



OUR SAVIOR'S  
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

THROUGH HIM  
*all things*  
WERE MADE.

JOHN 1:3, NIV



## **WELCOME TO OUR SERVICE**

We welcome you to the house of our true and living God for worship. Today's hymns, prayers, and readings from God's Word emphasize the beauty of creation. May the Lord bless us as we give him our heartfelt worship and praise!

## **PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP**

O Lord—our Maker, Redeemer, and Comforter—we are assembled in your presence to hear your holy Word. We pray that you would open our hearts by your Holy Spirit, that through the preaching of your Word we may repent of our sins, believe in Jesus, and grow day by day in grace and holiness. Hear us for Jesus' sake.

## **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.

## **SERVING TODAY**

- Minister – Pastor Jeff Mahnke
  - Organist – Marie Kurth
  - Ushers – Tim & Ellen Heil
- Next week – Brost Family, Kurth*

## **Acknowledgments**

Setting One from Christian Worship

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# 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

September 8, 2024

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## Words of Welcome

### Opening Hymn

**CW 505**

*For the Beauty of the Earth*

- 1 For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,  
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies:  
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.
- 2 For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night;  
hill and vale, and tree and flow'r, sun and moon, and stars of light:  
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.
- 3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight,  
for the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight:  
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.
- 4 For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,  
friends on earth, and friends above; for all gentle thoughts and mild:  
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.
- 5 For thyself, best gift divine, to our world so freely giv'n;  
for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heav'n:  
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

Text: Folliott S. Pierpoint, 1835–1917, abr., alt.  
Text: Public domain

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

## Confession

CW 173

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.**

## Lord, Have Mercy

In peace let us pray to the Lord.



**Lord, have mer - cy.**

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



**Lord, have mer - cy.**

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 mer - cy.**

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



**Lord, have mer - cy.**

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



**A - men.**

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## Glory Be to God on High

CW 157



Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



We praise you, we bless you, we wor - ship you, we glorify you,



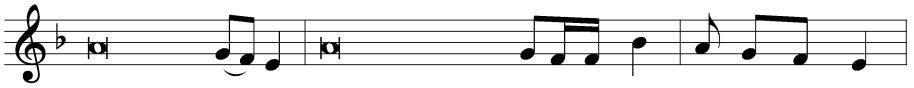
we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,



God the Fa-ther Al - mighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;



O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sin of the world;



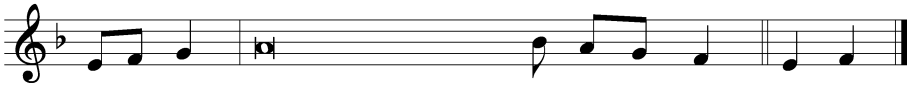
have mercy on us. You take away the sin of the world; re-ceive our prayer.



You sit at the right hand of God the Father; have mercy on us.



For you on-ly are holy; you on-ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the



Ho-ly Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

## Prayer of the Day

Dear Lord, you are the King of heaven and earth and the Maker of all that exists. Help us to be wise and faithful stewards of all that you have made. Through Word and Sacrament, strengthen us to serve you faithfully and to do all to your glory and praise; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord:

**Amen.**

# The Word

## First Reading

## Genesis 1

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. <sup>2</sup>Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

<sup>3</sup>And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. <sup>4</sup>God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup>God called the light “day,” and the darkness he called “night.” And there was evening, and there was morning—the first day.

<sup>6</sup>And God said, “Let there be a vault between the waters to separate water from water.” <sup>7</sup>So God made the vault and separated the water under the vault from the water above it. And it was so. <sup>8</sup>God called the vault “sky.” And there was evening, and there was morning—the second day.

<sup>9</sup>And God said, “Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear.” And it was so. <sup>10</sup>God called the dry ground “land,” and the gathered waters he called “seas.” And God saw that it was good.

<sup>11</sup>Then God said, “Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds.” And it was so. <sup>12</sup>The land produced vegetation: plants bearing seed according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good. <sup>13</sup>And there was evening, and there was morning—the third day.

<sup>14</sup>And God said, “Let there be lights in the vault of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark sacred times, and days and years, <sup>15</sup>and let them be lights in the vault of the sky to give light on the earth.” And it was so. <sup>16</sup>God made two great lights—the greater light to govern the day and the lesser light to govern the night. He also made the stars. <sup>17</sup>God set them in the vault of the sky to give light on the earth, <sup>18</sup>to govern the day and the night, and to separate light from darkness. And God saw that it was good. <sup>19</sup>And there was evening, and there was morning—the fourth day.

<sup>20</sup>And God said, “Let the water teem with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the vault of the sky.” <sup>21</sup>So God created the great creatures of the sea and every living thing with which the water teems and that moves about in it, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. <sup>22</sup>God blessed them and said, “Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the water in the seas, and let the birds increase on the earth.” <sup>23</sup>And there was evening, and there was morning—the fifth day.

<sup>24</sup>And God said, “Let the land produce living creatures according to their kinds: the livestock, the creatures that move along the ground, and the wild animals, each according to its kind.” And it was so. <sup>25</sup>God made the wild animals according to their kinds, the livestock according to their kinds, and all the creatures that move along the ground according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good.

<sup>26</sup>Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.”

<sup>27</sup>So God created mankind in his own image,  
in the image of God he created them;  
male and female he created them.

<sup>28</sup>God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground.”

<sup>29</sup>Then God said, “I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. <sup>30</sup>And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds in the sky and all the creatures that move along the ground—everything that has the breath of life in it—I give every green plant for food.” And it was so.

<sup>31</sup>God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.  
And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**



Psalm of the Day

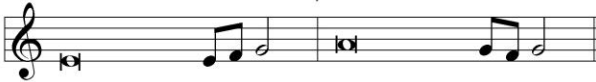
Psalm 33, Old CW

*Refrain*



The earth is full of the good-ness of  
God, the good-ness of our God.

*Psalm tone*



Sing joyfully to the LORD, you righteous;\*  
it is fitting for the upright to praise him.

For the Word of the LORD is right and true;\*  
he is faithful in all he does.

By the word of the LORD were the heavens made,\*  
their starry host by the breath of his mouth.

For he spoke, and it came to be;\*  
he commanded, and it stood firm. **Refrain**  
The LORD foils the plans of the nations;\*  
he thwarts the purposes of the peoples.

But the plans of the LORD stand firm forever,\*  
the purposes of his heart through all generations.

The LORD loves righteousness and justice;\*  
the earth is full of his unfailing love.

**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: Marty Haugen. © 1983 GIA Publications, Inc., Chicago, IL, www.giamusic.com. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

## Second Reading

Romans 8:18–25

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

<sup>22</sup>We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. <sup>23</sup>Not 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. <sup>24</sup>For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have? <sup>25</sup>But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation

John 1:3

Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.

## Gospel

John 1:1–4

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was with God in the beginning. <sup>3</sup>Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. <sup>4</sup>In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

## Children's Message

### Hymn of the Day

**CW 612**

*How Great Thou Art*

- 1 O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder  
consider all the works thy hand hath made,  
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,  
thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed; (Refrain)
- Ref **Then sings my soul, my Savior-God, to thee,  
How great thou art! How great thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior-God to thee,  
How great thou art! How great thou art!**
- 2 When through the woods and forest glades I wander  
and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;  
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur  
and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze; (Refrain)
- 3 And when I think that God, his Son not sparing,  
sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,  
that on the cross my burden gladly bearing  
he bled and died to take away my sin; (Refrain)
- 4 When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation  
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!  
Then I shall bow in humble adoration  
and there proclaim: "My God, how great thou art!" (Refrain)

Text: Stuart W. K. Hine, 1899–1989

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## *The Beauty of Creation*

1. What does the creation account found in Genesis 1 tell us about our God?
2. Which words or phrases in Genesis 1 help us, as Christians, deal with the false teachings of evolution?
3. Note at least three ways in which Genesis 1 sets forth the preeminence of humans in God's creation.
4. What do God's words in Isaiah 43:6,7 tell us about the purpose for which we were created: *Bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the ends of the earth—everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made?* What do these words lead us to do?
5. What does the final verse of Genesis 1 tell us? Give examples of how the world of that day must have differed from our world today.

## **Confession of Faith**

*Luther's Explanation to the 1<sup>st</sup> Article*

**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.**

## **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**

Lord of heaven and earth, you made all things beautiful. You have provided green forests and refreshing streams. You have arranged the orderly procession of day and night for our work and rest.

**Thank you for the mountains and the prairies, the roaring sea, and the gentle breeze.**

Thank you for roofs that shelter us, for clothing that protects us, and for food and drink. Thank you for our work, for projects that are done well, and for the approval of supervisors and teachers. Thank you for all who serve at night to make our days more pleasant.

**Thank you for associates at work, for their encouragement and praise, and for the joys of human friendships.**

Thank you for our cities and our countrysides, for farms and factories, for streets and highways, and for all of life that flows so swiftly before us.

**Thank you for children at play, their boundless energy, and their shouts of joy and laughter.**

Thank you for the morning greetings we receive, and for all the smiles that come from faces loved by you.

**Thank you for Christian parents, for their affection and their care.**

Hear us, Lord, as we give thanks for personal blessings.

*Silent prayer. Special prayers may follow.*

Thank you for your Son, Jesus Christ, for his coming to us in Word and sacraments, for his giving and forgiving, and for listening to our prayers. Receive our gifts and offerings as our sacrifice of praise.

**Lead us in thankful living today and always. 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  $\dagger$  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  $\dagger$  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 consists of five staves of music in a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The final staff ends with a double bar line.

## Distribution & Hymns

### We Sing the Almighty Power of God

CW 504

- 1 We sing th' almighty pow'r of God that made the mountains rise,  
that spread the flowing seas abroad and built the lofty skies.  
We sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day;  
the moon shines full at his command, and all the stars obey.
- 2 We sing the goodness of the Lord that filled the earth with food;  
he formed the creatures with his Word  
and then pronounced them good.  
Lord, how your wonders are displayed where'er we turn our eyes,  
if we survey the ground we tread or gaze upon the skies.
- 3 There's not a plant or flow'r below but makes your glories known,  
and clouds arise and tempests blow by order from your throne;  
while all that borrows life from you is ever in your care,  
and ev'rywhere that we can be, you, God, are present there.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt. Text: Public domain

### For the Fruits of His Creation

CW 506

- 1 For the fruits of his creation, thanks be to God.  
For his gifts to ev'ry nation, thanks be to God.  
For the plowing, sowing, reaping,  
silent growth while we are sleeping,  
future needs in earth's safekeeping, thanks be to God.
- 2 In the just reward of labor, God's will is done.  
In the help we give our neighbor, God's will is done.  
In our worldwide task of caring for the hungry and despairing,  
in the harvests we are sharing, God's will is done.
- 3 For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God.  
For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God.  
For the wonders that astound us,  
for the truths that still confound us,  
most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000 Text: © 1970 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 716671



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 507**

1 Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving  
to God the Creator triumphantly raise,  
who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,  
who still guides us on to the end of our days.

God's banners are o'er us; his light goes before us,  
a pillar of fire shining forth in the night,  
till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished,  
as forward we travel from light into light.

2 His law he enforces; the stars in their courses  
and sun in its orbit obediently shine.

The hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,  
the deeps of the ocean proclaim him divine.

We, too, should be voicing our love and rejoicing.

With glad adoration a song let us raise

till all things now living unite in thanksgiving:

"To God in the highest, hosanna and praise!"

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

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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).

**Important:**

**Open Forum on Sept. 29 & Congregational Meeting on Oct. 6**

The Church Council met after worship on Sunday, August 25<sup>th</sup>, to discuss the challenges and opportunities before our church and school now and into the future. The Church Council has decided to hold an Open Forum for all confirmed Our Savior's members at 10:15 am on Sunday, September 29<sup>th</sup>, to discuss and get feedback regarding some recommendations that they will bring. The Council has scheduled a congregational meeting the following Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, also at 10:15 am, for the purpose of making decisions on their recommendations for our future ministry. **We strongly encourage ALL communicant members to make every effort to attend both meetings**, as this will be a pivotal decision for our congregation.

*The next meeting for calling a pastor will be held in mid / late October.*



**Mission Festival** - On Sunday, September 22, Pastor Fredric Berger from the Kronenwetter mission will lead our worship service with a missions theme. Following the service, enjoy refreshments, fellowship, and then stay for a special Bible Class. We're looking forward to this special morning of missions and fellowship!

**Sunday School** resumes today at 10:15 am, meeting in the school library, room 134. Children ages 4 through grade 5 are welcome. Older children are invited to be helpers.

**The Life of David Bible Study** draws from eight segments of David's life and connects them to our lives. The Lord uses David's strengths and weaknesses to teach His church. From David killing Goliath to David being overcome by temptation, we can see images of ourselves and learn how God deals justly with those He loves. **Join us today at 10:15 am.**

**OWLS: Organization of WELS Lutheran Seniors**

Summer seems to evaporate faster as we get older. Now that it is over it is time to renew old acquaintances and prayerfully make new ones. The OWLS will be meeting on **Tuesday, September 10** 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 Evan or Sandy at 715-693-1337. Non-members are always welcome, come join us!!

**New Mission** – Pastor Fredric Berger's installation for the new mission church in Kronenwetter is set for next Sunday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, at 4:00 pm at Northland Lutheran High School. A potluck meal will follow. All are invited to come and celebrate this joyous occasion!

**Christ Through Us: A Pictorial History of the Wisconsin Synod, 1850–2025**

Filled with captivating images and fascinating stories, *Christ Through Us* is a thoughtful gift for WELS historians or people interested in our synod's history. It's also an incredible visual aid for Lutheran elementary and high school teachers! This limited edition book can be ordered until 9/30/24 for guaranteed availability. Order your copy today!

***Sign up for a group order is in the narthex.***

**Growing Together**

September 1, 2024

<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Vision</u>	<u>Debt Red</u>	<u>Missions</u>	<u>Bldg Maint</u>	<u>Sunday School</u>
\$2,981.00	\$550.00	\$161.00	\$140.00	\$100.00	\$5.00

<u>NLHS Tuition</u>	<u>NLHS Op</u>	<u>School Fees</u>
\$15.00	\$20.00	\$632.00

**Anticipated Weekly Offerings \$4,230**

**Attendance:** Sunday, September 1 – 60

<b>This Week at Our Savior's</b>		
<b>Today</b>	9:00 AM 10:15 AM	Worship with Holy Communion Sunday School & Bible Class Resume <i>Food Pantry Sunday</i>
<b>Monday</b>	6:00 PM 7:00 PM	School Board Church Council
<b>Tuesday</b>	11:30 AM	OWLS Meet at Pizza Ranch
<b>Wednesday</b>	7:00 PM	Choir Practice at St. Peter for Installation at NLHS
<b>Thursday</b>	1:00 PM	Ladies' Aid
<b>Sunday 9/15</b>	9:00 AM 10:15 AM 4:00 PM	Worship Sunday School & Bible Class <i>Food</i> Pastor Berger's Installation Service (Kronenwetter Mission) at NLHS



*Growing in Jesus, Sharing His Love*

**Our Savior's Ev. Lutheran Church**

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Facebook: Our Savior's Lutheran Church and School

**Pastor Jeff Mahnke, Vacancy Pastor**

715-297-0132

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