



 Sanctified Art © a sanctified art sanctifiedart.org

**Lent 3 | Wednesday, March 11, 2026, 6pm**

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](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

**Lenten Soup Supper:** Our Savior's W-ELCA

**Cover Art:** Far More Abundantly by Lauren Wright Pittman; Inspired by Ephesians 3: 20—21; 11"x14" Hand-carved block print with oil-based ink on paper, with gold leaf detail

**Pianist:** Thomas Haag

# 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.*

## OPENING HYMN

*Just As I Am, without One Plea*

ELW #592

### Just As I Am, without One Plea



1 Just as I am, with - out one plea, but that thy blood was  
2 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - y\_a con - flict,  
3 Just as I am, thou wilt re - ceive, wilt wel - come, par - don,  
4 Just as I am; thy love un - known has bro - ken ev - 'ry



shed for me, and that thou bidd'st me come to thee,  
man - y\_a doubt, fight - ings and fears with - in, with - out,  
cleanse, re - lieve; be - cause thy prom - ise I be - lieve,  
bar - rier down; now to be thine, yea, thine a - lone,



O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Text: Charlotte Elliott, 1789–1871

Music: WOODWORTH, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

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

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt  
and blots out all offenses.

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you:

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word:

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For failing to recognize your coming reign,

and for hindering the work of the Spirit: Gracious God,

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For disregarding voices from the margin,  
and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world:

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent,  
and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life:

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound.

Through faith, the free gift of God,

you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead  
dwells in you,

pours God's love into your hearts,

and gives you life and peace.

**Amen.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Bend your ear to our prayers, Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **PSALM: Psalm 23**

<sup>1</sup> The LORD is my shepherd;  
I shall not be in want.

<sup>2</sup> **The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures  
and leads me beside still waters.**

<sup>3</sup> You restore my soul, O LORD,  
and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

<sup>4</sup> **Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I shall fear no evil;  
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

<sup>5</sup> You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

<sup>6</sup> **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

## **READING: Ephesians 3: 20—21**

A reading from Ephesians.

<sup>20</sup> Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, <sup>21</sup> to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

Pastor Joanne Richmond

## HYMN OF THE DAY

# Human Minds Just Can't Imagine

AUSTRIAN HYMN 8.7.8.7 D ("God Whose Giving Knows No Ending")

Words: Anna Strickland (2025)

Music: Joseph Haydn (1797)



Hu - man minds just can't i - ma - gine all that God can bring  
God, ex - pand our dreams and vi - sion when we think our gifts  
Like the grains of wheat are ga - thered from the vast and roll -



to bear Through our small and sep - arate be - ings, e - ven  
too small Help us trust your great pro - vis - ion and to  
-ing fields Like the grapes from vi - ny bran - ches whose small



when we join to share Still we fol - low where Christ leads us,  
an - swer when you call You who gave us time and ta - lents  
fruit the wine will yield We re - mem - ber as one bo - dy,



ma - ny pie - ces of one whole That we might al - low  
will up - hold and see us through As we join to - geth -  
each of us a cru - cial part In the glo - bal church



our dream - ing to trans - form our bro - ken world  
-er in the work you've gi - ven us to do  
pro - fess - ing: we be - long to God's own heart

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

God, our shepherd, we pray that you guide the church. Lead Christians in our community and across the globe in right paths for your name's sake.

Hear us, God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God our provider, we cry out for this planet and the life it holds. Rescue endangered animals and plants, preserve threatened ecosystems, and save creatures from natural disasters.

Hear us, God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God our sovereign, we plead for your peace on earth. Bring an end to war and violence, and raise up leaders in governments, courts, businesses, schools, and community organizations who seek goodness and mercy.

Hear us, God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God our healer, we call to you in our need. Uplift all who are made to feel unimportant, and transform the hearts of all infected by bigotry and prejudice. Care for all in special need this day.

Hear us, God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God our friend, we praise you for the diversity of people among us. Awaken us to share and receive the gifts we each possess, and stir up a spirit of understanding, celebration, and welcome for all.

Hear us, God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God our home, we thank you for all who have died and completed their baptismal journeys. Grant us faith to live until we too dwell in your house forever.

Hear us, God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Receive our prayers, God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.  
**Amen.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.  
**Amen.**

## My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less



1 My hope is built on noth - ing less than  
 2 When dark - ness veils his love - ly face, I  
 3 His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sus -  
 4 When he shall come with trum - pet sound, oh,



Je - sus' blood and righ - teous - ness; no mer - it of my  
 rest on his un - chang - ing grace; in ev - 'ry high and  
 tain me in the rag - ing flood; when all sup - ports are  
 may I then in him be found, clothed in his righ - teous -



own I claim, but whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.  
 storm - y gale my an - chor holds with - in the veil.  
 washed a - way, he then is all my hope and stay.  
 ness a - lone, re - deemed to stand be - fore the throne!

*Refrain*

On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

## DISMISSAL

As you leave this place,  
when you meet anger, speak with love.  
When you meet fear, speak with hope.  
When you meet pain, speak with gentleness.  
But no matter what, speak this good news.  
For the good news of the gospel is  
love and justice for all.  
It is joy that surprises,  
and nonviolence that transforms.  
The good news of the gospel is alive in the world.  
**Thanks be to God for this good, good news. Amen.**

## POSTLUDE

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.  
Reprint and podcast licensing through One License. License A-729110 and CCLI License # 21825636

Liturgy by Rev. Sarah A. Speed  © a sanctified art sanctifiedart.org

## **SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

A Special Congregational Meeting will be held **Sunday, April 19, 2026, immediately following worship** to consider two building projects: **replacement of the boiler pumps and motors** and **updates to the church's exterior entry doors**. The church council will bring recommendations for consideration. Please plan to attend.

### **SPARE GAS CANS NEEDED**

Our church assists neighbors with gas vouchers when they are in need. Sometimes, however, they don't have a safe way to transport the gasoline. If you have any clean, spare gas cans you're no longer using, please consider donating them to the church so we can pass them along when needed.

Donations may be left at the church office. Thank you for helping us care for our neighbors in practical ways.

### **MARCH DONATION DRIVE—A JAR OF JOY**

During March, we're collecting **jam and jellies** to share with our neighbors in need. These small but tasty staples help bring a bit of sweetness to breakfast and everyday meals.

All flavors are welcome! Please place your donations in the grocery cart in the narthex.

### **LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF PERSONAL CARE KITS**

#### **Collecting now through Palm Sunday, March 29, 2026**

Thank you to everyone who has already contributed to our Personal Care Kit collection! Thanks to your generosity, we've reached **about one-third of our goal of 75 kits**.

There's still time to help us get the rest of the way there. You can **complete a full kit** or **bring individual items** to help finish the kits already started. Every towel, bar of soap, or toothbrush brings us one step closer to sharing comfort, dignity, and hope with families facing crisis around the world.

#### **Each Personal Care Kit includes:**

- 1** light-weight, dark-colored bath towel (20" x 40" to 52" x 27")
- 2** bath-size bars of soap (in original wrapping)
- 1** adult-size toothbrush (in original packaging)
- 1** metal nail clipper
- 1** sturdy comb

Thank you for helping turn simple items into powerful signs of care and compassion.

## **PALM SUNDAY BREAKFAST**

### ***Eat, Enjoy, Support Youth & Family Ministries!***

Join us after worship on **Palm Sunday, March 29**, for a delicious breakfast and fellowship! All proceeds benefit Youth & Family Ministries, supporting programs, events, and activities for our young members. Come enjoy good food, great company, and celebrate our youth together. Everyone is welcome!

## **HELP MAKE OUR PALM SUNDAY BREAKFAST A SUCCESS**

We need your help to make our Youth & Family Ministries Palm Sunday Breakfast a hit! Donations of food, drinks, or supplies are greatly appreciated. Sign up **on the bulletin board next to the church office** to share what you can contribute. Thank you for supporting our youth!

## **CELEBRATE HOLY WEEK WITH US**

Experience the journey of Jesus from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday:

- **Palm Sunday, March 29** – Wave palms and celebrate His entry!
- **Maundy Thursday, April 2** – Remember the Last Supper.
- **Good Friday, April 3** – Reflect at the cross.
- **Easter Sunday, Apr 5** – Rejoice in the resurrection!

All are welcome—come share in the hope and joy of this sacred week!



## Far More Abundantly

by Lauren Wright Pittman

Inspired by Ephesians 3:20-21

11"x14" Hand-carved block printed with oil-based ink on paper, with gold leaf detail

I read this Ephesians text alongside the feeding of the five thousand. I placed Jesus at the center of the image,<sup>12</sup> but he did not feed the crowds alone. He asked his disciples to offer what they had. They responded with meager resources, yet those small gifts were enough.

Through the lens of Ephesians, if Jesus were to ask us today what we have to give, our answer would be:

*We have the power you have given us to do the impossible. The same power that turned five loaves and two fish into a feast for thousands—with leftovers—empowers us “to accomplish far more abundantly than all we can ask or imagine.”*

Do we allow this truth to settle into our bones and animate our actions?

I’ll admit, I tried to avoid this passage because it felt overly optimistic in light of today’s world. People still go hungry. Wars rage. The earth groans under our misuse. Yet if we reimagine the systems we created, studies show it is possible for every human being to have what they need.<sup>13</sup> That would require massive restructuring, international cooperation, and the reallocation of resources—but not more than we already possess. We don’t need a miracle of multiplication. We simply need to use what we’ve been given.

In a world convinced of scarcity, this is astonishingly good news. We already have enough. And as my mentor used to say, “*Enough is abundance.*” What will we do with this abundance? Is it too lofty to dream of a world that sustains all of life? Perhaps. Yet I believe it is God’s own desire that all may have life, and have it abundantly.<sup>14</sup> This is the work before us, accomplished through the power at work within us, through Jesus Christ. Amen. —Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman

## Look

*Consider the archway and what it could symbolize. Do you see a table, a tablet, a boat, a door, a tomb—or all of these things or something else?*

<sup>12</sup> In the center of the image, Jesus raises his arms and breaks bread. Above Jesus’ hands is a mustard seed. Surrounding the baskets are thin line carvings of mustard flowers. Like the seed, we may be small, but we hold so much potential inside of us. Surrounding the archway are twelve baskets of seven loaves or fish which take on the shape of flowers. The number twelve represents community, and seven represents wholeness. When everyone has what they need, the community is whole.

<sup>13</sup> [globalcommonsalliance.org/news/new-research-reveals-path-to-prosperity-for-planet-and-people-if-earths-critical-resources-are-better-shared/](https://globalcommonsalliance.org/news/new-research-reveals-path-to-prosperity-for-planet-and-people-if-earths-critical-resources-are-better-shared/)

<sup>14</sup> John 10:9-11

# OUR SAVIORS THIS WEEK

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

## CALENDAR

**Wednesday, March 11**

**Third Wednesday of Lent**

**9am—1pm** Office Open  
**12 noon** Worship/HC  
**5:30pm** Soup Supper  
**6pm** Worship/HC

**Thursday**

**9am—1pm** Office Open

**Friday**

**Pastor/Staff Sabbath**

**Saturday**

**9am—1pm** WCC Open

**Sunday, March 15, 2026**

**Fourth 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.

**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, March 18**

**Fourth Wednesday of Lent**

**9am—1pm** Office Open  
**12 noon** Worship/HC  
**5:30pm** Soup Supper  
**6pm** Worship/HC  
**6:30pm** Church Council

**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, **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

**Vera** Wensole

### MEMBERS & FRIENDS IN ARMED FORCES

**Ricky** Macon, and **Tom** Rudrud

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

**Rudy** Nedvidek March 11  
**Max** VanZee March 11  
**Chuck** Manske March 14  
**Doni** Moyer March 16  
**Emma** Kadera March 17  
**Bethany** Matsick March 18