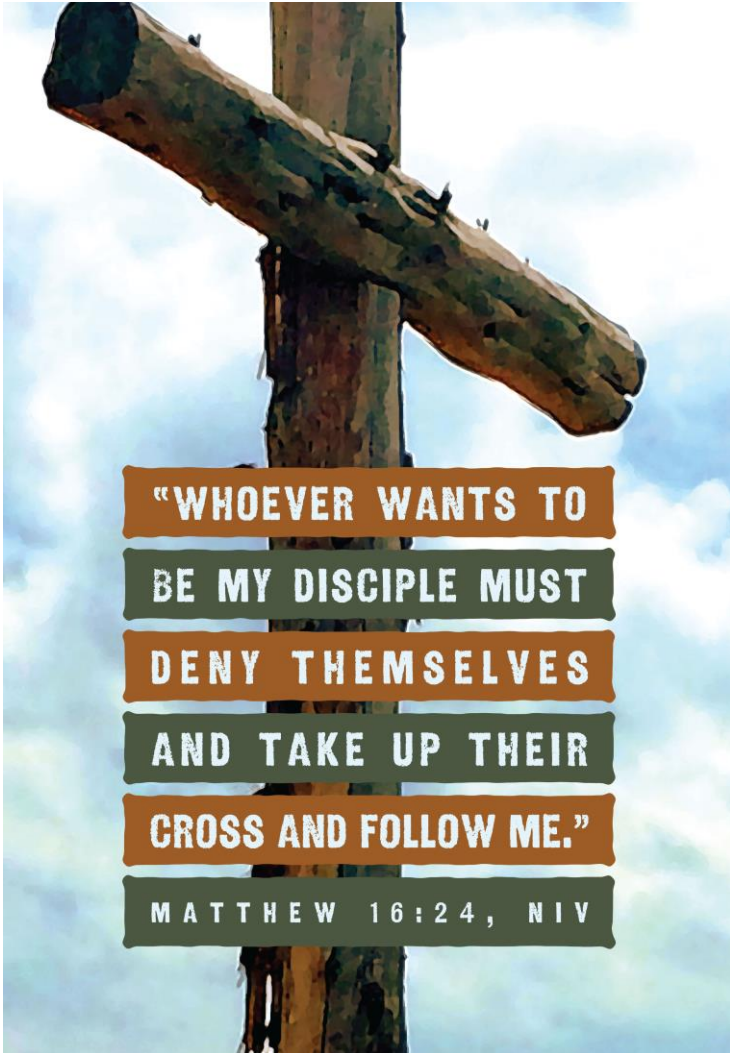




OUR SAVIOR'S

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH



"WHOEVER WANTS TO

BE MY DISCIPLE MUST

DENY THEMSELVES

AND TAKE UP THEIR

CROSS AND FOLLOW ME."

MATTHEW 16:24, NIV

WELCOME

Welcome to God's House today. We are so glad you could join us and we hope you find your time with us beneficial to your soul for many days to come. If you are visiting with us, do come again soon.

The Son of God tells us that if we are his disciple, we will have to bear crosses. Why bother? We carry our crosses because we know that in those moments of struggle, we are forced to turn to Christ and rely on his strength. The church takes up its crosses, because this is the Christian path, the one Jesus himself walked: first the cross, then the crown.

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

Almighty God, you have called us to follow you just as Jesus did. Come to us in your Word today with your Holy Spirit so that we may be even more emboldened in our Christian faith at home, work and school to live for you and carry the crosses you have placed before for us. 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 a pastor before the service begins.

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

- Minister ~ Pastor Michael Duncan
 - Organist ~ Marie Kurth
 - Ushers ~ Phil Brost, Travis Kurth
- Next week ~ Tony Sulko, Bill Unruh*

Acknowledgments

Setting Two from Christian Worship

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14th Sunday after Pentecost

September 10, 2023

THE CHURCH GOD WANTS

A Church that takes up its crosses

Opening Hymn

CW 867

1 Afflicted saint, to Christ draw near,
your Savior's gracious promise hear;
his faithful Word you can believe,
that as your days your strength shall be.

2 Your faith is weak, your foes are strong,
and if the conflict should be long,
the Lord will make the tempter flee,
that as your days your strength shall be.

So, sing with joy, afflicted one;
the battle's fierce, but the vict'ry's won!
God shall supply all that you need;
yes, as your days your strength shall be.

3 Should persecution rage and flame,
still trust in your Redeemer's name.
In fiery trials you shall see
that as your days your strength shall be.

So, sing with joy, afflicted one;
the battle's fierce, but the vict'ry's won!
God shall supply all that you need;
yes, as your days your strength shall be.

4 When called to bear your weighty cross,
or sore affliction, pain, or loss,
or deep distress, or poverty,
still as your days your strength shall be.

So, sing with joy, afflicted one;
the battle's fierce, but the vict'ry's won!
God shall supply all that you need;
yes, as your days your strength shall be.

Text (sts. 1–4): John Fawcett, 1740–1817, alt.; (Ref): Constance Dever, b. 1960
Text: © 2018 Sovereign Grace Praise, admin. Integrity Music. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 716671

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

Confession

CW 172

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. I deserve your punishment both now and forever. But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins with his innocent suffering and death. Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

Glory to God in the Highest

CW 176A

Minister speaks the verses; the congregation joins in singing the refrain

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff is labeled 'Refrain' and contains the melody for the words 'Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace'. The second staff continues the melody for 'to his peo - ple on earth.' and includes a bracketed section labeled 'Last time only' at the end of the phrase.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you,
we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. **Refrain**

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you
take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You are seated at the
right hand of the Father; receive our prayer. **Refrain**

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are
the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in the glory of God the
Father. Amen. **Refrain**

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, your Son willingly endured the agony and shame of the
cross for our redemption. Grant us courage to take up our cross daily
and follow him wherever he leads; through your Son, Jesus Christ our
Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now
and forever.

Amen.

The Word

First Reading

Jeremiah 15:15–21

When Jeremiah complained about his cross, the Lord called on him to repent

¹⁵LORD, you understand; remember me and care for me. Avenge me on my persecutors. You are long-suffering—do not take me away; think of how I suffer reproach for your sake. ¹⁶When your words came, I ate them; they were my joy and my heart’s delight, for I bear your name, LORD God Almighty. ¹⁷I never sat in the company of revelers, never made merry with them; I sat alone because your hand was on me and you had filled me with indignation. ¹⁸Why is my pain unending and my wound grievous and incurable? You are to me like a deceptive brook, like a spring that fails.

¹⁹Therefore this is what the LORD says:

“If you repent, I will restore you that you may serve me; if you utter worthy, not worthless, words, you will be my spokesman. Let this people turn to you, but you must not turn to them. ²⁰I will make you a wall to this people, a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you but will not overcome you, for I am with you to rescue and save you,” declares the LORD. ²¹“I will save you from the hands of the wicked and deliver you from the grasp of the cruel.”

Surely It Is God Who Saves Me

Psalm 31E

Refrain



Sure - ly, it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and
not be a - fraid. For the LORD is my strong-hold and my
sure de - fense, and he will be my Sav - ior.

Tone



In you, LORD, I have taken / refuge;
let me never be / put to shame.
Be my rock of / refuge,
a strong fortress to / save me.
Into your hands I commit my / spirit;
deliver me, LORD, my / faithful God. *Refrain*

My times are / in your hands;
save me in your un- / failing love.
How abundant are the / good things
that you have stored up for those who / fear you.
Be strong and / take heart,
all you who hope / in the LORD.
Glory be to the Father and / to the Son
and to the Holy / Spirit,
as it was in the be- / ginning,
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain*

Second Reading

Romans 8:18–25

No cross can compare to the crown of glory that awaits God's people

¹⁸I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. ¹⁹For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed. ²⁰For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God.

²²We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. ²³Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

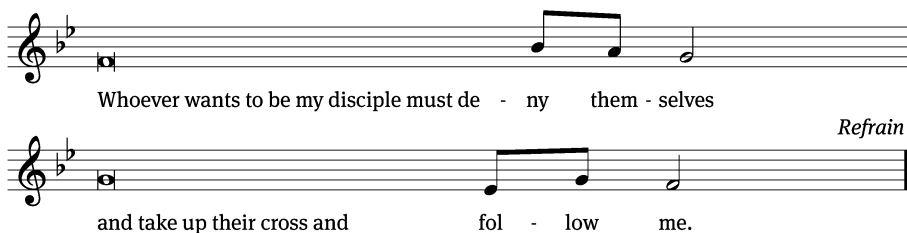
Mark 8:34



Refrain



Tone



Refrain

Gospel

Matthew 16:21–26

Jesus calls his Church to walk his path: first the cross, then the crown

²¹From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.

²²Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. “Never, Lord!” he said. “This shall never happen to you!”

²³Jesus turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.”

²⁴Then Jesus said to his disciples, “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it. ²⁶What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul?”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Hymn of the Day

CW 694

- 1 Jesus, I my cross have taken, all to leave and follow you;
destitute, despised, forsaken, you on earth once suffered, too.
Perish ev’ry fond ambition, all I’ve ever hoped or known;
yet how rich is my condition, God and heav’n are still my own!

- 2 Let the world despise and leave me; they have left my Savior, too.
Human hearts and looks deceive me; you are not, like them, untrue.
And, since you have smiled upon me, God of wisdom, love, and might,
foes may hate and friends may shun me; show your face,
and all is bright.

- 3 Go, then, earthly fame and treasure! Come, disaster, scorn, and pain!
In your service pain is pleasure, with your favor loss is gain.
I have called you Abba, Father; you my all in all shall be.
Storms may howl, and clouds may gather, all must work for good to me.
- 4 Haste, my soul, from grace to glory, armed by faith and winged by prayer;
all but heav'n is transitory, God's own hand shall guide you there.
Soon shall end this earthly story, swift shall pass the pilgrim days,
hope soon change to heav'nly glory, faith to sight and prayer to praise.

Text: Henry Francis Lyte, 1793–1847, abr., alt.
Text: Public domain

Sermon

Matthew 16:21–26

Dear Christian, take up your cross and follow me.

1. Jesus carried his cross to save me
2. I carry my cross to serve him

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We

believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Thank Offering & Friendship Register

Members of Our Savior's give generous and free will gifts to honor the Lord and support our ministry of the gospel. Guests are welcome to give but should not feel obligated to do so.

As the offering is gathered, please sign the Friendship Register as it is passed down the pew.

Prayer of the Church

In peace, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For trust in the fatherly care of our God, who gives us only the crosses he knows we can carry: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the Church of God and all who proclaim the Word of God, that the gospel may be a joy to them and the people they share it with: **Lord, have mercy.**

For Christian neighbors in our community and in each home, that as the beloved of God, we may bear each other's crosses with genuine love, truthful speech and constant patience, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For our nation, its leaders, and those who serve for the good of our people and for their protection, May they bear the crosses you give to your glory, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For peace in our time and the peace that God alone can give, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For those persecuted for the name of Christ, that in communion with all the saints we may bear our crosses faithfully, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

Special prayers

All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us, Father, for the sake of Him who died and rose again. **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.

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.

Jesus, Lamb of God

CW 186

Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us your peace.

The musical score is written in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. It consists of six staves of music. The first two staves form the first line of the hymn, the next two staves form the second line, and the final two staves form the third line. The lyrics are placed below the corresponding notes.

Tune: Marty Haugen

Tune: © 1984, 1985 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 716671

Be seated

Distribution & Hymns

529 In the Cross of Christ I Glory

- 1 In the cross of Christ I glory, tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time.
All the light of sacred story gathers round its head sublime.
- 2 When the woes of life o'ertake me, hopes deceive and fears annoy,
never shall the cross forsake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.

- 3 When the sun of bliss is beaming light and love upon my way,
from the cross the radiance streaming adds more luster to the day.
- 4 Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure by the cross are sanctified;
peace is there that knows no measure, joys that through all time
abide.

Text: John Bowring, 1792–1872 Text: Public domain

702 **Come, Follow Me, the Savior Spake**

- 1 “Come, follow me,” the Savior spake,
“all in my way abiding;
deny yourselves, the world forsake,
obey my call and guiding.
O bear the cross, whate’er betide,
take my example for your guide.
- 2 “I am the light, I light the way,
a godly life displaying;
I bid you walk as in the day,
I keep your feet from straying.
I am the way, and well I show
how you must sojourn here below.
- 3 “I teach you how to shun and flee
what harms your soul’s salvation,
your heart from ev’ry guile to free,
from sin and its temptation.
I am the refuge of the soul
and lead you to your heav’nly goal.”
- 4 Then let us follow Christ our Lord
and take the cross appointed
and, firmly clinging to his Word,
in suffering be undaunted.
For those who bear the battle’s strain
the crown of heav’nly life obtain.

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–1896, alt.; (sts. 1–2, 4): Johann Scheffler, 1624–1677, abr.; (st. 3): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695 Text: Public domain

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 you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet you have given us in this Sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit, help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, 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 704 st. 1

Let us ever walk with Jesus,
follow his example pure,
flee the world which would deceive us
and to sin our souls allure.
Ever in his footsteps treading,
body here, yet soul above,
full of faith and hope and love,
let us do the Father's bidding.
Faithful Lord, abide with me;
Savior, lead; I follow thee.

Text: tr. J. Adam Rimbach, 1871–1941, alt.; Sigmund von Birken, 1626–1681
Text: Public domain

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

Sincere Thanks – We thank Pastor Michael Duncan for leading our worship service today. Pastor Duncan is retired and lives in Minocqua.

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.

Divine Call – Our voters issued a Pastoral Call to Rev. Darin Warnecke. Pastor Warnecke currently serves St. John’s Lutheran Church in Sturgis, Michigan. Please keep him and his wife, as well as both of our congregations in your prayers as he deliberates where he may best serve our Lord. You may contact him by email to offer your words of encouragement or to set up a time to chat: dwarnecke12@gmail.com

Sunday School and Bible Class Begin Today – Join us, following our worship service (about 10:15).

- We are occasionally in need of a **substitute Sunday School teacher**. Please speak with Lori Cramer or Marie Kurth if you can help.
- **Ninety-Five Theses for the 21st Century** will be our Sunday Bible Class series this fall. On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther shared *Ninety-Five Theses* with the world. These *Theses* did not present the mature teaching of what later became the Lutheran Church but focused on one topic – the abuse of indulgences in the church of the time. They were the spark that began the Lutheran Reformation. As part of the Reformation 500 celebration in 2017, the Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Conference prepared a new set of *Ninety-Five Theses* which present all the basic teachings of the Bible as confessed in the Lutheran church. They are organized according to the outline of Luther’s Catechism. During today’s Bible class, we’ll discuss “Foundational Truths and The Bible.”

Devotion Materials - The September issue of *Forward in Christ* and the most current issues of *Meditations* and *Portals of Prayer* are available. Please pick up your copy of these publications in the narthex.

- **Large Print Meditations:** Please sign up or let Marie know if you'd like the large print version of *Meditations*. We've cut back on our subscriptions to reduce waste.

Northwinds Choir Is Coming next Sunday, September 17

Northland Lutheran High School campus pastor Jeff Grundmeier and the Northwinds Choir will lead our worship on Sunday, Sept. 17. Our Savior's students will also be singing. Join us for this special worship service with an emphasis on Christian education.



Mission Needs a Guitar for Worship – Faith Lutheran Church in Tyler, Texas is our LWMS Befriend a Mission (BAM) assignment for this year. As a new congregation, they are trying to identify musical talents within their membership. They don't yet have a pianist, but they do have someone who is able to play guitar. The catch? They don't have a guitar and therefore need funds to purchase one.

If you'd like to help this mission, please place your gift in the plate at the door as you leave today, and please keep them in your prayers. Thank you!

OWLS News Chapter 82 - We pray everyone had a pleasant and safe summer. It is now time to renew old acquaintances and prayerfully make new ones. The OWLS will be meeting on September 12 at the Pizza Ranch, meeting at 11:30. We will be planning the year's activities so please bring all your ideas so we can discuss how we can continue to serve the Lord. Any questions please contact Ruth Jakubowski 715-573-2142. Non-members are always welcome, come join us!!

Memorial – We thank Bob & Janice Gresens for their gift given in memory of Scott Weith, son of Geneva Weith. We offer Geneva our sincere sympathies and pray for God's comfort and peace.

*Blessed be his memory.
Thanks be to God for the love which led to this gift.*

This Week at Our Savior's

Today	9:00 AM 10:15 AM	Worship with Communion Sunday School & Bible Class resume <i>Food Pantry Sunday</i>
Monday	4:00 PM	OSS Home Volleyball
Tuesday	11:30 AM 6:15 PM	OWLS Meet at Pizza Ranch Board of Education
Thursday	1:00 PM	Ladies' Aid
Friday	5:30 PM	OSS Welcome Back: PTO Ice Cream Bar
Next Sunday 9/17	9:00 AM 10:15 AM 2-4 PM	Worship: NLHS Northwinds & OS School students sing Sunday School & Bible Class Lutheran Pioneers meet at NLHS

Growing Together

September 3, 2023

<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Vision</u>	<u>Debt Red</u>	<u>Missions</u>	<u>OS School</u>	<u>Bldg Maint</u>
\$3,240.00	\$355.00	\$215.00	\$60.00	\$90.00	\$50.00
<u>Texas Mission</u>	<u>School Fees</u>	<u>Publications</u>			
\$84.00	\$298.00	\$5.00			

Anticipated Weekly Offerings: \$4,077

Attendance: Sunday, September 3 – 66

Holy Smoke BBQ Contest & Fellowship – Holy Smoke BBQ Contest and neighborhood food drive is once again happening at Redeemer Lutheran in Weston on Saturday, October 7th from 11am – 2PM. There will be free BBQ samples, music and games. Help your neighbor by bringing a nonperishable item for Neighbor's Place food pantry. Everyone is welcome and any person or team interested in competing can call 715-359-4433 or fill out the team registration at www.redeemerweston.com

NORTHLAND LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL HOSTS:
WELS YOUTH NIGHT

JOIN US FOR FELLOWSHIP, FOOD,
AND HAPPY TREES! 🌲



*Bob Ross
Night*

**SUNDAY
OCTOBER 22
5 - 8:30 PM**

WELS Youth Night - On Sunday, October 22nd, 5:00-8:30 pm our Wausau area WELS teens and their friends in **8th to 12th grade** are invited to come to our first WELS Youth Night of the new school year at Northland Lutheran High School in Kronenwetter. This year Youth Night will have a revamped format and the same great Pizza! We are excited to have some time in God's Word together **AND** spend some time with Bob Ross painting some Happy Trees! There will also be "Bob Ross" themed prizes, so you don't want to miss this event! Admission is free again and teens are encouraged to invite a friend. While the event is at Northland, it is not just for Northland students. We encourage teens to sign up soon so we can prepare well in advance - space could be limited if you wait too long. The sign-up can be found at mysaintpeter.org.



**OUR
SAVIOR'S**
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Growing in Jesus, Sharing His Love

Our Savior's Ev. Lutheran Church

703 Flieth St, Wausau WI 54401

715-845-3253

Email: OSInfo@oursaviorswausau.org

Website: www.oursaviorswausau.org

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