

**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."***

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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](mailto:pastor@oursaviorslutheranchurch.net)  
Lois Losby, Financial Secretary—[finance@oursaviorslutheranchurch.net](mailto:finance@oursaviorslutheranchurch.net)  
Sandra Schultz, WCC Coordinator—[wccloset@oursaviorslutheranchurch.net](mailto:wccloset@oursaviorslutheranchurch.net)  
Mary Ender Stutesman, Music Coordinator & Organist—[stuteswoman@gmail.com](mailto:stuteswoman@gmail.com)  
Jessica Zinniel, Associate Lay Minister—[youthfamily@oursaviorslutheranchurch.net](mailto: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](http://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.**

## ADVENT HYMN

*Christ, Be Our Light*

## ELW #715 verse 1 and refrain

## Christ, Be Our Light



1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for  
 2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for  
 3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for  
 4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for  
 5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,  
 hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone  
 wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,  
 warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,  
 hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.  
 has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.  
 bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.  
 shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.  
 to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.



*Refrain*  
 Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

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!

The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It consists of three systems of music, each with four lines of lyrics underneath. The first system has four lines of lyrics, the second has three, and the third has four. The music features various note values including quarter, eighth, and half notes, with some notes beamed together. There are also rests and a final double bar line at the end of the third system.

1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior  
2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's  
3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing  
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of peace, your wel - come

prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -  
bond - age held. The gates of brass be -  
soul to cure, and with the trea - sures  
shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal

pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.  
fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.  
of his grace to • en - rich the hum - ble poor.  
arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

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 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.**

## Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding!



1 Hark! a thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! "Christ is near," we  
2 Wak - ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond - age  
3 See the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, come with par - don  
4 So, when next he comes in glo - ry and the world is  
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther



hear it say. "Cast a - way the works of dark - ness,  
let us rise; Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling,  
down from heav'n. Let us haste, with tears of sor - row,  
wrapped in fear, he will shield us with his mer - cy  
and the Son with the ev - er - last - ing Spir - it



all you chil - dren of the day!"  
shines up - on the morn - ing skies.  
one and all, to be for - giv'n;  
and with words of love draw near.  
while un - end - ing a - ges run!

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.

<sup>1</sup> A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,  
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

<sup>2</sup> 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.

<sup>3</sup> 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,

<sup>4</sup> 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.

<sup>5</sup> Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist  
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

<sup>6</sup> 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.

<sup>7</sup> The cow and the bear shall graze;  
their young shall lie down together;  
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

<sup>8</sup> The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,  
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

<sup>9</sup> 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.

<sup>10</sup> 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



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



guide us to jus - tice, truth, and love, de-liv-ered from our self - ish schemes.  
as beasts and cat - tle calm-ly graze, a lit-tle child shall lead them all.



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

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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

1 Light dawns on a wea - ry world when eyes be - gin to  
2 Love grows in a wea - ry world when hun - gry hearts find  
3 Hope blooms in a wea - ry world when crea - tures, once for -

see all peo - ple's dig - ni - ty. Light dawns on a  
bread and chil - dren's dreams are fed. Love grows in a  
lorn, find wil - der - ness re - born. Hope blooms in a

wea - ry world: the prom - ised day of jus - tice comes.  
wea - ry world: the prom - ised feast of plen - ty comes.  
wea - ry world: the prom - ised green of E - den comes.

*Refrain*

The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs;  
the hills and moun - tains shall break forth with sing - ing!  
We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace,  
as all the world in won - der ech - oes sha - lom.

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.**

## **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 vote.

### **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](tel:608.792.2334)) or Sue Staples ([608.780.0022](tel: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/HC  
**10:15am** 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—1pm** Office Open  
**9am** Quilters  
**1—5pm** WCC open  
**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** Jolabokafloð &  
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** Wensole

### 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