



Third Sunday in Lent

**Sunday, March 23, 2025
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

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: Asa and Fox Zinniel

Coffee Fellowship: Cookies and Coffee

Communion Assistant: Kim Grapes

Organist: Thomas Haag

Prayer Reader: Kim Grapes

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE *Wondrous Love: Variations on a Shape-Note Tune (Opus 34)*
Samuel Barber

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity,
✠ one God,
who creates, redeems, and sustains us
and all of creation.

Amen.

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

To you, God,
all hearts are open,
to you all desires known.
We come to you,
confessing our sins.
Forgive us in your mercy,
and remember us in your love.

**Show us your ways;
teach us your paths;
and lead us in justice and truth,
for the sake of your goodness
in Jesus Christ our Savior.
Amen.**

By water and the Holy Spirit
God gives you a new birth,
and through the death and
resurrection of † Jesus Christ,
God forgives you all your sins.
The God of mercy and might
strengthen you in all goodness
and keep you in eternal life.
Amen.

Create in Me a Clean Heart *Offering Song*

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are: 'Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right'. The second staff continues: 'spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take'. The third staff continues: 'not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of'. The fourth staff concludes: 'your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.' The score ends with a double bar line.

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right

spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take

not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of

your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

Music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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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

Dr. Eddie Kim

Kyrie

For when we have not loved you with our whole heart, Lord have mer - cy on
us. For when we did not feed you, clothe you, or in-vite you in, Christ have mer -
cy on us. For when we did not seek your word, or withheld our thanks and
praise, Lord have mer - cy on us. For when we have not loved our
neigh-bors as our-selves, Christ have mer - cy on us.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it, and bring your saving love to fruition in our lives, through Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

GOSPEL: Luke 13 : 1—9

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices.² [Jesus] asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans?"³ No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. ⁴ Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? ⁵ No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."

⁶ Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. ⁷ So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' ⁸ He

replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. ⁹ If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.' "The gospel of the Lord.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Joanne Richmond

What Wondrous Love Is This



1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
 2 When I was sink - ing down, sink-ing down, sink-ing down, when
 3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to
 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and



won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this
 I was sink - ing down, sink-ing down, when I was sink - ing down
 God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb,
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free,



that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse for my
 be - neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my
 who is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will
 I'll sing God's love for me, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul?
 soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul.
 sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.
 on, I'll sing on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

Text: North American folk hymn, 19th cent., alt.

Music: WONDROUS LOVE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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 Lord Is My Song, ELW # 751.)

Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

We pray for the church, called to be a witness to all peoples. Grant humility and wisdom to bishops, pastors, deacons, elders, councils, and congregations, that they may call upon you in making decisions.

We pray for the earth, called to provide abundantly. Teach your people the goodness of your generosity, that in sharing what we have been given, all life may flourish on the planet that is our shared home.

God, in your mercy, hear us as we sing:

**The Lord is my song,
the Lord is my praise:
all my hope comes from God.**

**The Lord is my song,
the Lord is my praise:
God, the wellspring of life.**

We pray for the nations, called to protect their inhabitants and collaborate in the work of justice and peace. Forge bonds of compassion and mutual care across human borders and boundaries, that all the world may have enough to live.

We pray for those in need, called to receive your compassion. Comfort those whose lives have been disrupted through natural disasters and human conflict. Aid communities in coming together to mourn, heal, and rebuild.

God, in your mercy, hear us as we sing:

**The Lord is my song,
the Lord is my praise:
all my hope comes from God.**

**The Lord is my song,
the Lord is my praise:
God, the wellspring of life.**

We pray for this assembly, called to welcome our neighbors to the table of your grace. Bless local food pantries, community gardens, clean water projects, and all ministries that address human hunger and thirst.

We give thanks for the faithful lives of those who proclaimed your gospel in times of challenge and strife, and for all those whose lives of love and service have ended. May their witness inspire our own.

God, in your mercy, hear us as we sing:

**The Lord is my song,
the Lord is my praise:
all my hope comes from God.**

**The Lord is my song,
the Lord is my praise:
God, the wellspring of life.**

Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love,
in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.

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

Blessed are you, O God of the universe.

Your mercy is everlasting

and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.
Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.
Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.
Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness
to the land of milk and honey.
Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.
Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.
Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

With this bread and cup
we remember our Lord's passover from death to life
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

With your holy ones of all times and places,
with the earth and all its creatures,
with sun and moon and stars,
we praise you, O God,
blessed and holy Trinity,
now and forever.

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.**

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

O God, in this holy communion you have welcomed us into your presence, nourishing us with words of mercy. Strengthen us to love you with all our heart, serve our neighbors with a willing spirit, and honor the earth you have made; through Christ our Savior.

Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Amen.

O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts



1 O Je - sus, joy of lov - ing hearts, the fount of
 2 We taste you, ev - er - liv - ing bread, and long to
 3 For you our rest - less spir - its yearn, wher - e'er our
 4 O Je - sus, ev - er with us stay! Make all our



life, the light of all: from ev - 'ry bliss that earth im -
 feast up - on you still; we drink of you, the foun - tain -
 chang - ing lot is cast; glad, when your smile on us you
 mo - ments fair and bright! Oh, chase the night of sin a -



parts we turn, un - filled, to hear your call.
 head; our thirst - ing souls from you we fill.
 turn, blest, when by faith we hold you fast.
 way! Shed o'er the world your ho - ly light.

Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091–1153; tr. Ray Palmer, 1808–1887, alt.
 Music: WALTON, W. Gardiner, *Sacred Melodies*, 1815

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *Walton (O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts)* Robert K. Kennedy

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MOO-MOO'S PRAYER CLUB—Join us after worship today in the Playground for a time of learning and prayer. All ages and stage welcome.

SCAM ALERT

Recently, some members of our congregation have received emails from someone claiming to be Pastor Joanne asking for an urgent favor and to respond via email ASAP. This is not from her, nor did it originate from her email address. Neither she, nor anyone else on staff or council, will ever email you asking for gift cards or other monetary assistance. If you ever receive a suspicious email, please contact the church office or Pastor Joanne directly to verify its legitimacy. Please do not respond or buy whatever they are asking. Please share this with others.

THRIVENT CHOICE® DOLLARS: MAKE A DIFFERENCE TODAY

As an eligible Thrivent member, you have the opportunity to help shape how Thrivent distributes its charitable funding. You can direct your Choice Dollars® to support causes that matter most to you—without any processing fees. The deadline to designate your Thrivent Choice Dollars is **Monday, March 31, 2025**. Don't miss out on making an impact in your community.

HOW TO DIRECT YOUR CHOICE DOLLAR: To make a donation or direct your Choice Dollars, simply visit thrivent.com/thriventchoice. Make a choice that truly matters today!

EASTER FLOWERS

Deadline for ordering—Next Sunday, March 30

Now is the time to place your order for Easter lilies (\$17), mums (\$18), and/or hydrangeas (\$25). Simply fill out the enclosed Easter flower insert completely and return it to the church office with payment or sign up on the bulletin board next to Pastor Joanne's office at church. Questions please contact Jessica in the church office at 608.782.3468 or oslcoffice@oursaviorslutheranchurch.net.

PALM SUNDAY BREAKFAST

Sunday, April 13, 2025, 10:15am—Fellowship Hall

The Youth & Family Ministry Team will be hosting their annual breakfast with egg bakes, sausage, fresh fruit, juice, milk, and coffee. The cost is a free will offering. Proceeds benefit youth and family events throughout the year. Come celebrate and enjoy a delicious breakfast while supporting our youth!

DONATIONS ARE NEEDED to help make this fundraiser a success. Look for the sign up sheets on the bulletin board next to the church office. There will be a labeled "Youth Breakfast" box in the refrigerator and on the counter in the kitchen for donated supplies. Please have all donations to the church by Wednesday, April 9. Thanks in advance for supporting our youth!

OUR SAVIOR'S MONTHLY DONATION DRIVE

Supporting The Hunger Task Force & St. Clare's Health Mission

Each month, we have the opportunity to make a meaningful impact on our community by contributing to The Hunger Task Force and, unique to this month St. Clare's Health Mission. For St. Clare's we are collecting **medical tape** and **band aids** and for The Hunger Task Force **canned fruits in juice**! Your generous donations will help us continue to provide for those in need, offering both nourishment and essential health items.

HOW YOU CAN HELP:

- **Bring medical tape, band aids** and **canned fruits in juice** to church during the month of **March 2025**.
- Drop your donations in the church office or shopping cart in the narthex.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to serving others in love. Let's continue to make a difference together!

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.

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, March 23, 2025

9:30am Worship/HC
10:15am Moo-Moo'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
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
6:30pm Worship

Thursday

9am—1pm Office Open

Friday

Pastor/Staff Sabbath

Saturday

9am—1pm WCC open

Sunday, March 30, 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, **Dottie** Pierce, **Erik** Rudrud, **Esther** Harman, **Eugene** Herold, **Gabe** Centanni, **George**, **Inara**, **Kjersten**, and **Kaden** D., **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, **Kelly** Olson, **Mary** Covey, **Monica** & **Jack**, **Morris** Buros, **Peggy** Kneifl, **Pete** Harman, **Rich** Pitz, **Rose** Sabotta, **Roxanne** North, **Sandy** Kjos, **Sonja** Simonson-Schrag, **Tom** Cade, and **Vera** Wensole

GRIEVING FAMILY & FRIENDS OF

Barbara Mighall, **Linda** Nelson, **Robert** Onsrud, **Vickie** Hengel, **Janice** Tronick,, **Jean** Gilles, and **Lucy** Radatz

MEMBERS & FRIENDS IN ARMED FORCES

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

DeLoris Malmberg	March 23
Dottie Pierce	March 23
Brittany Taylor	March 24
Virginia Bentzen	March 29
Theresa Cravens	March 29
Jeff Franko	March 29
Louise Temte	March 30