



*Love
your enemies*

LUKE 6:27

Epiphany 7

Sunday, February 23, 2025

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

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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 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:

Communion Assistant:

Pianist: Mary Ender Stutesman

Prayer Reader:

ORDER OF WORSHIP

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 our Savior.

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.

Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us



1 Lord of glo - ry, you have bought us with your life - blood
 2 Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give you glad - ly, free - ly,
 3 Won - drous hon - or you have giv - en to our hum - blest
 4 Lord of glo - ry, you have bought us with your life - blood



as the price, nev - er grudg - ing for the lost ones that tre -
 of your own. With the sun - shine of your good - ness melt our
 char - i - ty in your own mys - te - rious sen - tence, "You have
 as the price, nev - er grudg - ing for the lost ones that tre -



men - dous sac - ri - fice; and with that have free - ly giv - en
 thank - less hearts of stone till our cold and self - ish na - tures,
 done it all to me." Na - ked, sick, in pris - on, hun - gry—
 men - dous sac - ri - fice. Give us faith to trust you bold - ly,



bles - sings count - less as the sand to the un - thank - ful
 warmed by you, at length be - lieve that more hap - py
 in the least, your face we view, say - ing by your
 hope, to stay our souls on you: but, oh, best of



and the e - vil with your own un - spar - ing hand.
 and more bless - ed 'tis to give than to re - ceive.
 poor and need - y, "Give as I have giv'n to you."
 all your grac - es, with your love our love re - new.

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE

ELW #651 vs. 1, 4

Oh, Praise the Gracious Power



- 1 Oh, praise the gra - cious pow'r that tum - bles walls of fear
- 2 Oh, praise per - sis - tent truth that o - pens fist - ed minds
- 3 Oh, praise in - clu - sive love, en - cir - cling ev - 'ry race,
- 4 Oh, praise the word of faith that claims us as God's own,
- 5 Oh, praise the tide of grace that laps at ev - 'ry shore



and gath - ers in one house of faith all strang - ers far and near:
and eas - es from their anx - ious clutch the prej - u - dice that blinds:
ob - liv - i - ous to gen - der, wealth, to so - cial rank or place:
a liv - ing tem - ple built on Christ, our rock and cor - ner - stone:
with vi - sions of a world at peace, no lon - ger bled by war:

Refrain



We praise you, Christ! Your cross has made us one!

- 6 Oh, praise the pow'r, the truth,
the love, the word, the tide.
Yet more than these, oh, praise their source,
praise Christ the crucified: *Refrain*
- 7 Oh, praise the living Christ
with faith's bright songful voice!
Announce the gospel to the world
and with these words rejoice: *Refrain*

Text: Thomas H. Troeger, b. 1945
Music: CHRISTPRAISE RAY, Carol Doran, b. 1936
Text and music from *New Hymns for the Lectionary*, © 1984 Oxford University Press, Inc.

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

Jesus, make us instruments of your peace, that where there is hatred, we may sow love, where there is injury, pardon, and where there is despair, hope. Grant, divine master, that we may seek to console, to understand, and to love in your name, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

GOSPEL: Luke 6: 27—38

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ²⁷ "But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸ bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹ If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰ Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. ³¹ Do to others as you would have them do to you.

³² "If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³ If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴ If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵ But love your enemies, do

good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶ Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

³⁷ "Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸ give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Joanne Richmond

God, When Human Bonds Are Broken



1 God, when hu - man bonds are bro - ken and we lack the
2 Through that still - ness, with your Spir - it come in - to our
3 You in us are bruised and bro - ken: hear us as we
4 Send us, God of new be - gin - nings, hum - bly hope - ful
5 Give us faith to be more faith - ful, give us hope to



love or skill to re - store the hope of heal - ing,
world of stress, for the sake of Christ for - giv - ing
seek re - lease from the pain of ear - lier liv - ing;
in - to life. Use us as a means of bless - ing:
be more true, give us love to go on learn - ing:



give us grace and make us still.
all the fail - ures we con - fess.
set us free and grant us peace.
make us stron - ger, give us faith.
God, en - cour - age and re - new!

Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929

Music: MERTON, William H. Monk, 1823-1889

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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

(Response to each petition is the refrain from Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love, ELW #708.)

With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

Surprising God, you call us to love our enemies and to show kindness in the face of cruelty. Let our actions be a shining witness of your overwhelming grace for all.

As animals hibernate and fields lay dormant, let them be a reminder that life and faith are not static but always changing and growing. May we, with all creation, trust that the ending of one thing promises life in a new way.

God of grace, hear us as we sing:

**Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love,
show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.**

We pray for leaders and policymakers who work to reduce violence in our nations, cities, and towns. Give your wisdom and discernment amid heated arguments and differing viewpoints.

We pray for the victims of abuse and violence. Provide safe shelter and new beginnings to those experiencing domestic violence and dangerous situations. Enfold with love all who seek your healing care.

God of grace, hear us as we sing:

**Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love,
show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.**

Empower our faith communities to be signs of your gracious love. Bless the variety of local ministries working to provide care and hope, that they will be of service to those in need in our communities.

We give thanks for the enduring witness of those who have died before us. May their lives in you provide a witness of your everlasting grace.

God of grace, hear us as we sing:

**Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love,
show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.**

We entrust our prayers to you, God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.

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

God of abundance,
with this bread of life and cup of salvation
you have united us with Christ,
making us one with all your people.
Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit,
that we may proclaim your redeeming love
to the world and continue forever
in the risen life of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

May God bless you and keep you.
May the face of Christ shine on you with grace and mercy.
May the Spirit of God look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen.

O Day of Peace



1 O day of peace that dim-ly shines through all our hopes and prayers and dreams,
 2 Then shall the wolf dwell with the lamb, nor shall the fierce de - vour the small;



guide us to jus - tice, truth, and love, de-liv-ered from our self - ish schemes.
 as beasts and cat - tle calm-ly graze, a lit-tle child shall lead them all.



May swords of hate fall from our hands, our hearts from en - vy find re-lease,
 Then en - e - mies shall learn to love, all crea-tures find their true ac-cord;



till by God's grace our war-ring world shall see Christ's prom-ised reign of peace.
 the hope of peace shall be ful-filled, for all the earth shall know the Lord.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: JERUSALEM, C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848-1918

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DISMISSAL

Go with Christ into a world of need.

Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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OUR SAVIOR'S COOK-OFF

Ash Wednesday, March 5, 2025—Fellowship Hall

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.

Who will win the title of "*Best of Our Savior's*?"

PIE-LUCK SUNDAY

Sunday, March 9, 2025, 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.

HEALTHY LIVING WITH DIABETES

Gundersen Health System will be hosting a VIRTUAL workshop Mondays (2 ½ hours) for 6 weeks starting Monday, March 3, 2025. This workshop is designed to help adults with type 2 diabetes, pre-diabetes or for those caring for someone who has diabetes to learn self-management skills, healthy eating strategies and more. For more information, please call Vicky at 608.775.6870 or go to Gundersenhealth.org/events.

LUMIN COMMUNITY WORSHIP: THE BECOMING

LuMin (Lutheran Campus Ministry) would like to invite you to an exciting new 4-part worship series this spring. Each Sunday will include a time together for intergenerational community worship as we create brave space to explore core values through story telling, theology, and fellowship and the sharing of a meal.

Dates for your Calendar: 5pm on Sunday, February 23, 2025

5pm on Sunday, March 30, 2025

5pm on Sunday, April 13, 2025

5pm on Sunday, May 4, 2025

In order to prepare for each Sunday, please visit <https://bit.ly/3Q5uyQm>. and sign up for as many Sundays as your schedule allows. No two Sundays will look the same. Please reach out to admin@luminlax.org with any dietary restrictions or questions. And please feel free to forward this invite on to anyone you think may want to join us. We look forward to worshipping with you!

LENT 2025: THE LORD'S PRAYER

Let's refresh our knowledge of Luther's Small Catechism!
Specifically, what Luther had to say about the Lord's Prayer.

ASH WEDNESDAY—Wednesday, March 5, 2025

"Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name..."

We'll look at the Introduction and first petition of Luther's explanation.

MIDWEEK LENT 1—Wednesday, March 12, 2025

"...your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven."

We'll look at the second and third petitions of Luther's explanation.

MIDWEEK LENT 2—Wednesday, March 19, 2025

"Give us today our daily bread..."

We'll look at the 4th petition of Luther's explanation.

MIDWEEK LENT 3—Wednesday, March 26, 2025

"Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us."

We'll look at the 5th petition of Luther's explanation.

MIDWEEK LENT 4—Wednesday, April 2, 2025

"Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil."

We'll look at the 6th and 7th petitions of Luther's explanation.

MIDWEEK LENT 5—Wednesday, April 9, 2025

"For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen."

We'll look at Luther's explanation to what he calls the "conclusion" of the prayer.

HOLY WEEK 2025

PALM SUNDAY

Sunday, April 13, 2025

Processional Gospel Matthew 21: 1-9 and Reading from Philippians 2: 5-11

We hear the story of Jesus's grand entry into Jerusalem.

Then, we consider Paul's words to the Philippians *"he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross"*

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Thursday, April 17, 2025

1 Corinthians 11:23-26 "The Lord's Supper"

GOOD FRIDAY

Friday, April 18, 2025

We read the Passion according to the Gospel of John.

EASTER SUNDAY

Sunday, April 20, 2025

Luke 24: 1-12 The resurrection of Jesus!

OUR SAVIORS THIS WEEK

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

CALENDAR

Sunday, February 23, 2025

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

9am—1pm Office Open
9am Quilters
1—5pm WCC
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

Thursday

9am—1pm Office Open

Friday

Pastor/Staff Sabbath

Saturday

9am—1pm WCC open

Sunday, March 2, 2025

9:30am Worship/HC
10:15am Coffee Fellowship
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, **Casey** Kanter, **Cindy** Moe, **Cindy** Vieth, **Dan** Odenbach, **Danielle** Sorenson, **Dave** Kjos, **Erik** Rudrud, **Esther** Harman, **Eugene** Herold, **Gabe** Centanni, **George**, **Inara**, **Kjersten**, and **Kaden**, **Jean** Koll, **Jeannie** White, **Jeff** Kent, **Jim** Garson, **Jim** Radatz, **Joyce** Gosman, **Juliana** & **John** A., **Karen** Geoglein, **Kate** and **Kalvin**, **Katie** White, **Kilian** Crary, **Lane** C., **Lois** Horne, **Lucy** Radatz, **Kelly** Olson, **Mary** Covey, **Monica** & **Jack**, **Morris** Buros, **Peggy** Kneifl, **Pete** Harman, **Rich** Pitz, **Robert** Onsrud, **Rose** Sabotta, **Roxanne** North, **Sandy** Kjos, **Sonja** Simonson-Schrag, **Tom** Cade, **Vera** Wensole, and **Vickie** Hengel

GRIEVING FAMILY & FRIENDS OF

Barbra Mighall and **Linda** Nelson

MEMBERS & FRIENDS IN ARMED FORCES

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Nancy Caucutt	February 23
Darrell Dahl	February 23
Donna Engleson	February 23
Chris Woodward	February 25
Deb Wold	February 28
Judy Sasse	March 1
Janet Schilling	March 1
Ruth Ellefson	March 2