



**Advent 2**

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**Sunday, December 8, 2024**

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](mailto:pastor@oursaviorslutheranchurch.net)

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Jessica Zinniel, Associate Lay Minister—[youthfamily@oursaviorslutheranchurch.net](mailto:youthfamily@oursaviorslutheranchurch.net)

Thomas Haag, Organist | Dr. Eddie Kim, Pianist | Colin Stiemke, Guitarist

Juan Fernandez, 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 & Deb Wold

**Communion Assistant:** Kim Grapes

**Pianist:** Dr. Eddie Kim

**Prayer Reader:** Kim Grapes

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

## PRELUDE

## ADVENT CANDLE #2

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light.

**On those living in the land of the shadow of death, light has dawned.**

We need your peace, Jesus.

We confess that our hearts are too  
often filled with anxiety and doubt.

In a world where worry, not peace,  
prevails, stir up that good news again.

We know peace on earth can only come  
when hearts find peace with You.

You are our Joy.

You are our Peace.

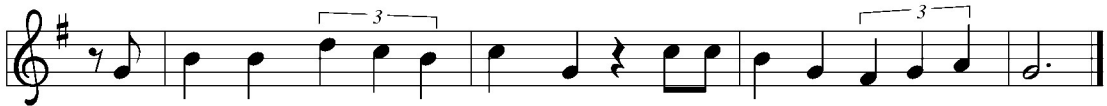
We celebrate you as our Savior—now and always.

**Amen.**

## He Came Down



- 1 He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;  
 2 He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light;  
 3 He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace;  
 4 He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy;



he came down that we may have love;  
 he came down that we may have light; hal - le - lu - jah for - ev - er - more.  
 he came down that we may have peace;  
 he came down that we may have joy;

Text: Cameroon traditional

Music: HE CAME DOWN, Cameroon traditional

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,  
 alive in the world,  
 reviving creation,  
 arriving soon.

**Amen.**

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

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God of mercy,

**we confess that we have sinned.**

**We trust earthly powers and human authority alone.**

**We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.**

God of might,

**we confess that we have sinned.**

**We have turned away from our neighbors.**

**We have trusted false promises.**

God in our midst,

**we confess that we have sinned.**

**We plead: come to us.**

**Bring your mercy to birth in us.**

A righteous branch springs forth:

it is Christ the Lord, our Savior,

in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy.

By the power of the Holy Spirit,

receive the grace and forgiveness of God

through † Christ Jesus,

whose day draws near.

**Amen.**

All Earth Is Hopeful  
*Toda la tierra*



*To - da la tie - rra es - pe - ra al Sal - va - dor*  
 1 All earth is hope - ful, the Sav - ior comes at last!  
 2 Peo - ple of Is - rael, you heard the proph - et tell:  
 3 Moun - tains and val - leys will have to be pre - pared;  
 4 We first saw Je - sus a ba - by in a crib.



*y el sur - co a - bier - to, la ob - ra del Se - ñor; es el*  
 Fur - rows lie o - pen for God's cre - a - tive task; this, the  
 "A vir - gin moth - er will bear Em - man - u - el"; she con -  
 new high - ways o - pened, new pro - to - cols de - clared. Al - most  
 This same Lord Je - sus to - day has come to live in our



*mun - do que lu - cha por la li - ber - tad, re -*  
 la - bor of peo - ple who strug - gle to see how  
 ceived him, "God with us," our broth - er, whose birth re -  
 here! God is near - ing, in beau - ty and grace! All  
 world; he is pres - ent, in neigh - bors we see our



*cla - ma jus - ti - cia y bus - ca la ver - dad. dar - nos li - ber - tad.*  
 God's truth and jus - tice set ev - 'ry - bod - y free.  
 stores hope and cour - age to chil - dren of this earth.  
 clear ev - 'ry gate - way, in haste, come out in haste!  
 Je - sus is with us, and ev - er sets us free.

2 *Dice el profeta al pueblo de Israel:*  
*"De madre virgen ya viene Emmanuel,"*  
*será "Dios con nosotros," hermano será,*  
*con él la esperanza al mundo volverá.*

3 *Montes y valles habrá que preparar;*  
*nuevos caminos tenemos que trazar.*  
*Él está ya muy cerca, venidlo a encontrar,*  
*y todas las puertas abrid de par en par.*

4 *En una cueva Jesús apareció,*  
*pero en el mundo está presente hoy.*  
*Vive en nuestros hermanos, con ellos está;*  
*y vuelve de nuevo a darnos libertad.*

## **GREETING**

The grace of 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, amen.**

Assisting minister

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All

Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,

we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,

you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;

you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,

you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,

in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.



## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up our hearts, God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## GOSPEL: Luke 1: 68—79

The holy gospel according to St. Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>68</sup> Blessed are you, Lord, the God of Israel,  
you have come to your people and set them free.

<sup>69</sup> **You have raised up for us a mighty Savior,  
born of the house of your servant David.**

<sup>70</sup> Through your holy prophets, you promised of old to save us from our enemies,  
<sup>71</sup> from the hands of all who hate us,

<sup>72</sup> **to show mercy to our forebears,  
and to remember your holy covenant.**

<sup>73</sup> This was the oath you swore to our father Abraham:

<sup>74</sup> to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

**free to worship you without fear,**

<sup>75</sup> **holy and righteous before you, all the days of our life.**

<sup>76</sup> And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,

for you will go before the Lord to prepare the way,

<sup>77</sup> **to give God's people knowledge of salvation**

**by the forgiveness of their sins.**

<sup>78</sup> In the tender compassion of our God

the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

<sup>79</sup> **to shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death,**

**and to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **YOUNG PERSON'S MESSAGE**

### **SERMON**

Pastor Joanne Richmond

## We Are Waiting for Jesus



1 We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.  
 2 We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.



We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.  
 We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.



Sun of jus - tice, shine up - on us; we are trust - ing in your prom - ise.  
 Lov - ing Shep - herd, walk be - side us; stir our hearts, and gent - ly guide us.



We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.  
 We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.

Text: John Helgen, b. 1957

Music: JESUS BRINGS PEACE, John Helgen

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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.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*(Response to each petition is from ELW #262, Wait for the Lord.)*

As we prepare for Emmanuel, God-with-us, let us pray for all people and places that long for God's presence.

Refining God, move through your church. Root out practices that harm your people, and kindle a fire for sharing the gospel among bishops, pastors, deacons, and all the baptized.

Renewing God, transform your creation. Steer us from habits that harm what you have made, and guide us in practices that preserve and restore creatures and habitats.

Holy God, hear us as we sing:

**Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.**

**Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!**

Ruling God, teach the nations your ways. Strengthen organizations and communities that broker peace and care for refugees, immigrants, and all caught in the center of conflict.

Rescuing God, restore your people who are in any need. Heal all who are suffering. Provide comfort and strength, and nurture sustained wholeness for the future.

Holy God, hear us as we sing:

**Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.**

**Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!**

Reforming God, fill this congregation with your presence.

Enrich our seasonal preparations,  
and bless the efforts by musicians, staff, clergy,  
and lay leaders as they work in the weeks ahead.

Reassuring God, we remember those  
who have died and rest in you.

Guide us in deep gratitude for their life,  
and allow us to learn from their faithful witness.

Holy God, hear us as we sing:

**Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.**

**Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!**

Savior of the nations, come, and receive these prayers  
and the pleas of our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ.

**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**

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.

Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,

the Word made flesh.

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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

With this bread and cup  
we remember your Word dwelling among us,  
full of grace and truth.

We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.

We look with hope for his coming.

**Come, Lord Jesus.**



Holy God, we long for your Spirit.

Come among us.

Bless this meal.

May your Word take flesh in us.

Awaken your people.

Fill us with your light.

Bring the gift of peace on earth.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

All praise and glory are yours,

Holy One of Israel,

Word of God incarnate,

Power of the Most High,

one God, now and forever.

**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**

*You may come forward for communion using the center aisle. After receiving bread from Pastor, please take an empty glass from the small table. If you prefer grape juice, take a full glass. Proceed to the person with the pouring chalice. After receiving your wine/blessing, place your empty glass in the basket you will see as you walk toward the side aisle.*

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

God for whom we wait,  
in this meal you give us  
a foretaste of that day  
when the hungry will be fed  
with good things.  
Send us forth to make known  
your deeds and to proclaim  
the greatness of your name,  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**Amen.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

**Amen.**

## Guide My Feet



- 1 Guide my feet  
 2 Hold my hand  
 3 Stand by me while I run this race.  
 4 I'm your child  
 5 Search my heart



Guide my feet  
 Hold my hand  
 Stand by me while I run this race.  
 I'm your child  
 Search my heart



Guide my feet  
 Hold my hand  
 Stand by me while I run this race,  
 I'm your child  
 Search my heart



for I don't want to run this race in vain.

Text: African American spiritual  
 Music: GUIDE MY FEET, African American spiritual

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **PRELUDE**

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## **CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

**Christmas Eve**—Tuesday, December 24, 2024, 7pm

**Christmas Day**—Wednesday December 25, 2024, 9:30am

## **SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING NEXT SUNDAY**

**Sunday, December 15, 10:30am—Fellowship Hall**

Please join us for a special meeting of the congregation to discuss remodeling of the altar area in the sanctuary for accessibility

## **JOLABOKAFLOD (ICELANDIC BOOK FLOOD) NEXT SUNDAY**

**Sunday, December 15, 10:15am – Fellowship Hall**

Bring a book or two to trade and a plate of Christmas cookies to share. This event is for all ages (toddler – adult).

## **GIVING TREE DUE NEXT SUNDAY**

Please return your Giving Tree gifts **Sunday, December 15** for New Horizons. Thank you for helping make someone's Christmas a bit merrier

## **CAROLING WITH DR. EDDIE KIM & MARY ENDER STUTESMAN**

**Sunday, December 8, 2024—Meet in Fellowship Hall after worship**

Join us **TODAY** as we carpool around La Crosse to spread Christmas cheer through caroling! Afterward, enjoy pizza, drinks, board games, and fellowship at the church. All ages (0—108) are welcome! Come for the caroling, stay for the fun!

## **WELCA CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON**

**Thursday, December 12, Seating 11:30am & Lunch 12 noon—Fellowship Hall**

Please join us for our Christmas Luncheon. The Board would like to recognize those who helped and participated in our WELCA group this year. If you're able please also bring a non-perishable food item for the food pantry.

## **ADVENT GAME NIGHT: HOLIDAY EDITION**

**Sunday, December 15, 2024, 4:30 – 6:30pm**

Join us for a night of games and snacks (provided)! You're also invited to bring a dish or game to share, or just bring yourself!

## **THE LONGEST NIGHT – A CANDLELIGHT LABYRINTH**

**Saturday, December 21, 2024, 5pm – Peace Garden**

People of all faith traditions and spiritual backgrounds are invited to come walk our candlelight labyrinth and find peace in this busy season. Go slow. Become still. Become present. Reflect on what's ahead in the coming year. There will also be a campfire and hot cider. ***What will you learn from walking the labyrinth on the longest night of the year?***

# OUR SAVIORS THIS WEEK

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

## CALENDAR

### Advent 2—Sunday, Dec. 8, 2024

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

### Monday

**9am—1pm** Office Open  
**10am—12 noon** Gas Vouchers  
**6pm** Priscilla Circle

### Tuesday

**9am—1pm** Office Open  
**9am** Quilters  
**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  
**9am** Staff mtg.  
**12 noon** Worship/HC

### Thursday

**9am—1pm** Office Open

### Friday

**Church Office Closed**  
**Pastor/Staff Sabbath**

### Saturday

**9am—1pm** WCC Open

### Advent 3—Sunday, Dec. 15, 2024

**9:30am** Worship/HC  
**10:15am** Cookie Potluck  
Jólabókaflóðið  
Icelandic "Book Flood"  
**10:30am** Congregational mtg.  
**4:30pm** Advent Game Night  
**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

**Athena** Burg, **Bev** Hanson, **Carol** Kant, **Casey** Kanter, **Cindy** Moe, **Dan** Odenbach, **Danielle** Sorenson, **Dave** Kjos, **Erik** Rudrud, **Esther** Harman, **Eugene** Herold, **Gabe** Centanni, **George**, **Jane** Speer, **Jean** Koll, **Jeannie** White, **Jeff** Kent, **Jim** Garson, **Joyce** Gosman, **Karen** Geoglein, **Katie** White, **Kilian** Crary, **Lane** C., **Lois** Horne, **Kelly** Olson, **Mary** Covey, **Monica & Jack**, **Morris** Buros, **Peggy** Kneifl, **Pete** Harman, **Rich** Pitz, **Rose** Sabotta, **Roxanne** North, **Sandy** Kjos, **Sonja** Simonson-Schrag, **Theo** Abnet, **Tom** Cade, **Vera** Wensole, and **Vickie** Hengel

### GRIEVING FAMILY & FRIENDS OF

**Marilyn** Carroll and **Bev** Paar

### MEMBERS & FRIENDS IN ARMED FORCES

**Gabriel** W. Kleven, **Greg** Phillips, **Ricky** Macon, **Stacie** Phillips, and **Tom** Rudrud

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

<b>Jim</b> Balow	December 9
<b>Elaynah</b> Kelley	December 11
<b>Carma</b> Coon	December 15
<b>Cindy</b> Vieth	December 15