### Our Savior's Lutheran Church—La Crosse, WI



Sunday, August 10, 2025, 9:30am

#### Our Savior's Lutheran Church, ELCA 612 Division St. | La Crosse, WI | 608.782.3468 WWW.OURSAVIORSLUTHERANCHURCH.NET "Our mission is to make the love of Christ known

to all as we worship, serve and grow together."

All are welcome in this church! The Good News of God's grace Is for all, regardless of age, abilities, physical & mental health, race, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, education, income or strength of faith. There is nothing we do, have done or will do that can separate us from the love of God. God makes no exceptions, nor do we. Come join us in praise, prayer and the work of our Lord, including ongoing work for racial equity in our Church and in the world.

Joanne Richmond, Senior Pastor—pastor@oursaviorslutheranchurch.net
Lois Losby, Financial Secretary—finance@oursaviorslutheranchurch.net
Sandra Schultz, WCC Coordinator—wccloset@oursaviorslutheranchurch.net
Mary Ender Stutesman, Music Coordinator & Organist—stuteswoman@gmail.com
Jessica Zinniel, Associate Lay Minister—youthfamily@oursaviorslutheranchurch.net
Thomas Haag, Organist | Dr. Eddie Kim, Pianist | Colin Stiemke, Guitarist
Juan Fernandez, Custodian

**Welcome, visitors! We're glad you are here!** We hope your time with us is a blessing, and that you will come back soon.

We would like to be in touch with you! Visitors—please use the Live Stream 'Attendance Info Form (www.allarewelcome.org under the Live Stream tab) today. Members—you only need to fill them out once a year when you receive Holy Communion. In addition, use the form for prayer requests, hymn requests, to get the monthly newsletter, to give us address changes, or for any communication with the office or pastor.

If you need **hearing assistance**, ask in the church office for our special devices. If you need **assistance with the live stream**, please call 608.782.3468 or join us on the phone live stream at 1.877.552.3468 (toll-free).

#### **+FOR OUR WORSHIP TODAY+**

**Presiding Minister:** Pastor James Radatz

AV Team: Aselin Zinniel
Coffee Fellowship: Cake Sunday
Communion Assistant: Lois Losby

**Organist:** Thomas Haag **Prayer Reader:** Lois Losby

#### **ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**PRELUDE** Wachetauf, ruftuns die Stimme

Johann Gottfried Walther

(Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying)

#### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Most merciful God,

you free us to love others,
but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.
You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,
but we turn away from the abundant life your offer.
You surround us with patience, kindness,
and generosity,
but we grow weary in doing what is right.

In your mercy, forgive us.

Do not give up on us.

Heal us, break our bonds,
and show us the path of life.

Amen.

You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of + Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven.

Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.

Amen.

#### Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying



Text: Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608; tr. composite Music: WACHET AUF, Philipp Nicolai Text © 1999 Augsburg Fortress

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#### **GREETING**

The grace of 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 mercy.

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

#### Lord, have mercy.

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.

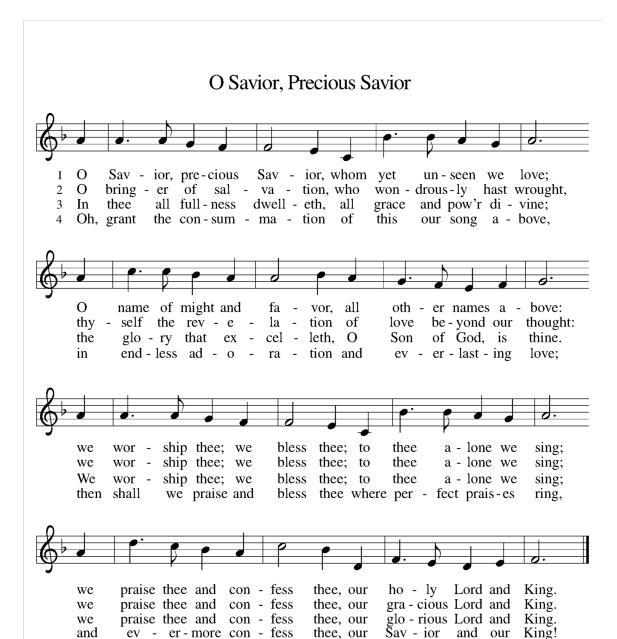
#### Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

#### Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

#### Amen.



Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879 Music: ANGEL'S STORY, Arthur H. Mann, 1850–1929 PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church.

Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive

you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior

Amen.

FIRST READING: Genesis 15:1-6

A reading from Genesis

After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Do not

be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." <sup>2</sup> But

Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and

the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" <sup>3</sup> And Abram said, "You have

given me no offspring, so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." 4 But the

word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but

your very own issue shall be your heir." 5 He brought him outside and said,

"Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them."

Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." <sup>6</sup> And he believed

the Lord, and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

**SECOND READING:** Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

A reading from Hebrews

<sup>1</sup> Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. <sup>2</sup> Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. <sup>3</sup> By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

<sup>8</sup> By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance, and he set out, not knowing where he was going. <sup>9</sup> By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. <sup>10</sup> For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. <sup>11</sup> By faith, with Sarah's involvement, he received power of procreation, even though he was too old, because he considered him faithful who had promised. <sup>12</sup> Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."

<sup>13</sup> All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, <sup>14</sup> for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. <sup>15</sup> If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. <sup>16</sup> But as it is, they desire a better homeland, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

**GOSPEL: Luke 12: 32—40** 

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] <sup>32</sup> "Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. <sup>33</sup> Sell your possessions and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. <sup>34</sup> For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

<sup>35</sup> "Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; <sup>36</sup> be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. <sup>37</sup> Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. <sup>38</sup> If he comes during the middle of the night or near dawn and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

<sup>39</sup> "But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>40</sup> You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE

Pastor James Radatz

- 1 Have no fear, little flock; have no fear, little flock, for the Father has chosen to give you the kingdom; have no fear, little flock!
- 2 Have good cheer, little flock; have good cheer, little flock, for the Father will keep you in his love forever; have good cheer, little flock!
- 3 Praise the Lord high above; praise the Lord high above, for he stoops down to heal you, uplift and restore you; praise the Lord high above!
- Thankful hearts raise to God; thankful hearts raise to God, for he stays close beside you, in all things works with you; thankful hearts raise to God!

Text: Luke 12:32, st. 1; Marjorie Jilson, b. 1931, sts. 2-4 Text © 1973 Concordia Publishing House

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#### **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 OF INTERCESSION Goodness Is Stronger Than Evil ELW #721 (Response to each petition is from the hymn Goodness Is Stronger Than Evil, ELW #721.)

In solidarity with all creation, we join our voice to the voice of the whole church and pray for the needs of the world.

Keep the heart of your church set firmly in you so that, with lamps lit and attentive to Christ's call at any time or place, your people are ready to respond with faithful action for the sake of the world.

Worlds were prepared by your word. Speak healing and protection upon the earth, especially where life and habitats are threatened. Guide the work of astronomers and all who teach us about the stars and galaxies.

God of grace, hear us as we sing:

Goodness is stronger than evil; love is stronger than hate; light is stronger than darkness; life is stronger than death; vict'ry is ours, vict'ry is ours, through God who loves us.

Vict'ry is ours, vict'ry is ours, through God who loves us.

You know the actions and deeds of the nations. Turn humanity away from instruments of war and violence. Fashion the hearts of world leaders to work for peace.

Let your lovingkindness be on those in need. Assure all who are afraid or experiencing great uncertainty that your promises are sure.

God of grace, hear us as we sing:

Goodness is stronger than evil; love is stronger than hate; light is stronger than darkness; life is stronger than death; vict'ry is ours, vict'ry is ours, through God who loves us. Vict'ry is ours, through God who loves us.

Calm the fears of migrants and refugees who set out, not knowing where they go. Provide shelter, sustenance, protection from harm, and welcome. Bless the work of Global Refuge and other means of support and advocacy.

We celebrate the ancestors in the faith who built their lives on your promises and died having seen them only from a distance. Sustain us in our hope of things not seen.

God of grace, hear us as we sing:

Goodness is stronger than evil; love is stronger than hate; light is stronger than darkness; life is stronger than death; vict'ry is ours, vict'ry is ours, through God who loves us. Vict'ry is ours, through God who loves us.

Trusting in your lovingkindness, we place our prayer and hope in you, in the name of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

#### PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

#### **NOISY OFFERING**

#### **HOLY COMMUNION**

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.

#### THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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.

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

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Amen.

#### **LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,

on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those

who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial

And deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours,

now and forever. Amen.

#### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.

#### **COMMUNION**

You may come forward for communion using the center aisle. After receiving bread from Pastor, please take an empty glass from the small table. If you prefer grape juice, take a full glass. Proceed to the person with the pouring chalice. After receiving your wine/blessing, place your empty glass in the basket you will see as you walk toward the side aisle.

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Mothering God,
you gathered us to your table
and we drank deeply of your grace.
Send us out by your Spirit
to love our neighbors as ourselves
and proclaim your love in Jesus' name.

Amen.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **BLESSING**

The love of God abound in you;
The grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts;
and the life of the Spirit

+ bless you and give you peace.

#### Amen.



Text: Anonymous, Central America; tr. Gerhard M. Cartford, b. 1923 Music: ENVIADO, anonymous, Central America English text © 1998 Augsburg Fortress.

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#### **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

**POSTLUDE** CWM Rhondda Walter L. Pelz

(Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer)

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#### GOOD OLD-FASHIONED CHURCH POTLUCK

Sunday, August 17, 2025

Nothing says "church family" like a good old-fashioned potluck! Join us after worship next Sunday for an afternoon of food, fellowship, and fun.

Bring your favorite dish to share—casseroles, salads, desserts, and all the comfort foods we love. If it's made with love, or maybe a little Jello :), it belongs on the table!

Let's break bread together—and maybe a few Tupperware lids, too. All are welcome! We hope to see you there!

#### W-ELCA RUMMAGE SALE—SAVE THE DATE

Friday, Sept. 12, 8am—4pm and Saturday, Sept. 13, 8am—3pm

Start setting aside your best gently used items—clean and in working condition. We welcome clothing, linens, jewelry, tools, books, and household goods—things you'd proudly give a friend or use yourself!

#### **DONATION DROP OFF TIMES:**

Friday, September 5, 1—3pm
Saturday, September 6, 10am to 12 noon
Monday, September 8—Wednesday, September 10, 9am—1pm
Thursday, September 11, 9am to 12 noon

Please note we cannot accept electronics (TV's, computers, printers), large appliances, car seats, cribs, or pack-and-plays due to safety concerns.

**Questions?** Contact Laura Sanborn (<u>540.784.9080</u>) or Carol Miller (<u>608.792.2334</u>).

#### **SET-UP WEEK:**

Monday September 8—Thursday, September 11. Come lend a hand!

# SCRAPS TO SOIL—FREE BACKYARD COMPOSTING WORKSHOP\* Wednesday, August 22, 2025, 4—5pm—People's Food Co-Op (315 5th Ave. S., La Crosse, WI)

Learn how to turn kitchen scraps into garden gold! This free workshop is open to **City of La Crosse residents** interested in starting backyard composting.

Led by **Dr. Jan Wellik** (UW–L), the sessions covers composting basics, stages of decomposition, and tips for success. Handouts provided.

**Bonus:** 30 compost bins will be raffled off to participants who register, attend, and don't already own a bin.

**Register here:** https://docs.google.com/forms/d/17KBJKPrpLdRFIJKBB1Fp-IcYC3cFcjNeFO9qJvYMt1Q/edit

Questions? Call (571)648.7594 or email marion.mmk21212@gmail.com.

\*This project is made possible through a microgrant from the La Crosse Area Community Foundation and the City of La Crosse's Youth Climate Action Fund. The fund is supported by Bloomberg Philanthropies in partnership with United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), the Bloomberg Center for Public Innovation at Johns Hopkins University, and the Sustainability Institute.

#### **OUR SAVIOR'S FREE LITTLE PANTRY—THE CUPBOARD IS BARE!**

Our Free Little Pantry is empty—and neighbors are in need. This pantry offers immediate, 24/7 access to food and hygiene items for anyone facing hunger or hard times. When you donate, you help provide dignity and relief right here in our community.

**What's needed most:** soups (all kinds), cereal (boxed or bagged), pasta and sauce, canned vegetables and fruits, canned meats (ham, chicken, tuna, or salmon), hygiene items (toothpaste, soap, shampoo, etc.)

Place donations directly in the pantry or in the grocery cart in the narthex. Every contribution makes a difference. Thank you!

## MONTHLY DONATION DRIVE—AUGUST 2025 Help Us Support Our Community!

thank you for giving faithfully and generously!

We invite you to take part in our **Monthly Donation Drive** by bringing much-needed items to support two important local ministries: **Peanut butter** for **The Hunger Task Force** and **butter** for **Come For Supper**. Your generous donations make a real difference in the lives of our neighbors facing food insecurity. Simply bring your items with you to church and place them in the grocery cart in the narthex. **Together, we can be a blessing to others**—

#### **OUR SAVIORS THIS WEEK**

POST ON A FRIG, NEAR A PHONE, ON AN ALTAR AND ANY OTHER SACRED PLACE

#### **CALENDAR**

#### Sunday, August 10, 2025

9:30amWorship/HC10:15amM-M's Prayer Club10:15amCoffee Fellowship6:30pmY.E.S. A.A. mtg.

#### Monday

**9am—1pm** Office Open **10am—12 noon** Gas Voucher

#### Tuesday

9am—lpm Office Open9am Quilters1—5pm WCC

4pmCFS Doors Open4:15—5:15pmCFS Meal Served5:15—5:30pmCFS Carry Outs

#### Wednesday

9am—1pm Office Open
12 noon Worship/HC
1pm Priscilla Circle
WCC begins accepting Fall clothing
by appointment (608.784.5745)

#### <u>Thursday</u>

9am—1pm Office Open
10am Dottie Pierce Visitation
11am Dottie Pierce Funeral
with lunch following

<u>Friday</u>

Staff Sabbath

**Saturday** 

**9am—1pm** WCC open

Sunday, August 17, 2025

9:30am Worship/HC
10:15am M-M's Prayer Club
10:15am Church Potluck
6:30pm Y.E.S. A.A. mtg.

**Calendar Notations:** 

HC—Holy Communion
M-MPC—Moo-Moo's Prayer Club
CFS—Come For Supper
WCC—Women's Clothes Closet

#### PRAYER CONCERNS

#### **HEALING AND PEACE**

Ardelle Ender, Athena Burg, Bev Hanson, Casey Kanter, Cathy Ofte, Cindy Moe, Cindy Vieth, Dan Odenbach, Danielle Sorenson, Dave Kjos, Erik Rudrud, Esther Harman, Eugene Herold, Gabe Centanni, George, Jackie Holmes, Jean Koll, Jeannie White, Jeff Kent, Pastor Joanne, Jim Garson, Jim Radatz, Karen Geoglein, Katie White, Lane C., Lois Horne, Kelly Olson, Margo Erickson, Mary Covey, Monica & Jack D., Morris Buros, Pamela Mathis, Peggy Kneifl, Rachel Balow, Rich Pitz, Rose Sabotta, Roxanne North, Sandy Kjos, Sonja Simonson-Schrag, Tom Cade, and Vera Wensole

#### **GRIEVING FAMILY & FRIENDS OF**

Toni Low and Dottie Pierce

#### **MEMBERS & FRIENDS IN ARMED FORCES**

**Gabriel** W. Kleven, **Greg** Phillips, **Ricky** Macon, **Stacie** Phillips, and **Tom** Rudrud

#### **HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

<b>Robert</b> Schwandt	August 10
Gabrielle Oliver	August 12
<b>Kyle</b> Staples	August 12
<b>Jean</b> Richmond	August 13
<b>Deb</b> Wollin	August 13
<b>Jean</b> Richmond	August 13