

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



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**First Sunday of Christmas**

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**Sunday, December 28, 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  
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](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:** Aselin Zinniel

**Communion Assistant:**

**Pianist:** Dr. Eddie Kim

**Prayer Reader:** Sue Staples

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

Welcome! We are delighted you have chosen to worship with us today.

We will share holy Communion; you are welcome to participate.

## PRELUDE

*This is the One*

Dr. Eddie Kim

## CALL TO WORSHIP

*Angels from the Realms of Glory*

ELW #275

### Angels, from the Realms of Glory



1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
2 Shep-herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch-ing o'er your flocks by night,  
3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem-pla-tions, bright-er vi - sions beam a - far;  
4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais-ing God, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son,



once you sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:  
God with us is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant light.  
seek the great de - sire of na-tions, you have seen his na - tal star.  
ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing to the•e-ter - nal Three in One.

*Refrain*

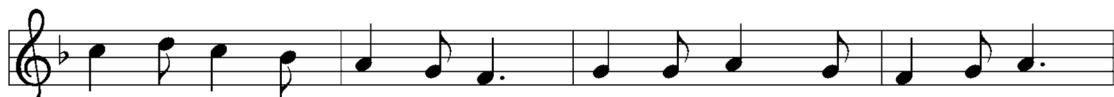


Come and wor-ship, come and wor-ship, wor-ship Christ, the new-born king.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt., sts. 1–3; *Salisbury Hymn Book*, 1857, st. 4  
Music: REGENT SQUARE, Henry T. Smart, 1813–1879

**OPENING HYMN*****Good Christian Friends, Rejoice!*****ELW #288****Good Christian Friends, Rejoice**

1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;  
2 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;  
3 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;



give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;  
now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!  
now ye need not fear the grave; Je - sus Christ was born to save!



ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.  
He has o - pened heav - en's door, and we are blest for - ev - er - more.  
Calls you one and calls you all to gain the ev - er - last - ing hall.



Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!  
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!  
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Text: Medieval Latin carol; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866  
Music: IN DULCI JUBILO, German carol, 14th cent.

## **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.**

## HYMN OF PRAISE

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*

## ELW #283

## O, Come, All Ye Faithful



1 O come, all ye faithful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O  
 2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,  
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,  
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;



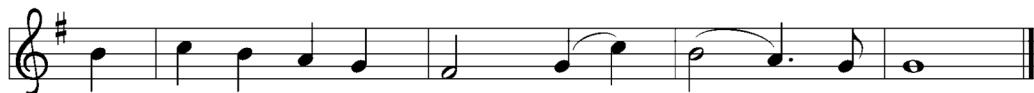
come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;  
 born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;  
 sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!  
 Je - sus, to thee be . . . glo - ry giv'n!



*Refrain*



Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,  
 O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,



ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.  
 O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

Text: attr. John Francis Wade, 1711–1786; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802–1880, sts. 1, 3–4; tr. unknown, st. 2  
 Music: ADESTE FIDELES, attr. John Francis Wade

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Shine into our hearts the light of your wisdom, O God, and open our minds to the knowledge of your word, that in all things we may think and act according to your good will and may live continually in the light of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **GOSPEL: Matthew 2: 13—23**

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup> Now after [the magi] had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." <sup>14</sup> Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt <sup>15</sup> and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son."

<sup>16</sup> When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the magi, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the magi. <sup>17</sup> Then what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled:

<sup>18</sup> "A voice was heard in Ramah,  
wailing and loud lamentation,  
Rachel weeping for her children;  
she refused to be consoled, because they are no more."

<sup>19</sup> When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, <sup>20</sup> "Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead." <sup>21</sup> Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. <sup>22</sup> But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. <sup>23</sup> There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazarene."

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

### Infant Holy, Infant Lowly



1 Infant ho - ly, in - fant low - ly, for his bed a cat - tle stall;  
2 Flocks were sleep - ing, shep - herds keep - ing vig - il till the morn - ing new



ox - en low - ing, lit - tle know-ing Christ the child is Lord of all.  
saw the glo - ry, heard the sto - ry, tid - ings of a gos - pel true.



Swift-ly wing-ing, an - gels sing-ing, bells are ring - ing, tid - ings bring-ing:  
Thus re - joic - ing, free from sor - row, prais - es voic - ing, greet the mor - row:



Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!  
Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!

Text: Polish carol; tr. Edith M. G. Reed, 1885-1933, alt.  
Music: W ZŁOBIE LEŻY, Polish carol

**SERMON**

Pastor Joanne Richmond

**HYMN OF THE DAY*****Go Tell It On the Mountain*****ELW #290****Go Tell It on the Mountain**

Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;



go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!



1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,  
2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when, lo, a - bove the earth  
3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born;



be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.  
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.  
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless-ed Christ-mas morn.

Text: African American spiritual, refrain; John W. Work Jr., 1872–1925, stanzas, alt.  
Music: GO TELL IT, African American spiritual

**That Boy-Child of Mary**

*Refrain*

That boy - child of Mar - y was born in a sta - ble,

a man - ger his cra - dle in Beth - le - hem.

1 What shall we call him, child of the man - ger?  
 2 His name is Je - sus, God ev - er with us,  
 3 How can he save us, how can he help us,  
 4 Gift of the Fa - ther, to hu - man moth - er,

*Refrain*

What name is giv - en in Beth - le - hem?  
 God giv - en for us in Beth - le - hem.  
 born here a - mong us in Beth - le - hem?  
 makes him our broth - er in Beth - le - hem.

5 One with the Father,  
 he is our Savior,  
 heaven-sent helper  
 in Bethlehem.

6 Gladly we praise him,  
 love and adore him,  
 give ourselves to him  
 in Bethlehem.

Text: Tom Colvin, 1925-2000

Music: BLANTYRE, Malawi traditional; adapt. Tom Colvin

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**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION*****Jesus, We Are Gathered*****ELW #529**

Empowered by the news of Christ's birth, let us pray boldly for the church, creation, and all who are in need.

God of grace, you show us mercy not according to our worthiness, but according to the abundance of your steadfast love. Grant us the courage to go into the world and do likewise.

God of abundance, the sun and moon praise you and the shining stars sing of your love. Where we have desecrated your creation, make us into a healing balm for what we have broken.

Hear us, God, as we sing:

**Jesus, we are gathered,**

**Jesus, we are gathered,**

**Jesus, we are gathered,**

**we are gathered, Lord Jesus, for you.**

God of righteousness, when leaders fail to fulfill their calls to enact justice, you suffer alongside us. Propel those in power to see you reflected in the faces of all they serve.

God of life, you claim us as your own and care for us as Christ's siblings. Pour out your compassion in every place your people suffer, and protect them in the palm of your hand.

Hear us, God, as we sing:

**Jesus, we are gathered,  
Jesus, we are gathered,  
Jesus, we are gathered,  
we are gathered, Lord Jesus, for you.**

God of compassion, you nurture children as the apple of your eye. As you sheltered your son Jesus from Herod's grasp, shelter all children in danger.

God of love, you console those who weep for lost beloved ones. Even as we mourn, we offer thanks for those who have gone before us, trusting in your comfort and protection.

Hear us, God, as we sing:

**Jesus, we are gathered,  
Jesus, we are gathered,  
Jesus, we are gathered,  
we are gathered, Lord Jesus, for you.**

With the joy of Christ's birth in our hearts, we commend our prayers to you, God, trusting in your boundless mercy and eternal love; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

**Amen.**

**SONG OF PEACE****'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime****ELW #284****'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime**

1 'Twas in the moon of win - ter-time when all the birds had fled, that  
2 With - in a lodge of bro - ken bark the ten - der babe was found; a  
3 The ear - liest moon of win - ter-time is not so round and fair as  
4 O chil - dren of the for - est free, the an - gel-song is true; the



\*God the Lord of all the earth sent an - gel choirs in - stead; be -  
rag - ged robe of rab - bit skin en - wrapped his beau - ty round; but  
was the ring of glo - ry on the help - less in - fant there. The  
ho - ly child of earth and heav'n is born to - day for you. Come,



fore their light the stars grew dim, and wan-d'ring hunt-ers heard the hymn:  
as the hunt - er braves drew nigh, the an - gel song rang loud and high:  
chiefs from far be - fore him knelt with gifts of fox and bea - ver pelt.  
kneel be - fore the ra - diant boy, who brings you beau - ty, peace, and joy.



Refrain  
Je - sus your king is born! Je - sus is born, in ex - cel - sis glo - ri - a!

\* original: "mighty Gitchi Manitou"

Text: Jean de Brébeuf, 1593–1649; tr. Jesse E. Middleton, 1872–1960, alt.  
Music: UNE JEUNE PUCELLE, French folk tune, c. 16th cent.  
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## **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**

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.**

## **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**

Incarnate God, you are among us at this table.  
May we treasure this gift and ponder in our hearts  
the mystery of your presence.  
Move us to discover the wonders of your love  
in the everyday moments of our lives,  
through Christ born in us.

**Amen.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CLOSING HYMN*****Joy to the World*****ELW #267*****Joy to the World***

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him  
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and  
3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -  
4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him  
na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -

room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture  
plains re - peat the sound-ing joy, re - peat the sound-ing  
flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is  
ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
found, far as, far as the curse is found.  
love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Music: ANTIOCH, English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

**BLESSING**

The God of hope  
fill us with all joy and peace in believing,  
so that we may abound in hope  
by the power of the Holy Spirit,  
through Christ Jesus, the Word made flesh.

**Amen.**

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Rejoice in Christ Our Savior.

**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

*Night Long Awaited*

ACS #912

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## **HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

Warm New Year wishes from all of us in the church office! As we step into the year ahead, may each day be filled with hope, renewed faith, and fresh vision for the work God calls us to do in the world. We're excited to see how God will continue to move in and through our ministry at the corner of 6th & Division Streets in 2026, and we look forward to all that lies ahead together.

The Staff of Our Savior's Lutheran Church

## **NEW YEAR FELLOWSHIP POTLUCK!**

### **Sunday, January 4, 2026, after worship—Fellowship Hall**

On next Sunday, we invite everyone to bring a favorite New Year's Eve treat or snack to share during coffee fellowship. Let's kick off the new year together with good food, warm conversation, and joyful community!

## **GIVING TREE**

Thank you to everyone who selected a tag from the Giving Tree and purchased gifts for **New Horizons**. Your generosity helps share joy, dignity, and hope during a season that can be especially challenging for many. Because of you, lives are touched and hearts are lifted. Thank you for being a blessing to our neighbors and for sharing the love of Christ in such a tangible way.

## **HOLIDAY OFFICE & CLOTHES CLOSET CLOSURES**

Our staff will be enjoying time with family and friends this holiday season, and the Women's Clothes Closet will take a short break too. Please note the closures:

### **Church Office:**

- Closed after **worship today (Sun., Dec. 28)** until **9am Tues., Dec. 30**
- Closed from **1pm Tues., Dec. 30** until **8:30am Sun., Jan. 4, 2026**
- Closed **Mon., Jan. 5, 2026** and reopens **9am Tues., Jan. 6, 2026**

### **Women's Clothes Closet:**

- Closed **Tues., Dec. 30, and Sat., Jan. 3, 2026**
- Reopens **1pm Tuesday, January 6, 2026**

Thank you for your understanding! Wishing you a season full of joy, peace, and celebration!

## **SAVE THE DATE—ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

### **Sunday, January 25, 2026, 10:15am—Fellowship Hall**

Please join us for our Annual Congregational Meeting! Together we will hear leadership reports, reflect on the ministry we've shared over the past year, and vote on the 2026 budget as well as the ballot of individuals recommended to serve on the 2025 Church Council. Your presence and voice matter as we look ahead with faith and hope.

**For Committee Chairs and Organizational Presidents:** Please submit your reports to the church office by **Sunday, January 4, 2026**. If your committee or group manages a checkbook, be sure to include a financial report as well. Thank you for your leadership, your time, and your continued dedication to Our Savior's ministry!

### **YEAR-END GIVING—HELP US FINISH 2025 STRONG!**

As we look toward the close of the year, we are deeply grateful for the generosity that sustains our ministry. Your gifts make it possible for Our Savior's to bless our neighborhood, our community, and our world in meaningful ways. Thank you for all you do!

#### **Ways to Share Your Year-End Gift:**

- Place your gift in the offering plate today.

#### **Important Giving Deadlines:**

Gifts to Our Savior's must be received by **today at 9:30am (Sunday, December 28)** to be included on your 2025 giving statement. Any gifts received after the 28th will be credited to your 2026 giving statement. Thank you!

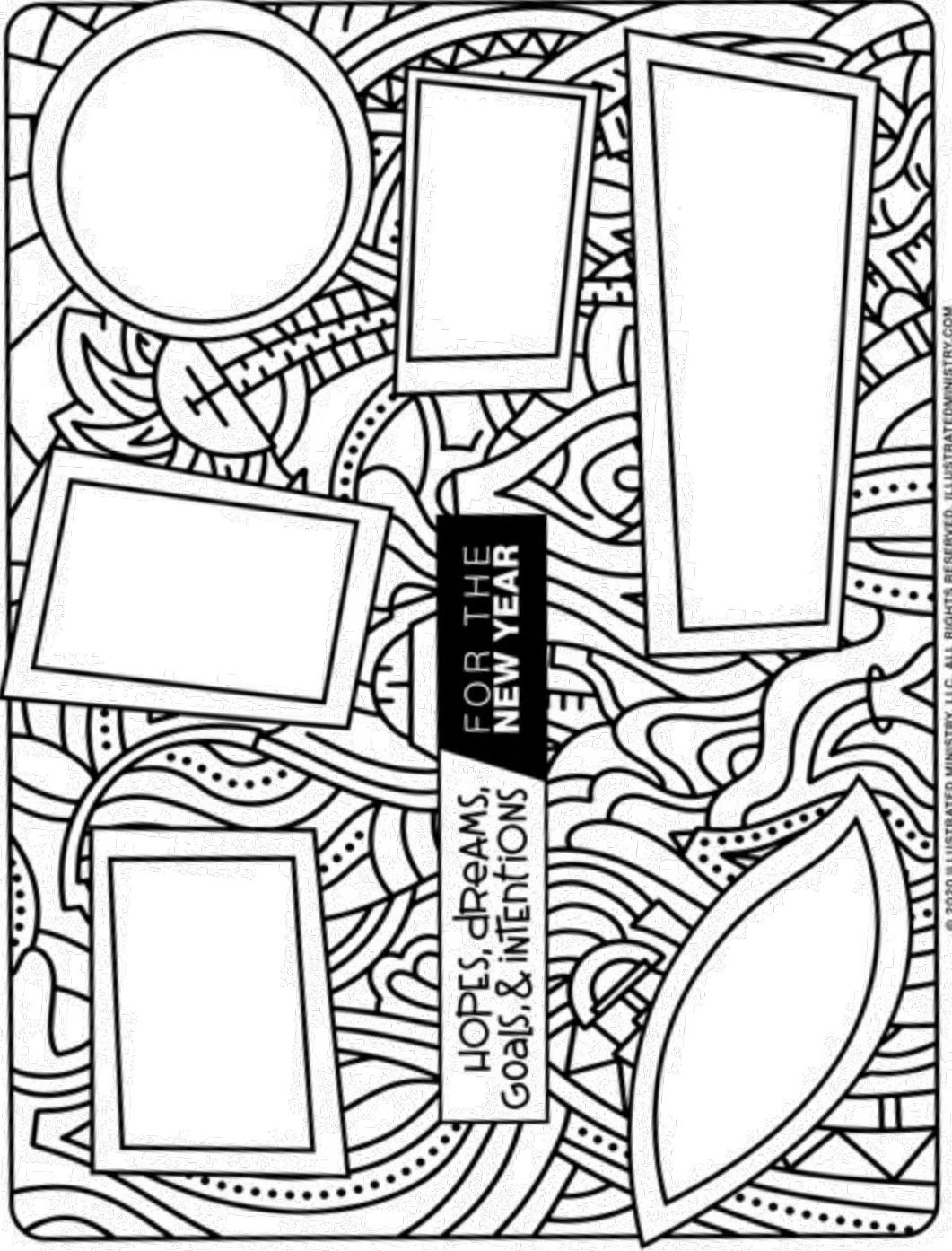
Thank you for helping us finish the year with strength, gratitude, and hope! Your faithful support truly makes a difference.

## **MOO-MOO'S PRAYER CLUB**

**Sunday, January 4, 2026, 10:15am—Sanctuary**

All ages are invited to **begin the new year together** at Moo-Moo's Prayer Club! Children of all ages—especially infants, toddlers, and elementary-age students—along with their families are welcome to come discover the many different ways people can praise and serve God through prayer, song, and hands-on learning.

Join us as we start the new year growing in faith, curiosity, and joy—  
together!



FOR THE  
**NEW YEAR**

HOPES, DREAMS,  
Goals, & INTENTIONS

# OUR SAVIORS THIS WEEK

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

## CALENDAR

### Sunday, December 28, 2025

#### First Sunday of Christmas

#### Ugly Christmas Sweater Sunday

9:30am	Worship/HC
10:15am	Coffee Fellowship
6:30pm	Y.E.S. A.A. mtg.

#### Monday

Church Office Closed

#### Tuesday

#### Women's Clothes Closet Closed

9am—1pm	Office Open
4pm	CFS Doors Open
4:15—5:15pm	CFS Meal Served
5:15—5:30pm	CFS Carry Outs

#### Wednesday

#### New Year's Eve

Church Office Closed

### Thursday, January 1, 2026

#### New Year's Day

Church Office Closed

#### Friday

#### Pastor/Staff Sabbath

#### Saturday

#### Women's Clothes Closet Closed

### Sunday, January 4, 2025

#### Second Sunday of Christmas

9:30am	Worship/HC
10:15am	Bring Your Favorite New Year's Eve Food 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

## PRAYER CONCERNS

### HEALING AND PEACE

**Ardelle Ender, 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 Zinniel, Joshua, Jim Garson, Jim Radatz, Juliana Andrews, Karen Goglein, 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, Sandy Kjos, Sonja Simonson-Schrag, Pastor Steve Minnema, Tom Cade, and Vera Wensole**

### GRIEVING FAMILY & FRIENDS OF

**Bill Temte, Ardis Bolstad, Rick Feran, and Roy Modahl**

### MEMBERS & FRIENDS IN ARMED FORCES

**Ricky Macon, and Tom Rudrud**

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

<b>Bev</b> Burand	December 28
<b>Judi</b> Winkler	December 28
<b>Ed</b> Feran	December 29
<b>Rynzo</b> Patros	December 29
<b>Todd</b> Grapes	December 31
<b>Amy</b> Atchison	January 1
<b>Marjorie</b> Galstad	January 1
<b>Kalei</b> Johnson	January 1
<b>Jon</b> Zinniel	January 3