

Our Savior's Lutheran Church—La Crosse, WI



Transfiguration Sunday

Sunday, February 15, 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: Gary & Deb Wold

Coffee Fellowship: Mardi Gras

Communion Assistant: Cheryl Vieth

Guitarist: Colin Stiemke

Prayer Reader: Cheryl Vieth

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

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

How Good, Lord, to Be Here!

ELW #581

How Good, Lord, to Be Here!



1 How good, Lord, to be here! Your glo - ry fills the night;
2 How good, Lord, to be here, your beau - ty to be - hold
3 Ful - fill - er of the past and hope of things to be,
4 Be - fore we taste of death, we see your king - dom come;
5 How good, Lord, to be here! Yet we may not re - main;



your face and gar - ments, like the sun, shine with un - bor - rowed light.
where Mo - ses and E - li - jah stand, your mes - sen - gers of old.
we hail your bod - y glo - ri - fied and our re - demp - tion see.
we long to hold the vi - sion bright and make this hill our home.
but since you bid us leave the mount, come with us to the plain.

Text: Joseph A. Robinson, 1858–1933, alt.

Music: POTSDAM, W. Mercer, *The Church Psalter and Hymn Book*, 1854

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.

Light Dawns on a Weary World

1 Light dawns on a weary world when eyes begin to
 2 Love grows in a weary world when hungry hearts find
 3 Hope blooms in a weary world when creatures, once for -

see all people's dignity. Light dawns on a
 bread and children's dreams are fed. Love grows in a
 lorn, find wile - 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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PRAYER OF THE DAY

God, in the transfiguration of your Son you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the witness of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice from the bright cloud declaring Jesus your beloved Son, you foreshadowed your embrace of us as your children. Make us heirs with Christ of your glory, and bring us to enjoy its fullness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

READING: Exodus 24: 12—18

A reading from Exodus.

¹² God said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain and wait there; I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction." ¹³ So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up onto the mountain of God. ¹⁴ To the elders he had said, "Wait here for us, until we come back to you. Look, Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them."

¹⁵ Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. ¹⁶ The glory of God settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day God called to Moses out of the cloud. ¹⁷ Now the appearance of the glory of God was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the Israelites. ¹⁸ Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: Matthew 17: 1—9

The holy gospel according to Saint Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. ² And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became bright as light. ³ Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. ⁴ Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will set up three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." ⁵ While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" ⁶ When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. ⁷ But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." ⁸ And when they raised their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

⁹ As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Joanne Richmond

HYMN OF THE DAY***Lead Me, Guide Me*****ELW #768***Refrain*

Lead me, guide me, along the way;
for if you lead me, I cannot stray.
Lord, let me walk each day with thee.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

1

I am weak and I need thy strength and pow'r
to help me over my weakest hour.
Help me through the darkness thy face to see.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Refrain

Lead me, guide me, along the way;
for if you lead me, I cannot stray.
Lord, let me walk each day with thee.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

2

Help me tread in the paths of righteousness,
be my aid when Satan and sin oppress.
I am putting all my trust in thee.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Refrain

Lead me, guide me, along the way;
for if you lead me, I cannot stray.
Lord, let me walk each day with thee.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

3 I am lost if you take your hand from me,
I am blind without thy light to see.
Lord, just always let me thy servant be.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Refrain

Lead me, guide me, along the way;
for if you lead me, I cannot stray.
Lord, let me walk each day with thee.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Text: Doris Akers, 1922—1995

Music: Doris Akers

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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

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.

Revealing God, your Spirit sustains the church. Strengthen the faithful with the revelation of Christ transfigured, that we may joyfully follow him in the way of the cross.

Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Life-giving God, creation is full of your majesty. Nurture in us a deep respect for the interdependence of all life, and make us wise and vigilant stewards of your good earth.

Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Peacemaking God, the nations are in turmoil. We pray for an end to violent conflict. Give wisdom to negotiators and sanctuary to refugees. Defend any who are in danger, particularly those fearing for their lives, their families, and their homes because of ethnic and racial persecution.

Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Healing God, you desire wholeness for all people. Bring healing to any who are experiencing illness, chronic pain, or mental anguish. Comfort the dying and those who grieve.

Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Holy God, in our worship we glimpse your glory, hear your voice, and receive assurance of your love. Inspire all who prepare, lead, and participate in worship to serve you with reverence and joy.

Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Transforming God, you bring life from death. We give thanks for the witness of those who have died in faith, and we praise you for the hope we have in Christ, our Morning Star.

Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

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 FOR THE EMERGENCY FUND

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.

CLOSING HYMN

Arise, Your Light Has Come!

ELW #314

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Rejoice in Christ Our Savior.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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MARDI GRAS OSLC STYLE

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

Join us after worship today for this fun fellowship event with New Orleans style food and music! This is a chance for our whole church family to get together before we prepare for Lent. All are welcome!

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.***

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 15, 2026

9:30am Worship/HC
10:15am Mardi Gras
10:30am Church Council mtg.
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

Ash Wednesday, February 18

9am—1pm Office Open
12 noon Worship/HC
1pm Art & Faith
5pm Our Savior's Cook Off
6pm Worship/HC

Thursday

9am—1pm Office Open

Friday

Pastor/Staff Sabbath

Saturday

9am—1pm WCC Open

Sunday, February 22, 2026

First Sunday in Lent

9:30am Worship/HC
10:15am M-M's Prayer Club
10:15am Coffee Fellowship
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, Juliania Andrews, Karen Geoglein, Katie White, Lane C., Lois Horne, Kelly Olson, Mary Covey, Monica & Jack D., Morris Buros, Pamela Mathis, Peggy Kneifl, Roger Loing, Rose Sabotta, Roxanne North, Sandy Kjos, Sonja Simonson-Schrag, Pastor Steve Minnema, and Tom Cade,

GRIEVING FAMILY & FRIENDS OF

Joyce Hunter, Birgitta Rice, Kaye Kjome, Ken Feran, and Vera Wensole

MEMBERS & FRIENDS IN ARMED FORCES

Ricky Macon, and Tom Rudrud

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Alfie Bahr	February 16
Mary Stutesman	February 16
Colleen Pitz	February 16
David Kjos	February 18
Emerick Weeks	February 18
Everett Bahr	February 20
Rita Heintz	February 20
Olive Hanssen	February 21
Jeanne Johnson	February 22
Heather Kadera	February 22