

Jesus' Transfiguration

#### WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

Welcome to worship, especially our guests! We are delighted to have you with us. If you are looking for a church home, we are happy to share ours with you. If we haven't seen you in a while, it is great to see you today! May God bless your time with us richly.

#### Prayer Before Worship

"I rejoiced with those who said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord." Give me joy, dear Jesus, as I prepare to worship you today. Make me understand what my life would be like without you so that I long to hear about your grace and compassion. Help me participate in a way that honors you and builds up all who worship with me, and let their worship strengthen and encourage my faith.

#### **Our Communion Practice**

In the Sacrament of Holy Communion, our Lord comes to us with his true body and blood in, with, and under the bread and the wine for the forgiveness of sins. We also express unity of faith and a common stand on the teachings of the Bible. Therefore, we invite to communion all who are one with us as members of our church or one that is part of our wider fellowship. Visitors who wish to commune are asked to speak to a pastor before the service begins.

#### Serving in Worship

- Minister ~ Pastor Jeff Mahnke
- Organist ~ Marie Kurth
- Ushers ~ Dan & Carrie Stelzer Ash Wednesday - Gresens Next Sunday - Krohn, Schubring

#### Acknowledgments

Setting Two from Christian Worship Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, New International Version<sup>®</sup>, NIV<sup>®</sup>. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.<sup>TM</sup> Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide. Software distributed in partnership with Northwestern Publishing House. Created by Christian Worship: Service Builder © 2024 Concordia Publishing House.



# The Transfiguration of Jesus

February 11, 2024

#### Welcome

#### **Opening Hymn**

CW 389

- How good, Lord, to be here! Your glory fills the night; your face and garments, like the sun, shine with unborrowed light.
- 2 How good, Lord, to be here your beauty to behold, where Moses and Elijah stand, your messengers of old.
- Fulfiller of the past, and hope of things to be, we hail your body glorified and our redemption see.
- Before we taste of death, we see your kingdom come; we long to hold the vision bright and make this hill our home.
- 5 But you, Lord, do not stay. With mercy resolute you leave this glorious hill to die our perfect substitute.

# How good, Lord, to be here! Yet we may not remain; but since you bid us leave the mount, come with us to the plain.

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In the name of the Father and of the  $\top$  Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** 

#### Confession

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.

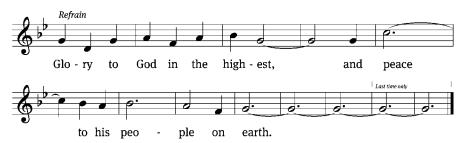
Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

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  $\top$  Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** 

CW 172

#### Glory to God in the Highest



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. Amen. *Refrain* 

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

#### **Prayer of the Day**

O God, in the glorious transfiguration of your only-begotten Son, you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the testimony of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice that came from the bright cloud, you foreshadowed our adoption as your sons. In your mercy, make us coheirs of glory with Jesus our King, and bring us at last to heaven; 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**

2 Kings 2:1-12a

<sup>1</sup>When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven in a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. <sup>2</sup>Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; the LORD has sent me to Bethel."

But Elisha said, "As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel.

<sup>3</sup>The company of the prophets at Bethel came out to Elisha and asked, "Do you know that the LORD is going to take your master from you today?"

"Yes, I know," Elisha replied, "so be quiet."

<sup>4</sup>Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here, Elisha; the LORD has sent me to Jericho." And he replied, "As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you." So they went to Jericho.

<sup>5</sup>The company of the prophets at Jericho went up to Elisha and asked him, "Do you know that the LORD is going to take your master from you today?"

"Yes, I know," he replied, "so be quiet."

<sup>6</sup>Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; the LORD has sent me to the Jordan." And he replied, "As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you." So the two of them walked on.

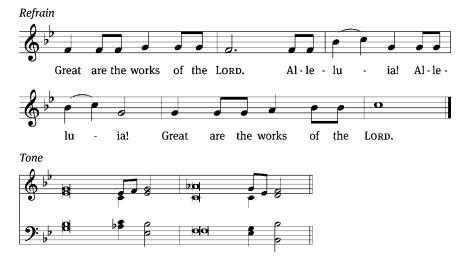
<sup>7</sup>Fifty men from the company of the prophets went and stood at a distance, facing the place where Elijah and Elisha had stopped at the Jordan. <sup>8</sup>Elijah took his cloak, rolled it up and struck the water with it. The water divided to the right and to the left, and the two of them crossed over on dry ground.

<sup>9</sup>When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me, what can I do for you before I am taken from you?"

"Let me inherit a double portion of your spirit," Elisha replied.

<sup>10</sup>"You have asked a difficult thing," Elijah said, "yet if you see me when I am taken from you, it will be yours—otherwise, it will not."

<sup>11</sup>As they were walking along and talking together, suddenly a chariot of fire and horses of fire appeared and separated the two of them, and Elijah went up to heaven in a whirlwind. <sup>12</sup>Elisha saw this and cried out, "My father! My father! The chariots and horsemen of Israel!"



Why do the nations / conspire

and the peoples / plot in vain?

The kings of the earth rise up and the rulers band together a- / gainst the LORD

and against his A- / nointed. Refrain

The One enthroned in / heaven laughs;

the Lord / scoffs at them.

He rebukes them in his anger and terrifies them in his wrath, / saying, "I have installed my King on Zion, my holy / mountain." *Refrain* 

I will proclaim the / LORD's decree:

He said to me, "You are my Son; today I have become your / Father." 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

Tune: Kermit G. Moldenhauer Setting: Kermit G. Moldenhauer Music: © 1993 Kermit G. Moldenhauer, admin. Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 716671

#### 8

#### **Second Reading**

<sup>3</sup>And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. <sup>4</sup>The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. <sup>5</sup>For what we preach is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. <sup>6</sup>For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God's glory displayed in the face of Christ.

#### **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia. A cloud covered them, and a voice came from the cloud: "This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!" Alleluia.

#### Gospel

<sup>2</sup>After six days Jesus took Peter, James and John with him and led them up a high mountain, where they were all alone. There he was transfigured before them. <sup>3</sup>His clothes became dazzling white, whiter than anyone in the world could bleach them. <sup>4</sup>And there appeared before them Elijah and Moses, who were talking with Jesus.

<sup>5</sup>Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." <sup>6</sup>(He did not know what to say, they were so frightened.)

<sup>7</sup>Then a cloud appeared and covered them, and a voice came from the cloud: "This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!"

<sup>8</sup>Suddenly, when they looked around, they no longer saw anyone with them except Jesus.

<sup>9</sup>As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus gave them orders not to tell anyone what they had seen until the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise be to you, O Christ!** 

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

d:

Mark 9:2-9

Mark 9:7

#### **Children's Message**

#### Hymn of the Day

- Jesus, take us to the mountain where, with Peter, James, and John, we are dazzled by your glory, light as blinding as the sun. There prepare us for the night by the vision of that sight.
- 2 What do you want us to see there that your close companions saw? Your divinity revealed there fills us with the selfsame awe. Clothed in flesh like ours you go, matched to meet our deadliest foe.
- What do you want us to hear there that your dear disciples heard?
   Once again the voice from heaven says of the incarnate Word:
   "Listen, listen, ev'ryone; this is my beloved Son!"
- 4 Take us to that other mountain where we see you glorified, where you shouted, "It is finished!" where for all the world you died. Hear the stunned centurion: "Truly this was God's own Son!"
- 5 We who have beheld your glory, risen and ascended Lord, cannot help but tell the story, all that we have seen and heard, say with Peter, James, and John: "You are God's beloved Son!"

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#### Sermon

#### It Doesn't Get Any Better Than This!

#### **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 truly 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.

#### **Reception of New Members**

Friends in Christ,

St. Paul described the unity that exists in Christ's church when he wrote, "There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all." With sincere joy we welcome you to the fellowship of our congregation.

As you know, believers in Christ regularly gather around his Word and sacraments, encourage one another in faith and life, and carry out the work of his kingdom. The Scriptures encourage us: "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms."

I ask you: Is it your desire to join us in worship and mission and support this work with your prayers and gifts? It is, and I ask God to help me.

Brothers and sisters,

As we welcome Darold and Nancy to our Christian family, I encourage you in the name of Jesus to keep them in your minds, hold them in your hearts, and pray for them again and again. Show them the face of friendship and offer them a hand of support. Encourage them with your "works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ."

The peace of Christ be with us all. Amen.

#### Prayer of the Church

Holy Father, with the appearance of Moses and Elijah at our Lord's glorious Transfiguration, you reveal to us that the Law and the prophets are fulfilled in him. Send your blessing upon all pastors and servants of your Church, that their preaching and teaching would flow from this right understanding of Christ and his work for our eternal salvation. Lord, in your mercy,

#### hear our prayer.

Almighty God, grant faithfulness, humility, and patience to the sheep of your flock here at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, that in our various vocations we may strive to love you and our neighbor in all that we say and do. Look with favor upon the men who will receive your Divine Call through us tomorrow evening to serve as our pastor and the principal of our Lutheran Elementary School. We pray boldly that they would be led to hear your voice calling them to serve here. Yet, may your will be done. Lord, in your mercy,

#### hear our prayer.

God of all grace, look with compassion on those who are in need, and especially Betty Krueger and Charles Newby. Grant them relief and comfort through the promise of sharing in eternal glory with Christ. Lord, in your mercy,

#### hear our prayer.

Heavenly Father, you revealed your glory in the Transfiguration of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who tabernacled among us in the flesh. Open our eyes, that by faith we would see him continuing to tabernacle among us here and through the Means of Grace. Grant that we would heed your admonition to "listen to him" as he forgives and preserves us at the font, pulpit, and altar. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.** 

Lord God, heavenly Father, we gratefully remember on this day the glorious manifestation of your Son's divinity on the Mount of Transfiguration. Teach us to listen to Jesus and ever fix our eyes on him and his innocent suffering and death for our forgiveness. By your grace and mercy, strengthen us to remain faithful in all circumstances of trial, temptation, and persecution. Preserve us to the end, that we may die a blessed death believing in your beloved Son with whom you are well pleased; through the same Jesus Christ, who has also taught us to pray:

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.

Stand

# 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  $\top$  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  $\top$  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



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#### **Distribution & Hymns**

#### Down from the Mount of Glory

- CW 388
- Down from the mount of glory came Jesus Christ, our Lord. Recall the wondrous story, rich gem in sacred Word. Again your faith will view him in double glory here; the greater homage due him will in your life appear.

- Transfigured, Christ, the lowly, stood radiant in the light, light found in Godhead solely, for human eyes too bright. Then came a voice from heaven, confirmed what here we see; the words "my Son" were given to seal his deity.
- 3 Yet mark this glory hidden! See him the mount descend and, by the Father bidden, his willing footsteps bend to seek humiliation in deepest depths of woe, to suffer degradation no mind can probe or know.
- Strange how his journey ended! In love that is his fame our Lord again ascended a mount—the hill of shame.
   Upon the cross he proffered himself to agony; his holy soul he offered to set the guilty free.
- Then hail the double glory of Jesus Christ, our Lord,
   and let the wondrous story full peace and joy afford!
   The holy mount acclaims him the majesty divine;
   Mount Calvary proclaims him Redeemer—yours and mine.

Text: Werner H. Franzmann, 1905–1996 Text: © 1968 Werner H. Franzmann, admin. Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 716671

#### Draw Us to Thee

CW 700

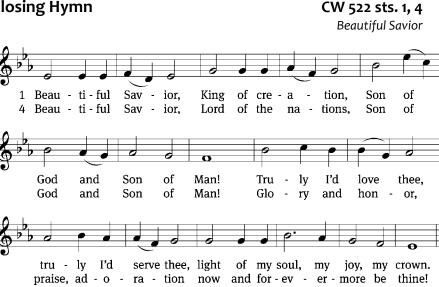
- 1 Draw us to thee, for then shall we walk in thy steps forever and hasten on where thou art gone to be with thee, dear Savior.
- 2 Draw us to thee, Lord, lovingly; let us depart with gladness that we may be forever free from sorrow, grief, and sadness.
- 3 Draw us to thee; O grant that we may walk the road to heaven! Direct our way lest we should stray and from thy paths be driven.
- 4 Draw us to thee that also we thy heav'nly bliss inherit and ever dwell where sin and hell no more can vex our spirit.
- 5 Draw us to thee unceasingly; into thy kingdom take us. Let us fore'er thy glory share; thy saints and joint heirs make us.

Text: tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.; Friedrich Funcke, 1642–1699 Text: Public domain 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  $\top$  give you peace. Amen.

#### **Closing Hymn**



Text: tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904; Münsterisch Gesangbuch, Münster, 1677, abr. Tune: Silesian, 19th cent. Text and tune: Public domain

#### Thank you for worshiping with us. May your week be richly blessed!

**Welcome New Members** – With joy we welcome Darold and Nancy Kretschmer back to membership by confession of faith. Please greet them as you have opportunity.

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.

**Call Meeting** - We will have a Call meeting for both a pastor and a teacher/principal on Monday, Feb. 12 at 7:00 PM. Please plan to attend.



**Some Thoughts About Ash Wednesday** Ash Wednesday begins the Christian's Lenten journey with a reminder of our mortality and a call to repentance. The ancient practice of imposing ashes on the foreheads of the faithful gives Ash Wednesday its name. The church father Tertullian (c. A.D. 160-215) writes of the practice as a public expression of repentance and of our human frailty that stands in need of Christ. The ashes remind us forcefully of our need for redeeming grace as they recall words from the rite for Christian burial: "...earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust. ..." - words that will someday be spoken over us all. The imposition of ashes has never been an exclusively Roman Catholic practice and today is observed widely by Christians of many traditions. Christian Worship: Occasional Services, a worship resource of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, has a rite to be used in our churches on Ash Wednesday. Here at Our Savior's, we will use this rite and include the imposition of ashes as a voluntary part of our Ash Wednesdav service. If you choose to participate, you may have ashes applied in the form of a cross either on your forehead or on the back of your hand.



#### Lent 2024

Our Lent sermon series focuses on when God was literally put on trial in the person of Christ. In these inspired episodes for each Lenten and Holy

Week service, believers find a model and motivation for how to live as God's people in Jesus.

Weekly Lenten worship services will be held at Our Savior's on Wednesdays at 1:00 PM beginning on Ash Wednesday, February 14. The Ash Wednesday service will include Holy Communion.

We'll follow St. Peter's pastoral rotation:

Feb. 14 – Pastor Mahnke	Accusations	Job 40:1,2:42:1-6
Feb. 21 – Vicar Wenzel	Sympathy	Luke 23:26-34
Feb. 28 – Pastor Cortright	Misconceptions	Luke 23:1-12
March 6 – Pastor Buschkopf	Testimony	Matthew 26:57-75
March 13 – Pastor Ewald	Truth	John 18:33-44
March 20 – Pastor Phelps	Restraint	Luke 22:47-53

If you are unable to attend our afternoon service, please consider worshiping at one of our sister congregations.

#### Our Savior's: Wednesdays at 1:00 pm

#### St. Peter Schofield campus worship times:

Ash Wednesday (Feb. 14) – 4:30 & 7:00 pm Feb. 22 - March 21 on Thursdays – 5:00 & 7:00 pm

Mountain of the Lord: Wednesdays at 6:00 pm

**Update: Annual Report** – The Council has decided that the annual report should coincide with our fiscal year, which is July – June. The next annual report will be distributed closer to summer this year. An **updated directory** is available for pick up today.

<u>**OWLS News</u></u> - With all the work the OWLS members did assembling the cards this month we need a little relaxation so in February we will be meeting at the Pizza Ranch in Weston on Feb 13th at 11:30. As always guests are not only welcome but are encouraged to join us. Questions contact Evan or Sandy 715-693-1337</u>** 

This Week at Our Savior's					
Today	9:00 AM 10:15 AM	Communion Worship Sunday School & Bible Class			
Monday	6:00 PM 7:00 PM	Council Call Meeting			
Tuesday	11:30 AM 4:45 PM	OWLS Lunch at Pizza Ranch Basketball at Medford			
Wednesday	1:00 PM	Ash Wednesday Worship with Communion			
Thurs - Friday		No School – Teachers Conference			
Next Sunday 2/18	9:00 AM 10:15 AM	Worship / WELS Connection Sunday School & Bible Class			
Growing Together					

Growing Together February 4, 2024							
<u>Weekly</u> \$4,348.00	<u>Vision</u> \$485.00	<u>Debt Red</u> \$240.00	<u>Initial Env</u> \$10.00	<u>Ash Wed</u> \$50.00	<u>Lent</u> \$50.00	<u>Missions</u> \$40.00	
<u>OS School</u> \$40.00	<u>Bldg Maint</u> \$50.00	Magic Paper BoxSchool Fees\$18.12\$371.00		<u>OSS Pizza Sale</u> \$10.00			
Anticipated Weekly Offerings: \$4,077							
In-Person Attendance: February 4 – 79							

**Thrivent Choice Update** – We received notification of deposits made by Thrivent Choice totaling \$551.00. We sincerely thank the following members for designating their Choice Dollars to Our Savior's Church or School: LaVonne Conklin, Dennis Grammer, Janice Gresens, Robert Gresens, Travis Kurth, Sarah Marcis, Virginia Neumueller, David Reissmann, and Violet Schmidt

**National LWMS Convention** – This year's LWMS convention will be held June 27-30 in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Our faith will be strengthened as we hear God's Word preached at the devotions and opening and closing services. For more information and to register, go to <u>www.lwms.org</u>

## Devotions for Holy Week 2024 THE SAVIOR WE NEED



Two thousand years ago, God's people were expecting the Messiah to be a conquering hero who would rescue them from their Roman oppressors. Instead, he came as a suffering servant who died at the hands of those Romans. This is what Paul called the foolishness of the cross. But the Bible makes

it clear that the Jesus those people received—the Jesus we are blessed to call our Savior today—is far greater than any we could ever have designed on our own. These devotions will show us that he truly is the Savior we need.

# Options for viewing the devotions below will become available as we approach Holy Week:

- Digital flipbook *Check back in March.*
- Daily devotions be sent to your inbox *Subscribe today!*

https://mlc-wels.edu/publications/seasonal-devotions/

### Our Savior's Ev. Lutheran Church

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