Our Savior's Lutheran Church—La Crosse, WI



Second Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 7, 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
Liz Bahr, Cantor | Judi Winkler, Custodian | Roger Loing, 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 Joanne Richmond

AV Team: Gary Wold
Coffee Fellowship: Sue Staples
Communion Assistant:
Pianist: Dr. Eddie Kim
Prayer Reader: Sue Staples

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE Prayer of St. Francis Dr. Eddie Kim

ADVENT CANDLE #2

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light.

On those living in the land of the shadow of death, light has dawned.

We need your peace, Jesus.

We confess that our hearts are too

often filled with anxiety and doubt.

In a world where worry,

not peace, prevails,

stir up that good news again.

We know peace on earth can only

come when hearts find peace with You.

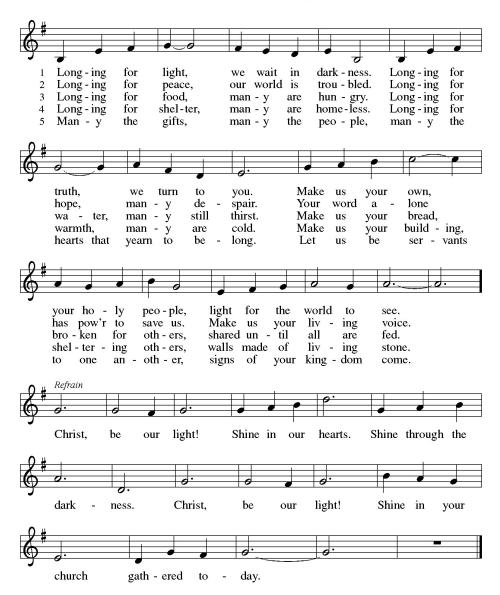
You are our Joy.

You are our Peace.

We celebrate you as our Savior—now and always.

Amen.

Christ, Be Our Light



Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957
Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell
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CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, whose home is heaven and earth, whose salvation is sure.

Amen.

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

Long-expected God,

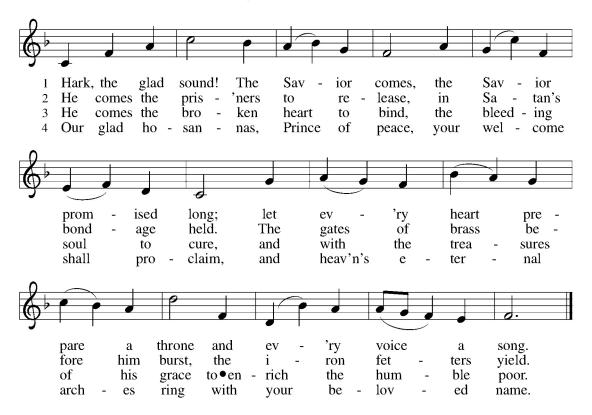
we confess that we look to ourselves for the peace and security you provide.
We reach for swords and spears, reluctant to release our grip on the ways of war.
We become impatient while waiting and weary of keeping awake.
Free us from self-reliance, and teach us to live in harmony with our neighbors. Increase our trust in God awaken us to your advent among us, that we may abound in the hope you have promised. Amen.

God judges us not as we deserve, but according to God's own righteousness.

You are freed and forgiven, saved by grace, as we prepare to welcome the Savior.

Amen.

Hark, the Glad Sound!



Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702-1751

Music: CHESTERFIELD, Thomas Haweis, 1734-1820

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirt 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.

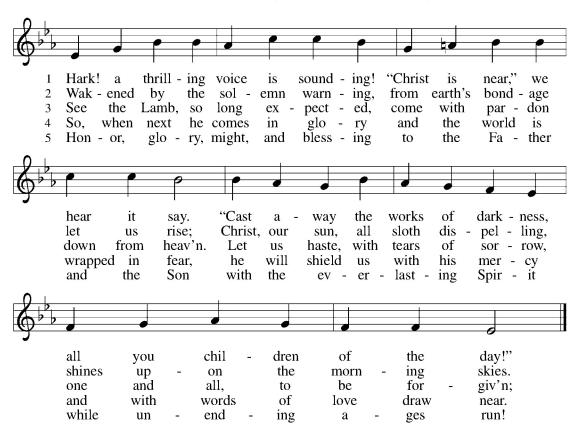
For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Amen.

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding!



Text: Latin hymn, 1632; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–1878 Music: MERTON, William H. Monk, 1823–1889

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up our hearts, God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

YOUNG PERSON'S MESSAGE

READING: Isaiah 11:1-10

A reading from Isaiah.

- ¹ A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
 - ² The spirit of God shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.
 - ³ His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see or decide by what his ears hear,

- ⁴ but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
- ⁵ Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

- ⁶ The wolf shall live with the lamb; the leopard shall lie down with the kid; the calf and the lion will feed together, and a little child shall lead them.
- ⁷ The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
- ⁸ The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.
- ⁹ They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

¹⁰ On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

Pastor Joanne Richmond

O Day of Peace



- O day of peace that dim-ly shines through all our hopes and prayers and dreams, Then shall the wolf dwell with the lamb, nor shall the fierce de - vour the small;



May swords of hate fall from our hands, our hearts from en - vy find re-lease, Then en - e-mies shall learn to love, all crea-tures find their true ac-cord;



till by God's grace our war-ring world shall see Christ's prom-ised reign of peace. the hope of peace shall be ful-filled, for all the earth shall know the Lord.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944 Music: JERUSALEM, C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848–1918 Text © 1982 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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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 Come Now, O Prince of Peace ELW #247

In our waiting and watching, we come to you in prayer, God, trusting your promise to renew the church, the nations, and the whole creation.

With wisdom and understanding, inspire the faithful around the world. Unite hearts and minds in work to address poverty, access to housing, and equity among peoples.

With counsel and might, move us to care for creation. As we dream of the day when all creatures will flourish alongside one another, guide us in ways humanity and all creation will mutually thrive.

God of grace, hear us as we sing

Come now, O Prince of peace, make us one body. Come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile your people.

With righteousness and faithfulness, encourage nations to live in harmony with one another. We pray for international student and teacher exchanges, for our partner churches, and for the shared mission of Lutheran World Relief and Lutheran Disaster Response.

With steadfastness and encouragement, strengthen those who have lost hope in the face of grief, depression, or disease. Renew the spirits of those recovering from surgery and medical procedures.

God of grace, hear us as we sing

Come now, O God of love, make us one body. Come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile your people. With welcome and hospitality, embolden us in our shared ministry to overcome all that divides. In acts of repentance, reconciliation, and reparation, may we serve in the way of Christ.

With joy and peace, we remember our ancestors in the faith. Fill us with the hope of the Holy Spirit now and into the ages of ages.

God of grace, hear us as we sing

Come, Hope of unity, make us one body. Come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile all nations.

Draw near to us, God, as we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ, Emmanuel.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

NOISY OFFERING

DIALOGUE

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

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life: Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,
the Word made flesh.

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.

Amen.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God our host, at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness Send us forth, eager to share the feast, welcome the stranger, and bear good fruit in the name of Jesus.

Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING SONG

Light Dawns on a Weary World

ELW #726

Light Dawns on a Weary World



Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953
Music: TEMPLE OF PEACE, William P. Rowan, b. 1951
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BLESSING

May God who comes among us,
Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,
grant you patience in waiting, peace in the darkness,
and good news to share today and always.

Amen.

vote.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Advent Hymn John Ferguson

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LET'S TALK SOLAR: NEXT SUNDAY!

Sunday, December 14, after worship—Sanctuary (In-Person & Livestream)
Next Sunday, join us after worship for a brief conversation about an
opportunity for Our Savior's to install solar panels at a significantly reduced
cost. Your presence matters as we prepare for an upcoming congregational

CAROLING WITH DR. EDDIE KIM—TODAY AFTER WORSHIP!

Join us as we carol to our homebound members and share some Christmas cheer! We'll carpool around La Crosse, then come back to church for pizza, pop, board games, and great fellowship. All ages are welcome—bring friends and family!

JÓLABÓKAFLOÐNEXT SUNDAY!

Sunday, December 14, 10:45am – Fellowship Hall

Join us after worship for a cozy Icelandic "book flood"! Bring a gently used book (or a few) to trade, and take home something new to read. Please also bring a plate of Christmas cookies to share—fellowship and beverages provided. All ages welcome!

GIVING TREE

We are partnering with New Horizons this Christmas and you can help make someone's Christmas a bit merrier this year! Select a tag off the tree, purchase the requested item, and return the gift (unwrapped or in a gift bag with the tag attached), back to the tree by **Sunday, December 18**.

MEAT THE NEED

This December, we're collecting canned meat for the **Hunger Task Force of La Crosse.** Items like **tuna**, **chicken**, **Spam**, **beef stew**, **chili with meat**, and **corned beef hash** are especially appreciated. Please place donations in the grocery cart in the narthex anytime this month. Thank you for helping feed our neighbors!

HOLIDAY DÉCOR DONATIONS NEEDED

As you begin decorating for the season, if you find holiday items you no longer use or need, please consider donating them to the church for next year's Christmas Bazaar. Drop-offs are welcome anytime during business hours. Thank you for your generosity!

WELCA CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON—THIS THURSDAY!

Thursday, December 11, 11:30am

You're invited to join us for a free, light Christmas luncheon as we celebrate and thank everyone who supported WELCA this year. Please RSVP to Carol Miller (608.792.2334) or Sue Staples (608.780.0022) so we can plan for food. Come share some Christmas cheer!

THE LONGEST NIGHT WITH CANDLELIT LABYRINTH

Sunday, December 21, 6pm—Peace Garden

On one of the darkest nights of the year, we'll gather together for warmth, prayer, and reflection. Come sit by the fire, walk the labyrinth by candlelight, and find a gentle place to rest your heart in the midst of the holiday season. Come as you are for a peaceful evening of light, stillness, and connection as we honor the longest night of the year. All are welcome.

OUR SAVIORS THIS WEEK

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

CALENDAR

Sunday, December 7, 2025

Second Sunday of Advent

9:30am Worship/HC10:15am Coffee Fellowship

10:30am Caroling **6:30pm** Y.E.S. A.A. mtg.

Monday

9am—1pm Office Open
 10am Bill Temte Visitation
 10am—12 pm Gas Vouchers
 11am Bill Temte Funeral

with lunch following

Tuesday

9am—lpm Office Open9am Quilters1—5pm WCC open4pm CFS Doors O

4pm CFS Doors Open **4:15—5:15pm** CFS Meal Served **5:15—5:30pm** CFS Carry Outs

Wednesday

9am—1pm Office Open 12 noon Worship/HC 1pm Prisilla Circle

Thursday

9am—1pm Office Open **11:30am** Christmas Luncheon

Friday

Pastor/Staff Sabbath

Saturday

9am—1pm WCC open

Sunday, December 14, 2025

Third Sunday of Advent

9:30am Worship/HC

10:15am Congregational Meeting **10:45am** Jolabokaflod &

Christmas Cookie Potluck

6:30pm Y.E.S. A.A. mtg.

PRAYER CONCERNS

HEALING AND PEACE

Ardelle Ender, Ardis Bolstad, Athena Burg,
Bev Hanson, Casey Kanter, Cassie, Cathy Ofte,
Cindy Moe, Dan Odenbach, Danielle Sorenson,
Dave Kjos, Debe, Erik Rudrud, Esther Harman,
Eugene Herold, Gabe Centanni, George, Jane
Spear, Jean Koll, Jeannie White, Jeff Kent, Pastor
Joanne, Jon, Joshua, Jim Garson, Jim Radatz,
Juliana Andrews, Karen Geoglein, Katie White,
Lane C., Lois Horne, Kelly Olson, Margo Erickson,
Mary Covey, Michael Speer, Monica & Jack
Devereaux, Morris Buros, Pamela Mathis, Peggy
Kneifl, Roger Loing, Rose Sabotta, Roxanne North,
Roy Modahl, Sandy Kjos, Sonja Simonson-Schrag,
Pastor Steve Minnema, Tom Cade, and Vera

GRIEVING FAMILY & FRIENDS OF

Bill Temte

MEMBERS & FRIENDS IN ARMED FORCES

Ricky Macon, and Tom Rudrud

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Jim Balow December 9
Elaynah Kelley December 11

Calendar Notations:

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