for the ways we act
with judgment, cruelty, or indifference.**

**We ignore the needs of our neighbors;
we resist your call to oppose injustice;
we give in to scarcity and fear;**

we assume the worst about one another.

Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp.

Show us your lovingkindness.

**Restore our hearts and repair your world,
that we may live in Christ's ways.**

Amen.

God proclaims these words of assurance:

"Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.

I have called you by name. You are mine."

In Christ, you are forgiven.

In the Spirit, you are made free.

Refreshed by the waters of mercy,
live anew as beloved children of God.

Amen.

***HYMN**

"Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us"

#707



1 Lord of glo - ry, you have bought us with your life - blood
 2 Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give you glad - ly, free - ly,
 3 Won - drous hon - or you have giv - en to our hum - blest
 4 Lord of glo - ry, you have bought us with your life - blood



as the price, nev - er grudg - ing for the lost ones that tre -
 of your own. With the sun - shine of your good - ness melt our
 char - i - ty in your own mys - te - rious sen - tence, "You have
 as the price, nev - er grudg - ing for the lost ones that tre -



men - dous sac - ri - fice; and with that have free - ly giv - en
 thank - less hearts of stone till our cold and self - ish na - tures,
 done it all to me." Na - ked, sick, in pris - on, hun - gry—
 men - dous sac - ri - fice. Give us faith to trust you bold - ly,



bles - sings count - less as the sand to the un - thank - ful
 warmed by you, at length be - lieve that more hap - py
 in the least, your face we view, say - ing by your
 hope, to stay our souls on you: but, oh, best of



and the e - vil with your own un - spar - ing hand.
 and more bless - ed 'tis to give than to re - ceive.
 poor and need - y, "Give as I have giv'n to you."
 all your grac - es, with your love our love re - new.

***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.

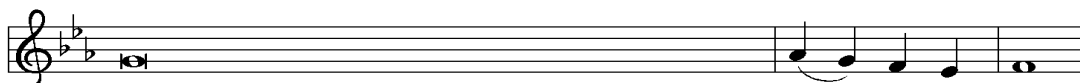
*KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



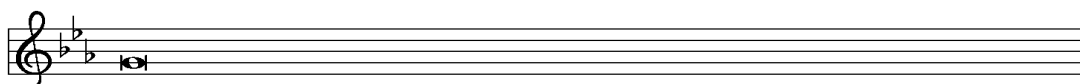
Lord, have mer - cy.



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



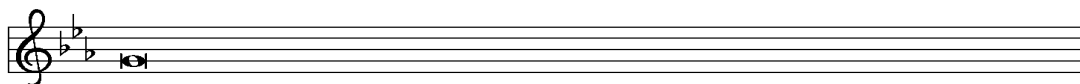
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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 de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

***THIS IS THE FEAST**

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**

O Lord Jesus, make us instruments of your peace, that where there is hatred, we may sow love, where there is injury, pardon, and where there is despair, hope. Grant, O divine master, that we may seek to console, to understand, and to love in your name, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Shalom Chaverim”
Bell Choir

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

READING Genesis 45:3-11,15

³ Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence. ⁴ Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵ And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶ For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷ God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸ So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹ Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. ¹⁰ You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹ I will provide for you there since there are five more years of famine to come so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.’” ¹⁵ And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



*GOSPEL Luke 6:27-38

The Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said: ²⁷“But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. ³¹Do to others as you would have them do to you. ³²“If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. ³⁷“Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

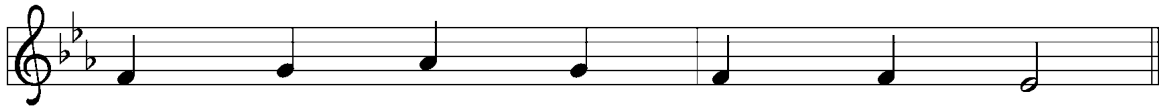
***HYMN** "God, When Humans Bonds Are Broken" **#603**



1 God, when hu - man bonds are bro - ken and we lack the
 2 Through that still - ness, with your Spir - it come in - to our
 3 You in us are bruised and bro - ken: hear us as we
 4 Send us, God of new be - gin - nings, hum - bly hope - ful
 5 Give us faith to be more faith - ful, give us hope to



love or skill to re - store the hope of heal - ing,
 world of stress, for the sake of Christ for - giv - ing
 seek re - lease from the pain of ear - lier liv - ing;
 in - to life. Use us as a means of bless - ing:
 be more true, give us love to go on learn - ing:



give us grace and make us still.
 all the fail - ures we con - fess.
 set us free and grant us peace.
 make us stron - ger, give us faith.
 God, en - cour - age and re - new!

***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: With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray 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!)*

Surprising God, you call us to love our enemies and to show kindness in the face of cruelty. Let our actions be a shining witness of your overwhelming grace for all. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

As animals hibernate and fields lay dormant, let them be a reminder that life and faith are not static but always changing and growing. May we, with all creation, trust that the ending of one thing promises life in a new way. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

We pray for leaders and policymakers who work to reduce violence in our nations, cities, and towns. Give your wisdom and discernment amid heated arguments and differing viewpoints. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

We pray for the victims of abuse and violence. Provide safe shelter and new beginnings to those experiencing domestic violence and dangerous situations. Enfold with love all who seek your healing care. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

We pray for those who are isolated, alone, or homebound, especially Errol and Kathy. May they feel your presence and love surrounding them, bringing them hope and peace. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Empower our faith communities to be signs of your gracious love. Bless the local ministries of parish nursing and caregiving, that they will be a voice for those in need in our communities. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Work in your servants to be faithful disciples of Jesus. Be with our confirmation students, especially Noah and Paige as they seek to grow in their discipleship, and guide their families that together they may reflect your love and grace. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We give thanks for the enduring witness of those who have died before us. May their lives in you provide a witness of your everlasting grace. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

P: We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.
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.

***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 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**

The joy of the Lord is our strength.
 Come, eat this meal of gladness.

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 HYMNS

"Around You, O Lord Jesus"

#468

"Eat This Bread"

#472

***POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ 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 Spirit of the triune God bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love.
Amen.

HYMN "Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling" #608



1 Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing for
2 Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing, plead - ing for
3 Oh, for the won - der - ful love he has prom - ised, prom - ised for



you and for me. See, on the por - tals he's wait - ing and watch - ing,
you and for me? Why should we lin - ger and heed not his mer - cies,
you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has mer - cy and par - don,

Refrain



watch - ing for you and for me.
mer - cies for you and for me? "Come home, come home!"
par - don for you and for me.



You who are wea - ry, come home." Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly,



Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing, "O sin - ner, come home!"

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

Go in peace. Live in hope.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

OUR SAVIOR'S WORSHIP TEAM

www.oursaviorswestsalem.org

Pastor Jonathan Schmidt, Senior Pastor 608-612-0217

Email: pastorjon@oursaviorswestsalem.org

Pastor Jean Schmidt, Associate Pastor 608-612-0217

Email: pastorjean@oursaviorswestsalem.org

Linda Berg, Organist/Choir Accompanist/Director of Music

Email: linda@oursaviorswestsalem.org

Wendy Amundson, Youth Director 608-518-9593

Email: youthoursaviorswestsalem@gmail.com

Laurie Noelke, Handbell Choir Director/Assistant Worship Musician

Eric Sorenson, Senior Choir Director

CARD MINISTRY - Please be sure to sign the cards for this week's shut-ins, Kathy Brisson and Errol Kindschy. 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.

CONFIRMATION AFTER SCHOOL & CLASS

Wednesday, February 26

6 pm – 6th Confirmation Class

6 pm – 7th Confirmation Class

7 pm – 8th Confirmation Class

WORSHIP LEADERS

	6 p.m.
Worship Assistant	Kylie Nelson
Communion Assistant	Judy Morzinski
Welcoming Team	Vick Family
	8 a.m.
Worship Assistant	Harper Neimeier
Communion Assistant	Scott Gilbertson
Welcoming Team	Karl & Kathy Wehrs
	10:30 a.m.
Worship Assistant	Kirsten Rasmussen
Communion Assistant	Rich Clements
Welcoming Team	Rasmussen Family
Home Communion	Rasmussen Family
Altar Guild for February	Cindy Averbek/Jaime Fortier

SCRIP CARDS AVAILABLE

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

KWIK TRIP

WOODMAN'S



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



YOU CAN HELP – START SAVING NOW...

The LaCrosse Synod is looking for plastic bottle caps and jar lids for an art project to be used at Synod Assembly. We need the caps by April 6th. You can drop off your caps in the basket in the Gathering Area.

Hungry Jar Offering for February – Lutheran World Relief California Fires



CALIFORNIA WILDFIRES YOUR LOVE IS NEEDED

The needs of our neighbors in California are growing every hour as wildfires completely destroy homes and communities. Houses, schools, churches, grocery stores, businesses ... all reduced to ashes.

Our partners at Lutheran World Relief are already preparing a response, including sending LWR Quilts and Kits to affected families. The destruction and need are overwhelming.

Right now, the number one need is financial gifts so that the team at Lutheran World Relief can reach our neighbors as quickly as possible.

As Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton said in her statement about the wildfires, "The prophet Isaiah writes that even when fires rage, the final word is faith, not fear. God redeems us and calls us by name to be agents of healing and hope, even amid staggering loss. In faith, we respond through prayer, accompaniment and action."

Coming in March ...

Shake off the winter blahs and join us ... bring a dish to share or just come and enjoy the treats ...



**Third annual
Mardi Gras fest
"Passport of food"
Sunday, March 2
3 - 5 PM**

**Join us for ...
Food ... music ... activities for kids ...**

We all come from various ethnic backgrounds with our own traditions, customs, and foods. Let's learn about them!

Cook up a batch of your favorite ethnic recipe and bring it to church, along with a copy of the recipe. Maybe also ... share a fun fact about your country ... wear traditional clothes ... decorate your table space. We'll serve small samples, and see what countries are the favorites! Talk to Pastor Jean for more details. Sign up in the Gathering Area!

Sample the food ... get your passport stamped ...
and vote for your favorites!



Check out our new social media pages and keep up on what's going on, including livestreaming of worship ...



Facebook Page - Our Savior's ELCA - West Salem

Instagram Page - oursaviors_ws

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



The time has come! Pictures will be taken **Wednesday, February 26 through Saturday, March 1, and March 3, and 4.** It's not too late to sign up. You can sign up on line by going to the church website (www.oursaviorswestsalem.org), or call the church office and we'll help you.



We still need hosts for the welcome table when the pictures are being taken on February 26, 27, 28, March 1, 3, and 4. See Pastor Jean for more information.

Care and Share Food Pantry

Did you know each family who comes to the food pantry receives a coupon for milk, eggs, bread and \$10 for meat? Weekly volunteers visit the Hunger Task Force to look for fruits & vegetables and also go shop for items like cheese, sour cream, and other dairy foods. One of our monetary donors is a farmer and has asked that we provide dairy items with their donation. Your monetary donations help provide a balanced and healthy selection for our guests. Thank you for the donations of food & money that we receive. We try very hard to be good stewards of your gifts to us. The Care and Share Food Pantry is open Saturdays 10 am – Noon.



We will have a simple meal, along with dessert, prior to the service each week on Wednesdays at 5:30 PM – March 12, 19, 26, April 2, 9. We are looking for helpers to make the soups and desserts for about 60 people. A sign-up sheet can be found in the Gathering Area.

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