



## **Christmas 1**

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**Sunday, December 29, 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)

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

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:** Jim Radatz and Asa Zinniel

**Communion Assistant:** Carol Miller

**Guitarist:** Colin Stiemke

**Prayer Reader:** Jeanne Johnson

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

## PRELUDE

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.**

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice



1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;  
 2 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;  
 3 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;



give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;  
 now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!  
 now ye need not fear the grave; Je - sus Christ was born to save!



ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.  
 He has o - pened heav - en's door, and we are blest for - ev - er - more.  
 Calls you one and calls you all to gain the ev - er - last - ing hall.



Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!  
 Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!  
 Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Text: Medieval Latin carol; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866  
 Music: IN DULCI JUBILO, German carol, 14th cent.

## **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.**

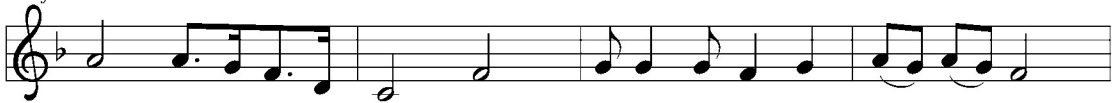
For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen, amen.**

## Go Tell It on the Mountain

*Refrain*

Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;



go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!



- 1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
- 2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when, lo, a - bove the earth
- 3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum-ble Christ was born;

*Refrain*

be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.  
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.  
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless-ed Christ-mas morn.

Text: African American spiritual, refrain; John W. Work Jr., 1872–1925, stanzas, alt.  
Music: GO TELL IT, African American spiritual

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Shine into our hearts the light of your wisdom, O God,  
and open our minds to the knowledge of your word,  
that in all things we may think and act according  
to your good will and may live continually  
in the light of your Son, Jesus Christ,  
who lives and reigns with you  
and the Holy Spirit, one God,  
now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **GOSPEL: Luke 2: 8—20**

The holy gospel according to St. Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Now every year [Jesus'] parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his



understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

Pastor Joanne Richmond

## Jesus, the Light of the World



- 1 Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, Je-sus, the Light of the world;  
 2 Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; Je-sus, the Light of the world;  
 3 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Je-sus, the Light of the world;  
 4 Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace! Je-sus, the Light of the world;



“Glo - ry to the new-born king,” Je-sus, the Light of the world.  
 join the tri - umph of the skies; Je-sus, the Light of the world.  
 Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord! Je-sus, the Light of the world.  
 Hail the Sun of righ-teous-ness! Je-sus, the Light of the world.

*Refrain*

We'll walk in the light, beau-ti-ful light, come where the dew-drops of mer-cy are bright.



Shine all a-round us by day and by night, Je-sus, the Light of the world.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, stanzas; George D. Elderkin, 1845–1928, refrain  
 Music: WE'LL WALK IN THE LIGHT, Traditional; arr. George D. Elderkin

## **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.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*(Response to each petition is verses from ELW #744, Lord, Be Glorified.)*

Joining our voices with the heavenly host and Christians throughout time and space, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

You come to us in gatherings of your church at all times and in all places. Unite us with those who celebrate your birth.

You come to us in the diverse splendor of the universe. Grant us the humility to trust our place in the network of creation, that we live in service to you and the natural world.

Merciful God, hear us as we sing:

**In your church, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;  
in your church, Lord, be glorified today.**

You come to us through a variety of relationships: families, friendships, communities, and nations. Guide us in these relationships, that we recognize the Christ child in one another, always sharing your love.

You come to us through people whom the world forgets. Send your Spirit to all who are imprisoned, struggling with addiction, unwell, or in any need this day.

Merciful God, hear us as we sing:

**In your world, Lord, be glorified, be glorified.**

**In your world, Lord, be glorified today.**

You come to us in acts of justice and forgiveness. Open our hearts to forgive one another. Clothe with love, binding all things together in perfect harmony.

Merciful God, hear us as we sing:

**In our song, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;**

**in our song, Lord, be glorified today.**

Rejoicing in your Word made flesh among us, we commend these prayers to you, confident of your grace and love made known to us in Jesus Christ, 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**

*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**

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.**



## Hallelujah! Sing Praise to Your Creator



1 Hal - le - lu - jah! Sing praise to your Cre - a - tor, sun, moon, and  
 2 Praise the Lord, all moun - tains and o - ceans, roll - ing thun - der and  
 3 Give to God all glo - ry and hon - or. From the depths to the



stars and an - gels a - bove. Praise the Lord, whose word es -  
 wind and storm clouds on high. Praise the Lord, your Mak - er,  
 heights let prais - es re - sound to the Lord, the source of



tab - lished the heav - ens, who up - holds all the earth in pow - er and  
 all liv - ing crea - tures, all the beasts in the fields and birds in the  
 strength and sal - va - tion for all peo - ple on whom God's fa - vor is



love. God reigns on high, let the heav - ens re - joice! (Oh.)  
 sky. Both young and old, come and join in the song! (Oh.)  
 found. Praise God, you saints who are claimed as God's own! (Oh.)



God reigns on high, let the heav - ens re - joice!  
 Both young and old, come and join in the song!  
 Praise God, you saints who are claimed as God's own!

Text: Tilly Lubis, 1925–2002, based on Psalm 148; tr. David Diephouse, b. 1947  
 Music: NYANYIKANLAH NYANYIAN BARU, Batak melody; arr. H. A. Pandopo, b. 1935  
 Text © 2009 Faith Alive Christian Resources  
 Arr. © 1999 H. A. Pandopo

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## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Rejoice in Christ Our Savior.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **POSTLUDE**

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## **HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

Happy New Year from all of us in the church office! May you begin each day of the new year with hope, renewed faith, and restored vision for the work that God calls us to do in the world. We can't wait to see what 2025 has in store for our ministry at the corner of 6th & Division Streets!

## **CHURCH OFFICE & WOMEN'S CLOTHES CLOSET CLOSED**

The church office and the Women's Clothes will be closed so our staff can be with their families and friends. The church office will be closed from 1pm on Monday, December 30 until 9am Thursday, January 2, 2025. The Women's Clothes Closet will be closed Tuesday, December 31, 2024. The Women's Clothes Closet will reopen on Saturday, January 4, 2025 at 9am.

## **GIVING TREE**

Thank you to everyone who took tags off of the giving tree and bought gifts for New Horizons\*. Your generosity will bring happiness in a time that can be difficult for many.

## **YEAR-END GIVING—HELP US FINISH 2024 STRONG!**

Your generosity allows us to have a positive impact on our neighborhood, community, and the world.

For your end-of-year gifts:

- 1) Leave your gift in the offering plate on Sunday or Wednesday
- 2) Use our on-line giving portal, by going to Our Savior's website: <https://www.oursaviorslutheranchurch.net/make-a-contribution/>
- 3) Use our secure mailing address: "Our Savior's Lutheran Church, PO Box 97, La Crosse, WI 54602-0097".

*Gifts to Our Savior's must be received **TODAY (Sunday, December 29)** to be included on your 2024 giving statement. Any gifts received after the today will be credited to your 2025 giving statement. Thank you!*

## **SAVE THE DATE—ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

### **Sunday, January 26, 2025, 10:15am—Fellowship Hall**

Come hear leadership reports, discuss the ministry of Our Savior's, and vote funding the 2025 budget and the ballot of individuals to serve on the church council for 2025.

## **ANNUAL REPORTS DUE**

### **Sunday, January 5, 2025**

To all committee chairs and organizational presidents, please turn in your reports to the church office no later than **Sunday, January 5, 2025**. If your committee or organization has a checkbook please include a financial report as well. Thank you!

## **MOO-MOO'S PRAYER CLUB**

### **Sunday, January 5, 2025, 10:15am—Sanctuary**

All ages are welcome (especially infants, toddlers, and elementary-age school children) to come join us to discover the many different ways people can praise and serve God! A short video will be shown with a small snack and followed by an activity and/or discussion.

## **PASTABILITIES AWAIT IN THE NEW YEAR**

### **Sunday, January 12, 2024, 10:15am—Fellowship Hall**

Join us for a *spaghetti-acular* time of food, fellowship, and fun! After worship on Sunday, January 12, 2025, we're hosting a Pasta Potluck—a delightful celebration of everyone's favorite comfort food. Let's gather together, enjoy a meal, and celebrate the new year. Bring your best pasta dish to share and be ready to enjoy a variety of sauces, sides, and more. Don't forget your appetite and your dish! Whether it's classic spaghetti, macaroni and cheese, or something new, all pasta lovers are invited!

# OUR SAVIORS THIS WEEK

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

## CALENDAR

### Sunday, December 29, 2024

#### **Ugly Christmas Sweater Sunday**

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

### Monday

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

### Tuesday—New Year's Eve

Church Office Closed  
Women's Clothes Closet Closed  
**4pm** CFS Doors Open  
**4:15—5:15pm** CFS Meal Served  
**5:15—5:30pm** CFS Carry Outs

### Wednesday—New Year's Day

Church Office Closed

### Thursday

**9am—1pm** Office Open

### Friday

Church Office Closed  
Pastor/Staff Sabbath

### Saturday

**9am—1pm** WCC open

### Sunday, January 5, 2025

**9:30am** Worship/HC  
**10:15am** Coffee Fellowship  
**10:15am** Moo-Moo's Prayer Club  
**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, **Cindy** Vieth, **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>Ed</b> Feran	December 29
<b>Rynzo</b> Patros	December 29
<b>Amy</b> Atchison	January 1
<b>Kalei</b> Johnson	January 1
<b>Jackie</b> Holmes	January 3
<b>Jon</b> Zinniel	January 3
<b>Todd</b> Balow	January 5
<b>Vera</b> Wensole	January 5