



OUR SAVIOR'S
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

NOTHING
can separate
US FROM THE
LOVE OF
GOD.

ROMANS 8:39

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

Jesus, with Martin Luther I pray thankfully: you are my righteousness, and I am your sin. You became what you were not to make me what I was not. Thank you and bless my worship. Amen.

Holy Communion

We will celebrate Holy Communion for the personal assurance from the Lord of his forgiveness for Jesus' sake. Because participation in the Sacrament expresses unity with our Savior and one another through a common faith and stand on God's Word, we invite and welcome to partake all who are united with us as members of our church or another church that is part of our wider fellowship in the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. To prepare yourself for the Sacrament, please consider pages 293 as well as 295-296 in the hymnals.

Serving in Worship

- Minister ~ Pastor Jeffrey Mahnke
- Organist ~ Marie Kurth
- Ushers ~ Phil Brost, Dan Stelzer

Wednesday – Bill Unruh

Next Sunday – Rick & Karen Leopold

Acknowledgments

Setting One from Christian Worship Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ 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 Second Sunday in Lent

February 25, 2024

Welcome

Opening Hymn

CW 568

His Robes for Mine

- 1 His robes for mine: O wonderful exchange!
Clothed in my sin, Christ suffered 'neath God's rage.
Draped in his righteousness, I'm justified.
In Christ I live, for in my place he died. (Refrain)

***Ref I cling to Christ, and marvel at the cost:
Jesus forsaken, God estranged from God.
Bought by such love, my life is not my own.
My praise—my all—shall be for Christ alone.***

- 2 His robes for mine: what cause have I for dread?
God's daunting law Christ mastered in my stead.
Faultless I stand with righteous works not mine,
saved by my Lord's vicarious death and life. (Refrain)
- 3 His robes for mine: God's justice is appeased.
Jesus is crushed, and thus the Father's pleased.
Christ drank God's wrath on sin, then cried, "'Tis done!"
Sin's wage is paid, propitiation won. (Refrain)
- 4 His robes for mine: such anguish none can know.
Christ, God's beloved, condemned as though his foe.
He, as though I, accursed and left alone;
I, as though he, embraced and welcomed home! (Refrain)

Text: Chris Anderson, b. 1971

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

Confession

CW 154

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 T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

Prayer of the Day

Mighty God and Father, our Lord Jesus walked into the wilderness to face the devil's temptations, but he did not succumb to Satan's lies or falter in his resolve to save the world from the prison of hell. Bolster our faith by his mighty victory that we may battle against the forces of evil with courage and confidence; 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

Exodus 19:1–8a

¹On the first day of the third month after the Israelites left Egypt—on that very day—they came to the Desert of Sinai. ²After they set out from Rephidim, they entered the Desert of Sinai, and Israel camped there in the desert in front of the mountain.

³Then Moses went up to God, and the LORD called to him from the mountain and said, “This is what you are to say to the descendants of Jacob and what you are to tell the people of Israel: ⁴You yourselves have seen what I did to Egypt, and how I carried you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. ⁵Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine, ⁶you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.’ These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites.”

⁷So Moses went back and summoned the elders of the people and set before them all the words the LORD had commanded him to speak.

⁸The people all responded together, “We will do everything the LORD has said.”

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 46, Old CW



God is our refuge and strength,*
an ever-present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way*
and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea,

though its waters roar and foam*
and the mountains quake with their surging.

Refrain

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,*
the holy place where the Most High dwells.

God is within her, she will not fall;*
God will help her at break of day.

“Be still, and know that I am God;*
I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.”

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,* is now,
and will be forever. Amen.**

Refrain

Refrain Tune: Dale Wood. From *Seasonal Psalms*. © 1978 Augsburg Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress.

Verse of the Day

Hebrews 4:15

We do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses; we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin.

Stand

Gospel

Matthew 23:37–39

³⁷“Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were not willing. ³⁸Look, your house is left to you desolate. ³⁹For I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, ‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.’”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

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.

Be seated

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day

CW 566

Father, God of Grace, You Knew Us

- 1 Father, God of grace, you knew us,
 chose us, named us as your own,
 through eternal ages planning
 to redeem us in your Son.
 Praise the Father, God who loved us
 ere creation was begun!

- 2 We, your creatures, sinned against you,
 and our guilt was crimson red.
 Son of God, you came incarnate,
 crushed the crafty serpent's head,
 died our death, now live triumphant:
 praise the firstborn from the dead!

- 3 Counselor, you bring as promised
 from the Father and the Son
 righteousness fulfilled, accomplished,
 free forgiveness, heaven won.
 Praise the Spirit! He assures us
 our salvation's work is done!

- 4 Lord, your changeless Word has fed us,
spanning time, transcending space.
Water, bread, and wine sustained us
when the darkness hid your face.
Keep us with you, faithful Shepherd,
by your saving means of grace!
- 5 Forward lead us; Christ, we follow,
drawn by Word and promise true:
“To all nations preach the gospel;
I am evermore with you.”
Keep us faithful! Then, Lord Jesus,
quickly come; make all things new!

Text: Paul E. Eickmann, 1928–2006, abr.

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Interactive Sermon: Romans 8:28-39

²⁸ And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. ²⁹ For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. ³⁰ And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

³¹ What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³² He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? ³³ Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. ³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ³⁶ As it is written: “For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers,

³⁹ neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Before the creation of the world, God predestined us. What comfort and assurances does this give you regarding your salvation? Regarding the troubles and hardships in your life (see v. 28)?

Verse 30 has been called the “unbreakable golden chain of election”. Try to fill in the blanks to follow the apostle Paul’s progression of thought.

Before the creation of the world, God _____ me for salvation. Since I was predestined, God _____ me to faith in _____ by the power of the _____. . By faith I have been justified, that is declared _____ by God. I am forgiven. I have been freed from the guilt and punishment of sin. Now, by God’s power, I will be _____ in my saving faith and someday will be _____ with my Savior in heaven.

Why do Christians at times have trouble trusting that God, “who did not spare his own Son” for them, will graciously “give [them] all things”? Why doesn’t that lack of trust make any sense?

Where is Jesus now (v. 34), and what does that mean? And what is something that Jesus is doing for you each day?

Circle those things mentioned by Paul that may threaten our relationship with our Savior. Then in the space below make a list of other “enemies of your faith” from everyday life in this sinful world that Christ has conquered and that therefore are unable to tear you from your Savior’s love.

In what circumstance(s) of life might this portion of God’s Word be most meaningful to you?

Applying These Words in Your Life

Is there someone in your life who is struggling and who needs to hear these words of assurance?

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.

Stand

Prayer of the Church

Heavenly Father, you loved the world and gave your Son to liberate us from sin and death by his obedient death on the cross.

We confess that without your love we are lost.

Lord of the Church, we thank you for the treasure of the gospel. By your Spirit, keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith.

Strengthen our determination to do what pleases you, no matter what the danger or the cost.

Let us pray for those who carry a cross in the name of Christ and face ridicule and persecution for the sake of the kingdom: missionaries and chaplains, young people who stand up for what is right in the face of pressure to do what is wrong, and all who pay a high price for their faith and their values as Christians.

By your Spirit, O Lord, grant them patience and endurance.

Let us pray for those who carry heavy burdens in life: the sick and the chronically ill, the depressed and the lonely, those torn by conflict in personal relationships, those victimized by war and injustice, and all who face the terrors of life with a heavy heart.

Grant them peace, O Lord, and in your mercy, be their guardian and friend, their comfort and hope.

Let us pray for those who care for others: pastors and counselors; physicians and nurses; social workers and caring friends; all who feed the hungry, comfort the hurting, and stand beside the dying.

Strengthen them in their work, O Lord, and do not let them become weary in doing good.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

Help us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Keep us faithful even to the point of death, that we may receive the crown of life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

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.

O Christ, Lamb of God

CW 169

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;
have mer-cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,
you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;
grant us your peace. A - - - men.

The musical score is written on five staves in a single system. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are: "O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; grant us your peace. A - - - men." The word "Amen" is written with a long horizontal line underneath it, indicating a long note or a sustained sound.

Be seated

Distribution of the Lord's Supper

799 I Leave All Things to God's Direction

- 1 I leave all things to God's direction;
 he loves me both in joy and woe.
His will is good, sure his affection;
 his tender love is true, I know.
My fortress and my rock is he:
what pleases God, that pleases me.

- 2 God knows what must be done to save me;
 his love for me will never cease.
Upon his hands he did engrave me
 with purest gold of loving grace.
His will supreme must ever be:
what pleases God, that pleases me.

- 3 God gives me help in all temptation,
 his loving goal my soul to save.
Calm in the face of life's frustration,
 all earthly trouble I will brave.
His will be done eternally:
what pleases God, that pleases me.

- 4 My God has all things in his keeping;
 he is my ever-faithful friend.
He gives me laughter after weeping,
 and all his ways in blessings end.
His love endures eternally:
what pleases God, that pleases me.

Text: tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.; Salomo Franck, 1659–1725, abr.
Text: Public domain

807 All Depends on Our Possessing

- 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

Stand

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 T give you peace.

Amen.

Closing Hymn

CW 850

It Is Well with My Soul

- 1 When peace like a river attendeth my way,
when sorrows like sea billows roll—
whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,
it is well, it is well with my soul.
It is well with my soul,
it is well, it is well with my soul.

- 2 Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
 let this blest assurance control,
 that Christ hath regarded my helpless estate
 and hath shed his own blood for my soul.
It is well with my soul,
it is well, it is well with my soul.
- 3 My sin—oh, the bliss of this glorious thought—
 my sin, not in part, but the whole,
 is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more:
 praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
It is well with my soul,
it is well, it is well with my soul.
- 4 And, Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight,
 the clouds be rolled back as a scroll;
 the trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend;
 even so, it is well with my soul.
It is well with my soul,
it is well, it is well with my soul.

Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828–1888, alt. Text: Public domain

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

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 – Our voters called Pastor Aaron Platzer (815.997.4162, pastoratpeaceelp@gmail.com). We encourage you to reach out him with words of encouragement. Please pray for him, his family and ministry, and for Our Savior’s ministry.

Updated Member Directory Available – An updated member directory is available for pick up today. The annual report will now coincide with our fiscal year, which is July – June, so it will be distributed early summer.



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.

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

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 Wednesday afternoon service at 1:00 PM, please consider worshipping at one of our sister congregations.

- **Our Savior’s: Wednesdays at 1:00 pm**
- **St. Peter Schofield campus worship times:**
Thursdays – 5:00 & 7:00 pm
- **Mountain of the Lord: Wednesdays at 6:00 pm**



Easter Lilies – If you would like to donate an Easter lily, please sign up in the narthex.

This Week at Our Savior's

Today	9:00 AM 10:15 AM	Worship with Holy Communion Sunday School & Bible Class
Wednesday	1:00 PM	Lenten Worship
Next Sunday 3/3	9:00 AM 10:15 AM	Worship Sunday School & Bible Class

Growing Together

February 18, 2024

<u>Weekly</u> \$5,553.00	<u>Vision</u> \$110.00	<u>Debt Red</u> \$60.00	<u>Initial Env</u> \$10.00	<u>Ash Wed</u> \$895.00	<u>Lent</u> \$150.00	<u>Missions</u> \$500.00
<u>Plate</u> \$184.00	<u>NLHS Op</u> \$10.00	<u>Publications</u> \$5.00	<u>School Fees</u> \$1,744.00			

Anticipated Weekly Offerings: \$4,077

In-Person Attendance: Sunday, Feb. 18 – 70

Midweek Lent – 68

Our Savior's Lutheran School is enrolling for 2024-2025

Our Savior's offers Christian education for Preschool – 8th Grade. We invite you to attend our open house on Tuesday, March 5th from 4:30-6:30PM. If you aren't available to stop by, call 715-845-3253 or email OSinfor@oursaviorswausau.org for information.

Everyone Outreach – Have you ever thought, “I wish our congregation was more outreach-minded”? If so, you're not alone. For this reason, Our Savior's will participate this spring in an exciting program called “Everyone Outreach”. The program helps build a culture of outreach so that every ministry and every member is encouraged and equipped to reach the lost in our community. Please mark your calendars for April 27th and 28th when we kick off the program with a 2-day workshop. If you want to learn more about the Everyone Outreach program, visit everyoneoutreach.com or speak to Tim Heil, our outreach elder. Look for more information about “Everyone Outreach” as we get closer to the workshop!



Growing in Jesus, Sharing His Love

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