

Our Savior's Lutheran Church—La Crosse, WI



Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Sunday, February 8, 2026, 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: Asa and Fox Zinniel

Communion Assistant: Laura Sanborn

Pianist: Dr. Eddie Kim

Prayer Reader: Erv Dukatz

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

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

ELW #815

CONFESSiON AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity,  one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ.

Amen.

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

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

OPENING HYMN**You Are Mine****ELW #581****You Are Mine**

1 "I will come to you in the si - lence,
2 "I am hope for all who are hope - less,
3 "I am strength for all the de - spair - ing,
(4) am the Word that leads all to free - dom, I

I will lift you from all your fear.
I am eyes for all who long to see.
heal-ing for the ones who dwell in shame.
am the peace the world can - not give.

You will hear my voice, I claim you as my choice. Be
shad-ows of the night, I will be your light.
All the blind will see, the lame will all run free, and
I will call your name, embrac - ing all your pain. Stand

still and know I am here.
Come and rest in me.
all will know my name.
up, now walk and live!

Refrain

Do not be a-fraid, I am with you. I have called you each by
name. Come and fol - low me, I will bring you home; I
love you and you are mine."

To stanza 2
To refrain
To refrain
To refrain

To stanzas 3 and 4

4 "I

Text: David Haas, b. 1957

Music: YOU ARE MINE, David Haas

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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.

HYMN OF PRAISE *Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness* ELW #843

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness



1 Praise the One who breaks the dark-ness with a lib - er - at - ing light;
2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren with a strong yet gen - tle word;
3 Praise the one true love in - car - nate: Christ, who suf - fered in our place;



praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners, turn-ing blind-ness in - to sight.
praise the One who drove out de - mons with a pierc-ing, two-edged sword.
Je - sus died and rose for man - y that we may know God by grace.



Praise the One who preached the gos - pel, heal-ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease,
Praise the One who brings cool wa - ter to the des - ert's burn-ing sand;
Let us sing for joy and glad-ness, see-ing what our God has done.



calm - ing storms and feed - ing thou-sands with the ver - y bread of peace.
from this well comes liv - ing wa - ter quench-ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.
Praise the one re - deem - ing glo - ry; praise the One who makes us one.

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955

Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

God, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

GOSPEL: Matthew 5: 13—20

The holy gospel according to Saint Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ¹³ "You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

¹⁴ "You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵ People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

¹⁷ "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. ¹⁸ For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹ Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called

least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.²⁰ For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Joanne Richmond

HYMN OF THE DAY

Shine, Jesus, Shine

ELW #671

Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory;
blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy;
send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light!

Lord, the light of your love is shining,
in the midst of the darkness, shining;
Jesus, light of the world, shine upon us,
set us free by the truth you now bring us.
Shine on me, shine on me:

Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory;
blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy;
send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light!

As we gaze on your kingly brightness,
so our faces display your likeness,
ever-changing from glory to glory,
mirrored here, may our lives tell your story
Shine on me, shine on me:

Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory;
blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy;
send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light!

Text: Graham Kendrick, b. 1950

Music: Graham Kendrick

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INSTALTION OF OFFICERS

Church Council

Jim Radatz, President

Deb Wollin, Vice President

Sue Staples, Secretary

Erv Dukatz, Treasurer

Bob Miller, Property

Gregg Attleson, Social Ministry

Carol Miller, Stewardship

Lois Losby, Worship & Music

W-ELCA Board

Sue Staples, President

Laura Sanborn, Vice President

Carol Miller, Secretary

Patti Hanson, Treasurer

Dorcas Society Board

Paula Tippery, President

Kim Grapes, Vice President

Laura Sanborn, Secretary

Colleen Pitz, Treasurer

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 *We Are Marching in the Light of God* ELW #866

As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.

Your church does ministry in many and various ways. Keep the baptized true to the mind of Christ, that our works and witness bring hope to a troubled world.

Your marvelous creation cries out to you. Restore polluted air, soil, and water sources to wholeness. Guard honeybees, elephants, great whales and songbirds from harm, and renew the face of the earth.

Merciful God, hear us as we sing:

**We are praying in the light of God,
we are praying in the light of God.
We are praying in the light of God,
we are praying in the light of God.**

**We are praying, (praying, we are praying, praying,)
we are praying in the light of God.**

**We are praying, (praying, we are praying, praying,)
we are praying in the light of God.**

Your people in every nation suffer injustice, poverty, and the threat of violence. Guide those in authority to govern with compassion, and bring peace to war zones. We pray for our enemies.

Your blessings are poured out for all in need. Help and heal any who experience trauma, discrimination, disease, hunger, abuse, or persecution. Comfort those who are sick or grieving.

Merciful God, hear us as we sing:

**We are praying in the light of God,
we are praying in the light of God.
We are praying in the light of God,
we are praying in the light of God.**

**We are praying, (praying, we are praying, praying,)
we are praying in the light of God.**

**We are praying, (praying, we are praying, praying,)
we are praying in the light of God.**

Your wisdom guides this congregation and its ministries. Sustain our leaders, staff, and volunteers. Form us to be salt and light for the neighbors we serve, following the example of Christ.

Your saints rejoice at your heavenly banquet. We give thanks for their lives of faith, trusting that we also will be embraced by your eternal love.

Merciful God, hear us as we sing:

**We are praying in the light of God,
we are praying in the light of God.
We are praying in the light of God,
we are praying in the light of God.**

**We are praying, (praying, we are praying, praying,)
we are praying in the light of God.
We are praying, (praying, we are praying, praying,)
we are praying in the light of God.**

Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior.

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

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

We thank you, wondrous God, for Jesus,
God with us, in these gifts of bread and wine.
As we have shared this feast of love,
strengthen us to share your love with all the world.
In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

We Are Called

1 Come! Live in the light! Shine with the joy and the love of the
 2 Come! O - pen your heart! Show your . . . mer - cy to all those in
 3 Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that great day when all will be

Lord! We are called to be light for the king - dom, to
 fear! We are called to be hope for the hope - less so
 one! God will reign, and we'll walk with each oth - er as

live in the free - dom of the cit - y of God.
 ha - tred and blind-ness . . . will be . . . no more.
 sis - ters and broth - ers . . . u - nit - ed in love.

Refrain

We are called to act with jus - tice, we are called to

love ten - der - ly; we are called to serve one an -

oth - er, to walk hum - bly with God.

5

Text: David Haas, b. 1957

Music: WE ARE CALLED, David Haas

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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Rejoice in Christ Our Savior.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

This Little Light of Mine

ELW #677

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CHOCOLATE SUNDAY AFTER WORSHIP TODAY!

Stick around after worship for **Chocolate Sunday**, a sweet time of fellowship filled with chocolate treats and desserts to share. Whether you brought something or just your sweet tooth, all are welcome! Come enjoy good conversation, delicious treats, and the joy of being together—we'd love to have you join us.

INSTALLATION OF CHURCH OFFICERS

Today during worship, we will install all officers of the church. We give thanks for their leadership and willingness to serve, pray for God's guidance as they serve our congregation, and ask God's blessing on the work they are called to do.

Church Council

Jim Radatz, President

Deb Wollin, Vice President

Sue Staples, Secretary

Erv Dukatz, Treasurer

Bob Miller, Property

Gregg Attleson, Social Ministry

Carol Miller, Stewardship

Lois Losby, Worship & Music

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Patti Hanson, Treasurer

Dorcas Society Board

Paula Tipperry, President

Kim Grapes, Vice President

Laura Sanborn, Secretary

Colleen Pitz, Treasurer

ASH WEDNESDAY

Wednesday, February 18, 2026, 12 noon and 6pm

Join us for worship as we begin the season of Lent with prayer, reflection, and the imposition of ashes. All are welcome as we gather to begin our Lenten journey together.

FEBRUARY DONATION DRIVE—SNACKS THAT STACK

This February, we're collecting **crackers** to help stock the **Hunger Task Forces** shelves and everyday meals for our neighbors in need. Crackers are a simple staple that pair well with soups, cheeses, and other pantry items. All kinds are welcome—saltines, whole wheat, butter crackers, cheese crackers, and more. Please bring your donations to the grocery cart in the narthex. Together, we can help share steady nourishment and care during the winter months. ***Thank you for helping our neighbors, one box at a time.***

LENTEN SOUP SUPPER

We are looking for individuals, families, and/or church groups to sign up to provide pots of soup during Lent. Look for the sign up on the bulletin board next to the church office or talk with Pastor Joanne or Lois Losby, Worship & Music Board Chair. ***Thank you for helping nourish both body and spirit during Lent.***

MARDI GRAS OSLC STYLE!

Sunday, February 15, 2026, 10:15am—Fellowship Hall

Get ready for a festive celebration of food, music, and fellowship! Join us for a fun -filled event featuring **New Orleans style food** and **lively music**. This is a chance for our whole church family to get together before we prepare for Lent. We look forward to seeing you there!

MARDI GRAS SET-UP

Saturday, February 14, 2025, 10am—12 noon—Fellowship Hall and Kitchen

We are looking for help prepping food and decorating for Mardi Gras. If you are available, just show up and we'll put you to work. All ages welcome to participate.

OUR SAVIOR'S COOK-OFF

Ash Wednesday, February 18, 2026, 5pm—Fellowship Hall

Who will win the title of "*Best of Our Savior's*"? Tasting begins at 5pm with a free-will offering to benefit youth & family ministries. We've gone away from plastic-tasting cups and will have tin muffin liners. **You bring your own muffin tin**, we provide the liners, and you get extra votes for your favorites. Everyone wins! We are **looking for cooks** to try to win the '*Best of Our Savior's*.' So rustle up a favorite recipe and sign up with the name of your dish and a brief description on the bulletin board next to the church office to register.

JELLO JUBILEE—Sunday, March 1, 10:15am—Fellowship Hall

Let's wiggle our way out of cabin fever! On Sunday, March 1 (new date), we're inviting everyone to bring a favorite **Jello dish** to share during coffee fellowship—sweet, savory, classic, or delightfully surprising. Together we'll shake off the winter blues, enjoy some laughter, and celebrate the joy of being together as the days grow longer.

PIE-LUCK SUNDAY—Sunday March 8, 2026, 10:15am—Fellowship Hall

Come chase cabin fever away! Bring your favorite pie to share during the coffee hour! All pies are welcome, be they savory or sweet or store-bought or homemade.

AUTHENTIC PERUVIAN DINNER FUNDRAISER

Saturday, Feb. 21, 6—8pm—English Lutheran (1509 King St., La Crosse)

Help us support the ministries of la Iglesia Luterana del Perú, a companion church of the La Crosse Area Synod. Come enjoy fellowship, a delicious meal, and learn about our companion synod in Peru. **Cost:** \$30/person includes authentic Peruvian cuisine, appetizers, salads, entrees, dessert and non-alcoholic beverages. Reserve your space today on the synod's website - only 80 spots available! Don't wait! **Reservation deadline:** February 15. ***Come enjoy a delicious meal and learn more about our companion synod in Peru. We can't wait to see you there!***

FOSTER & RESPITE CARE NEEDED IN LA CROSSE COUNTY

La Crosse County is facing a critical shortage of foster homes. Because of this, some children—including sibling groups—are being placed outside the county, making it harder for them to stay connected to family, school, and community. You are invited to prayerfully consider becoming a **foster parent** or a **respite care provider** (offering short-term care to support foster families). These roles help keep children close to home during a difficult time. To learn more contact **La Crosse County Foster Care Specialist, Lora, at (608) 789-4834.**

OUR SAVIORS THIS WEEK

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

CALENDAR

Sunday, February 8, 2026

Installation of Officers

Chocolate Sunday

9:30am	Worship/HC
10:15am	M-MPC
10:15am	Chocolate Sunday
6:30pm	Y.E.S. A.A. mtg.

Monday

9am—1pm	Office Open
10am—12 noon	Gas Vouchers

Tuesday

9am—1pm	Office Open
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

Thursday

9am—1pm	Office Open
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Friday

Pastor/Staff Sabbath

Saturday

9am—1pm	WCC Open
10am—12 noon	Mardi Gras Set Up

Sunday, February 15, 2026

9:30am	Worship/HC
10:15am	Mardi Gras
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, Cassie, Cathy Ofte, Cindy Moe, Dan Odenbach, Danielle Sorenson, Dave Kjos, Debe, Erik Rudrud, Esther Harman, Eugene Herold, Gabe Centanni, George, Jane & Michael Speer, Jean Koll, Jeannie White, Jeff Kent, Pastor Joanne, Jon Zinniel, Joshua, Jim Garson, Jim Radatz, Juliana Andrews, Karen Geoglein, Katie White, Ken Feran, Lane C., Lois Horne, Kelly Olson, Margo Erickson, Mary Covey, 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

Joyce Hunter, Birgitta Rice, and Kaye Kjome

MEMBERS & FRIENDS IN ARMED FORCES

Ricky Macon, and Tom Rudrud

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

John Schroeder	February 10
Jameson Pitz	February 12
Lorraine Glanzer	February 13
Cheryl Vieth	February 13
Alfie Bahr	February 16
Mary Stutesman	February 16
Colleen Pitz	February 16