

OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH



**SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 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

Welcome, visitors! We're glad you are here! We are delighted you have chosen to worship with us today. We will share holy Communion; you are welcome to participate.

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 Steve Minnema

AV Ministry Team: Asa and Fox Zinniel

Communion Assistant: Deb Wollin

Coffee Fellowship: Cheryl Vieth

Cover Art: The Maestra Altarpiece, *The Incredulity of Saint Thomas*, November 1308, Duccio di Buoninsegna (1255—1319)

Guitarist: Colin Stiemke

Prayer Reader: Erv Dukatz

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

WELCOME

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne
and to the Lamb!

Amen.

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Merciful God,

you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come.

You lead us beside still waters.

We thank you for the waters of creation:

morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves.

We thank you for the waters that nourish us.

Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness
who accompanies us on our journeys.
We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection.
We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow.
Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows.
Break down barriers that divide us.
Fill us with the breath of peace.
Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism,
and for making us a new creation.
We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise,
now and forever.

Amen.

Now the Green Blade Rises



1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,
 2 In the grave they laid him, love by ha - tred slain,
 3 Forth he came at Eas - ter like the ris - en grain,
 4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,



wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;
 think - ing that he would nev - er wake a - gain,
 he that for three days in the grave had lain;
 your touch can call us back to life a - gain,



love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been;
 laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen;
 raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen;
 fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;



love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

Text: John MacLeod Campbell Crum, 1872–1958
 Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol
 Text from *Oxford Book of Carols*, © Oxford University Press 1928. All rights reserved.

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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.

HYMN OF PRAISE *That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright* ELW #384 vs. 1, 2, 4

That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright



1 That Eas - ter day with joy was bright; the
2 O Je - sus, king of gen - tle - ness, with
3 O Christ, you are the Lord of all in
4 All praise, O ris - en Lord, we give to



sun shone out with fair - er light when, to their long - ing
con - stant love our hearts pos - sess; to you our lips will
this our Eas - ter fes - ti - val, for you will be our
you, once dead, but now a - live! To God the Fa - ther



eyes re - stored, the a - pos - tles saw their ris - en Lord!
ev - er raise the trib - ute of our grate - ful praise.
strength and shield from ev - 'ry weap - on death can wield.
e - qual praise, and God the Spir - it, now we raise!

Text: Latin hymn, 5th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.
Music: PUER NOBIS, European tune, adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

GOSPEL—John 20: 19—31

The holy gospel according to Saint John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸ Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

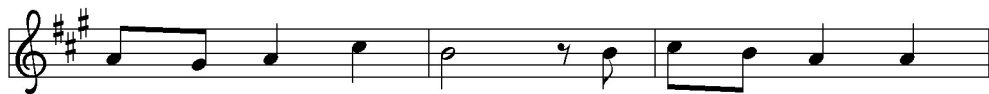
SERMON

Pastor Steve Minnema

We Walk by Faith



1 We walk by faith and not by sight; with
 2 We may not touch your hands and side, nor
 3 Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; and
 4 For you, O res - ur - rec - ted Lord, are
 5 And when our life of faith is done, in



gra - cious words draw near, O Christ, who spoke as
 fol - low where you trod; but in your prom - ise
 may our faith a - bound to call on you when
 found in means di - vine: be - neath the wa - ter
 realms of clear - er light may we be - hold you



none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."
 we re - jice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"
 you are near and seek where you are found:
 and the word, be - neath the bread and wine.
 as you are, with full and end - less sight.

Text: Henry Alford, 1810–1871, alt.

Music: SHANTI, Marty Haugen, b. 1950

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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.**

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

Almighty God, you give life to the dead and call into existence things that do not exist. Breathe your Spirit upon us, that our faith may be renewed day by day.

Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Maker of heaven and earth, your mercies are new every morning. Open us to the wonders of creation, from the beauty of flowers to the complexity of subatomic particles.

Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

God of peace, in every place where conflict rages, sow seeds of calm and openness to reconciliation. Strengthen the resolve of leaders and citizens to work for peace in their nations.

Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Healing God, come alongside all who are doubting, fearful, or suffering in any way. Reveal to them your presence and assure them of the inheritance you have prepared for them.

Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Giver of joy, let this assembly be a place of genuine love and mutual affection. Deepen our care for one another and help us to embody your forgiving and sacrificial love.

Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Eternal One, we give thanks for saints who were faithful unto death and have joined the church triumphant. Inspire us by their witness and bring us with them into your glorious presence.

Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

NOISY OFFERING

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.

As often as we eat this bread
and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death
until he comes.

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again. 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

Holy One,
through this meal you have made your home among us
and are making all things new.

Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts,
to love our enemies,
and to bring your healing to the nations.

In the name of Jesus,

Amen.

BLESSING

The holy Three,
the holy One
increase your hope,
strengthen your faith,
deepen your love,
and + grant you peace.

Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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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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

I Speak Jesus

Here Be Lions

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Liturgy adapted from a prayer by the Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, April 19, 2026, 10:15am—Sanctuary

A Special Congregational Meeting will be held next Sunday 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 and be part of this important conversation. Your participation is appreciated.

FINISH THE KITS CHALLENGE

Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits

During Lent, we aimed to collect items for 75 Personal Care Kits. Thanks to your generosity, we've completed **64 kits!**

We're just **11 kits short of our goal**. You can help us finish strong by bringing a few remaining items to complete the final kits.

Each 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 sharing care, compassion, and hope with neighbors around the world.

APRIL DONATION DRIVE —SPICE UP THE PANTRY

Help add flavor to meals for our neighbors in need by donating shelf-stable spices such as salt, pepper, garlic powder, cinnamon, and more.

Place donations in the grocery cart in the narthex. ***Thank you for adding a little flavor, one jar at a time.***

MOO-MOO'S PRAYER CLUB TODAY!

Sunday, April 12, 2026, 10:15am – Sanctuary

Calling all little hands and big hearts! 🙌 Infants, toddlers, and elementary-age kids are invited to explore fun, exciting ways to praise and serve God. Sing, pray, learn, and play together as we grow in faith—no experience needed, just curiosity and smiles! 😊

Join us today—and mark your calendars! Our next gathering will be Sunday, April 26, following worship.

GAME DAY TODAY!

Sunday, April 12, 10:30am—Fellowship Hall

Join us for a fun-filled Game Day right! All ages and stages are welcome—because everything's more exciting with a little friendly competition. 😊 Just come and participate—there will be games and plenty of fun for everyone!

DINNER AND MOVIE NIGHT 🍷 🎬

Saturday, April 18, 4:30 – 6:30pm—Fellowship Hall

Join us for a cozy family movie night fun for all ages and stages! Enjoy a light dinner and snacks while we relax and watch a great film together. For more information, please call/text Jessica at [608.782.3468](tel:608.782.3468).

COURTYARD FIRE PIT 🔥

Friday, April 24, 6—8pm—Courtyard

Gather around the fire for a night of s'mores, grilled hot dogs, outdoor games, and lots of fun! Bring a lawn chair or blanket, and your friends and family, for a cozy evening together.

BOWLING PARTY!

Strike up some fun with your church family and friends!

☐ **When:** Sunday, April 26, 2026

☐ **Time:** 2pm

☐ **Where:** Pla-Mor Lanes (807 4th St. S., La Crosse)

All skill levels welcome—come roll, laugh, and enjoy a relaxed evening together. Bowling and shoe rental are provided, plus plenty of fun for everyone! **Sign up now:** Call/text Jessica at [608.782.3468](tel:608.782.3468).

OSLC HIKING GROUP

Sunday, May 3, 1:30pm—TBD

We're hosting an afternoon hike welcome to beginner hikers, seasoned veterans and everyone in between! Stay tuned for more details.

OUR SAVIORS THIS WEEK

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

CALENDAR

Sunday, April 12 2026

Second Sunday of Easter

8:30—10:30am Office Open
9:30am Worship/HC
10:15am Moo-Moo's Prayer Club
10:15am Coffee Fellowship
10:30am Game Day
6:30pm Y.E.S. A.A. mtg.

Monday

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

Tuesday

9am—1pm Office Open
9am Quilters
1—5pm WCC Open
4pm CFS Doors Open
4:05—5:15pm CFS Meal Served
5:15—5:30pm CFS Carry Outs

Wednesday, April 15, 2026

9am—1pm Office Open
12 noon Worship
1pm Art & Faith
6pm Church Council

Thursday

9am—1pm Office Open

Friday

Pastor/Staff Sabbath

Saturday

9am—1pm WCC Open
4:30—6:30pm Dinner & Movie

Sunday, April 19 2026

Third Sunday of Easter

8:30—10:30am Office Open
9:30am Worship/HC
10:15am Congregational Mtg.
6:30pm Y.E.S. A.A. mtg.

Calendar Notations:

HC—Holy Communion

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, **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

Debe

MEMBERS & FRIENDS IN ARMED FORCES

Ricky Macon, and **Tom** Rudrud

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Dallas Ellefson April 14

Sue Brobeck April 15

Kim Richards April 15