



# OUR SAVIOR'S

## EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Fourth Sunday in Lent ~ March 26, 2023*



**Life does not consist in  
an abundance of  
possessions.**

**Luke 12:15, NIV**

## **WELCOME TO WORSHIP!**

Today will be our 3<sup>rd</sup> and final worship in our stewardship series this spring where we have pondered how we are to be stewards of our body (week 1), soul (week 2) and possessions (this week). The Bible tells us to be careful that we do not become greedy for money, and today we'll see how putting our hopes in wealth or measuring our lives constantly by how much we have, is a path leading away from Jesus and his heavenly kingdom. We are very thankful you have come and pray that the Lord will guide you back again this Lenten season as we continue to journey to Christ's empty tomb on Easter!

## **PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP**

Dear Lord, I am thankful for the many material gifts you have given to me in my life, and I know you will provide many more in the future. May I always remember you give me everything I need and even some things I want because you are a good and gracious God, and you love me dearly because of Jesus. Amen.

## **OUR COMMUNION PRACTICE**

In the Sacrament of Holy Communion, we express unity with our Savior and those who share our faith and stand on the teachings of God's Word. Therefore, we invite to our altar those who are members of Our Savior's or members of the WELS/ELS. Visitors who wish to commune are asked to speak to the pastor before the service begins.

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

Setting One from Christian Worship

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## **SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY**

- Minister – Pastor Kevin Schnake
- Organist – Marie Kurth
- Ushers – Phil Brost, Travis Kurth  
*(Next Sunday – Rick & Karen Leopold)*

**Today's Worship Theme:**  
***Stewards of Possessions***

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**Opening Hymn**

**CW 717**

- 1    What is the world to me with all its vaunted pleasure  
     when you and you alone, Lord Jesus, are my treasure!  
     You only, dearest Lord, my soul's delight shall be;  
     you are my peace, my rest. What is the world to me!
- 2    The world seeks after wealth and all that money offers,  
     yet never is content though gold should fill its coffers.  
     I have a higher good, content with it I'll be;  
     my Jesus is my wealth. What is the world to me!
- 3    The world is like a cloud and like a vapor fleeting,  
     a shadow that declines, swift to its end retreating.  
     My Jesus shall remain, though all things fade and flee,  
     my everlasting rock. What is the world to me!
- 4    What is the world to me! My Jesus is my treasure,  
     my life, my health, my wealth, my friend, my love, my pleasure,  
     my joy, my crown, my all, my bliss eternally.  
     Once more then I declare: What is the world to me!

Text: tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.; Georg M. Pfefferkorn, 1645–1732, abr.  
Text: Public domain

*Stand*

**Invocation & Opening Dialogue**

In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

Godliness with contentment is great gain.

**For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that.**

People who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge men into ruin and destruction.

**For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil.**

Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs. But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness.

**Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called.**

## **Confession & Absolution**

Let us now acknowledge our sinfulness and selfishness and ask God to forgive us.

**Gracious Father, we confess that we have rebelled against your perfect law. We have sinned in the way we live, in the way we speak, in the way we think. Although you bless us richly every day, we fail to appreciate our gifts with the contentment and generosity you desire. For these and all sins, we know that we deserve your punishment both in this life and eternally in hell, but we come asking for the peace of forgiveness and the power to be content and generous.**

God loved the world in this way: He gave his one and only Son, Jesus Christ, whose blood purifies us from all sin. Jesus was our perfect substitute in life and in death, and by his sacrifice, God's holy wrath has been satisfied, once and for all. As a child of God and by the power of his Spirit, trust in your Savior, knowing that all your sins are forgiven and your guilt is removed. Our God has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in Christ. May his love inspire a life of joyful generosity in each of us as we remember his eternal goodness and his boundless mercy. Amen.

## **Prayer of the Day**

Almighty God our Father, your generous goodness comes to us new every day. By the work of your Spirit lead us to acknowledge your goodness, give thanks for your benefits, and serve you in willing obedience; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

# The Word

## First Reading

**Genesis 39:1–6**

*Joseph was a good steward of Potiphar's house*

<sup>1</sup>Now Joseph had been taken down to Egypt. Potiphar, an Egyptian who was one of Pharaoh's officials, the captain of the guard, bought him from the Ishmaelites who had taken him there.

<sup>2</sup>The LORD was with Joseph so that he prospered, and he lived in the house of his Egyptian master. <sup>3</sup>When his master saw that the LORD was with him and that the LORD gave him success in everything he did, <sup>4</sup>Joseph found favor in his eyes and became his attendant. Potiphar put him in charge of his household, and he entrusted to his care everything he owned. <sup>5</sup>From the time he put him in charge of his household and of all that he owned, the LORD blessed the household of the Egyptian because of Joseph. The blessing of the LORD was on everything Potiphar had, both in the house and in the field. <sup>6</sup>So Potiphar left everything he had in Joseph's care; with Joseph in charge, he did not concern himself with anything except the food he ate.

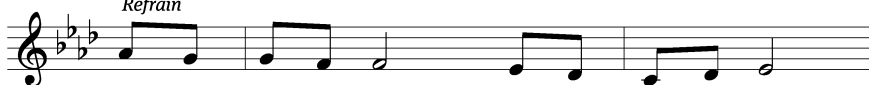
## Second Reading

**1 Timothy 6:13–19**

*Do not put your hope in riches*

<sup>13</sup>In the sight of God, who gives life to everything, and of Christ Jesus, who while testifying before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you <sup>14</sup>to keep this command without spot or blame until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>15</sup>which God will bring about in his own time—God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords, <sup>16</sup>who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see. To him be honor and might forever. Amen.

<sup>17</sup>Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. <sup>18</sup>Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. <sup>19</sup>In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.

*Refrain*

Where your trea - sure is, there your heart shall be.



All that you pos - sess will nev - er set you free.



Seek the things that last; come and learn from me.



Where your trea - sure is, your heart shall be.



1 What do you gain from all your wor - ry,

2 Look at the ra - vens high a - bove you.

3 Be - hold the lil - ies in their splen - dor.

4 O lit - tle flock, do not be fright - ened;



what you should eat or what to wear?

They do not work their whole life through,

In grace and beau - ty are they dressed,

yours is the king - dom of the Lord.



There is no peace in stress or hur - ry.

and yet God feeds them and pro - tects them.

and yet so soon their bloom is fad - ed.

Give your pos - ses - sions to the need - y;

*Refrain*

Do you not know that you are held with - in God's care?

So how much more will God pro - tect and care for you?

So how much more will those who look to God be blessed?

ob - tain a trea - sure in God's heav - en safe - ly stored.

## Gospel Acclamation

2 Corinthians 9:7b, 8

God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

*Stand*

## Gospel

**Luke 12:13–21**

*Don't measure your life using possessions*

<sup>13</sup>Someone in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.”

<sup>14</sup>Jesus replied, “Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?” <sup>15</sup>Then he said to them, “Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.”

<sup>16</sup>And he told them this parable: “The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. <sup>17</sup>He thought to himself, ‘What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.’

<sup>18</sup>“Then he said, ‘This is what I’ll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain. <sup>19</sup>And I’ll say to myself, ‘You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.’”

<sup>20</sup>“But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?’

<sup>21</sup>“This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God.”

*Be seated*

## Children's Message

- 1 All depends on our possessing  
God's abundant grace and blessing, though all earthly wealth depart.  
They who trust with faith unshaken in their God are not forsaken  
and will keep a dauntless heart.
- 2 He who to this day has fed me  
and to many joys has led me is and ever shall be mine.  
He who ever gently schools me, he who daily guides and rules me,  
will remain my help divine.
- 3 Many spend their lives in fretting  
over trifles and in getting things that have no solid ground.  
I shall strive to win a treasure that will bring me lasting pleasure  
and that now is seldom found.
- 4 When with sorrow I am stricken,  
hope anew my heart will quicken; all my longing shall be stilled.  
To his lovingkindness tender soul and body I surrender,  
for on God alone I build.
- 5 Well he knows what best to grant me;  
all the longing hopes that haunt me, joy and sorrow, have their day.  
I shall doubt his wisdom never; as God wills, so be it ever;  
I commit to him my way.
- 6 If my days on earth he lengthen,  
he my weary soul will strengthen; all my trust in him I place.  
Earthly wealth is not abiding, like a stream away is gliding;  
safe I anchor in his grace.

Text: tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.; Andächtige Haus-Kirche, Nürnberg, 1676  
Text: Public domain



## **Jesus Teaches How Greed Lies to You**

It will not make your life great  
You still need to think about your soul

*Stand*

### **The First Article (Creation)**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

*What does this mean?*

I believe that God created me and all that exists, and that he gave me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my mind and all my abilities.

And I believe that God still preserves me by richly and daily providing clothing and shoes, food and drink, property and home, spouse and children, land, cattle, and all I own, and all I need to keep my body and life. God also preserves me by defending me against all danger, guarding and protecting me from all evil. All this God does only because he is my good and merciful Father in heaven, and not because I have earned or deserved it. For all this I ought to thank and praise, to serve and obey him.

This is most certainly true.

*Be seated*

### **Thank Offering & Friendship Register**

*As the offering is gathered, we ask both members and visitors to sign the Friendship Registers, which are located at the end of the pews. Guests are welcome to give but should not feel obligated to do so.*

*Stand*

## Prayer of the Church

### 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.

## The Sacrament

### Words of Institution

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**Amen.**

# Agnus

Tune: NAAR MIT ÔIE



1 Dear-est Je - sus, lov - ing Sav - ior, Christ, who takes all sin a - way,

2 Dear-est Je - sus, lov - ing Sav - ior, Christ, who takes all sin a - way,



Lamb of God, the world's Re - deem - er, hear us as we hum - bly pray:

Lamb of God, the world's Re - deem - er, hear us as we hum - bly pray:



in our dire and des - p'rate need, for your mer - cy, Lord, we plead.

let your mer - cy still in - crease; grant us par - don, grant us peace.

Text: Michael D. Schultz

Tune: Ludvig M. Lindeman

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Tune: Public domain

## Distribution & Distribution Hymn

CW 663

- 1 Soul, adorn yourself with gladness;  
leave behind all gloom and sadness.  
Come into the daylight's splendor;  
there with joy your praises render  
unto him whose grace unbounded  
has this wondrous supper founded.  
He, though reigning high and holy,  
deigns to dwell with you most lowly.
- 2 Hasten as a bride to meet him, and with loving rev'rence greet him,  
for with words of life immortal he is knocking at your portal.  
Open wide the gates before him, saying, as you there adore him:  
Grant, Lord, that I now receive you, that I nevermore will leave you.
- 3 He who craves a precious treasure neither cost nor pain will measure,  
but the priceless gifts of heaven God to us has freely given.  
Though the wealth of earth were proffered,  
naught would buy the gifts here offered:  
Christ's true body, for you riven, and his blood, for you once given.

- 4 Now I kneel before you lowly, filled with joy most deep and holy,  
as with trembling awe and wonder on your mighty work I ponder,  
by such mystery surrounded, depths that no one ever sounded.  
None may dare to pierce unbidden secrets that with you are hidden.
- 5 Human reason, though it ponders,  
cannot fathom these great wonders,  
that Christ's body must be boundless  
since the souls it feeds are countless,  
and that he his blood is giving with the wine we are receiving.  
These great mysteries unsounded are by God alone expounded.
- 6 Lord, by love and mercy driven,  
you have left your throne in heaven  
on the cross for me to languish and to die in bitter anguish,  
to forgo all joy and gladness and to shed your blood in sadness.  
By this blood redeemed and living,  
Lord, I praise you with thanksgiving.
- 7 Jesus, sun of life, my splendor, Jesus, friend of friends most tender,  
Jesus, joy of my desiring, fount of life, my soul inspiring:  
at your feet I cry, my maker, let me be a fit partaker  
of this blessed food from heaven for our good, your glory, given.
- 8 Jesus, Lord of life in heaven, help me when this meal is given  
to receive it for my blessing as I come, my sins confessing.  
In this supper let me measure, Lord, how deep is your love's treasure,  
that, as I on earth have eaten, I may be your guest in heaven.

Text: Johann Franck, 1618–1677, abr.; (sts. 1–2, 4, 7): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.; (sts. 3, 5–6): tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; (st. 8): tr. Peter M. Prange, b. 1972  
Text (sts. 1–7): Public domain  
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*Stand*

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;  
**his mercy endures forever.**

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
**we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **Blessing**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**Amen.**

## **Closing Hymn**

**CW 750**

- 1 We give thee but thine own,  
whate'er the gift may be;  
all that we have is thine alone,  
a trust, O Lord, from thee.
- 2 May we thy bounties thus  
as stewards true receive  
and gladly, as thou blessest us,  
to thee our firstfruits give.

Text: William W. How, 1823–1897, abr.

Text: Public domain

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***Thank you for worshiping with us!***  
***May God richly bless your week.***

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**Serving the Pastoral Vacancy** - Pastor Jeff Mahnke from St. Peter Lutheran Church is serving as Our Savior's vacancy pastor. Should you need his pastoral guidance and service, call / text him anytime at 715.297.0132. His email address is [pastorm@mysaintpeter.org](mailto:pastorm@mysaintpeter.org).

**Call News** - Pastor Clint Burow has declined our Divine Call. Please keep our congregation in your prayers.

**Midweek Lent Worship** - We have one more special Wednesday Lent service leading up to Holy Week. "His Final Steps" is the unifying theme of the messages delivered by area WELS pastors. We welcome Pastor John Hadler from St. Matthew, Marathon whose theme will be "His Final Steps Led to a Donkey."

**Share the Good News** - We have Easter invitations for you to share with your unchurched friends, relatives, associates at work and neighbors. Start thinking now about people in your life to share the good news of Jesus' resurrection and invite them to join us for worship on Easter Sunday!

**Encourage One Another** - Our member visits will take place today after worship and Bible Class. Members of Our Savior's will join our leaders in going to the homes of members of our church family who are straying from worship because of covid and our lengthy pastoral vacancy. Our visits won't last long as we simply express our love and give our brothers and sisters in Christ our encouragement to return. May the Lord bless this effort!

**OWLS** - Organization of WELS Lutheran Seniors will be meeting April 11th at 11:30 am for lunch at the Pizza Ranch in Weston. Payment is accepted at the door. Ask for either the OWLS group or Evan and Sandy to find us. Please join us, you don't need to be a member to attend. Questions call Ruth at 715-573-2142. See you on April 11.

**LWMS Spring Rally Is Coming** - The Wisconsin River Valley Chapter of Lutheran Women's Missionary Society will hold a spring rally on Saturday, **April 15th** from 9:00-11:30 at Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Stratford.

**LWMS Convention** - The 60<sup>th</sup> Annual LWMS Convention, "Peace Like a River" will be held in Lacrosse, Wisconsin, **June 22-25**. Husbands & guests are welcome as well. To register visit the LWMS website: [60.LWMS.org](http://60.LWMS.org). Early bird registration is available until April 1.



**Easter Lilies** – A sign-up sheet is in the narthex.

**Memorial** – We thank Bill & Sue Unruh for their gift given in memory of Viola Prott, mother of Jon Prott. Blessed be her memory. Thanks be to God for the love which led to this gift.

**WELS Youth Night** - Sunday April 23rd from 5:45-8:30pm at Northland Lutheran High School is our 3<sup>rd</sup> area "WELS Youth Night"! Our youth will experience an inspiring evening of games, music, prayer, Bible message, small group discussion, and fun activities. \*New\* this April – we invite our graduating 8th graders. Pizza will be provided! The goal is for our youth to see that they are not alone and to be encouraged to enjoy the faith they share with others. This event is free, and teens are encouraged to invite a friend. It's held at NLHS, but not just for NLHS students. A sign up can be found at Mysaintpeter.org.



### **Palm Sunday, April 2**

9:00 am Service of the Passion

### **Maundy Thursday, April 6**

1:00 pm Worship with Holy Communion

### **Good Friday, April 7**

1:00 pm Worship

### **Easter Sunday, April 9**

9:00 am Festival Service with Holy Communion

Fellowship & light breakfast to follow

*Alleluia! Jesus lives!*

## This Week at Our Savior's

<b>Today</b>	9:00 AM 10:15 AM 11:30 AM	Worship with Communion Sunday School & Bible Class Lunch / Member Visits
<b>Wednesday</b>	1:00 PM	Midweek Lent Worship
<b>Sunday 4/2</b>	9:00 AM 10:15 AM	<b><i>Palm Sunday</i></b> Worship: Service of the Passion Sunday School & Bible Class

## Growing Together

**March 19, 2023**

<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Vision</u>	<u>Debt Red</u>	<u>Plate</u>	<u>Lent</u>	<u>Missions</u>
\$3,397.00	\$230.00	\$100.00	\$111.26	\$525.00	\$25.00
<u>Easter</u>	<u>NLHS Op</u>	<u>OS School</u>	<u>Bldg Maint</u>	<u>School Fees</u>	<u>Publications</u>
\$50.00	\$10.00	\$20.00	\$50.00	\$236.00	\$4.00

**Anticipated Weekly Offerings \$4,038**

**Attendance** 3/19: 77 + 21 (online) = 98  
3/22: 38 + 15 (online) = 53

## Our Savior's Ev. Lutheran Church

703 Flieth St, Wausau WI 54401

715-845-3253

Email: [OSInfo@oursaviorswausau.org](mailto:OSInfo@oursaviorswausau.org)

Website: [www.oursaviorswausau.org](http://www.oursaviorswausau.org)

Facebook: Our Savior's Lutheran Church and School

**Pastor Jeff Mahnke, Vacancy Pastor**

715-297-0132

[pastorm@mysaintpeter.org](mailto:pastorm@mysaintpeter.org)

