

Sunday, January 25, 2026
3rd Sunday after Epiphany



Our Savior's Lutheran Church
8:00 AM Worship 9:00 AM Fellowship
Faith Formation 5:30 PM Wednesdays

Pastor Gary Grinvalds

Organist: Alice Meints or Sandy Eltiste

Introduction to the day

Jesus begins his public ministry by calling fishers to leave their nets and follow him. In Jesus the kingdom of God has come near. We who have walked in darkness have seen a great light. We see this light most profoundly in the cross—as God suffers with us and all who are oppressed by sickness, sin, or evil. Light dawns for us as we gather around the word, the font, and the holy table. We are then sent to share the good news that others may be “caught” in the net of God’s grace and mercy.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
the Creator of heaven and earth,
the Word who spoke life into being,
the Wind stirring the waters.

Amen.

Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Mighty God, lover of justice,
**you call us to life in community,
but we have served our own interests
at the expense of our neighbors.
We have sown deceit where honesty was needed.
We say the right words,
but our hearts are far from you.
Turn us to seek your face.
Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ,
that we may do justice, love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God.**

Amen.

The former things have passed away,
and new things God now declares:
Like a spring of water that never fails,
God covers you in the righteousness of Christ,
and forgives your sin in ✝ Jesus' name.
May the Spirit give you strength to live for others,
and bless you with the gift of peace.

Amen.

I Can Hear My Savior Calling
Where He Leads Me

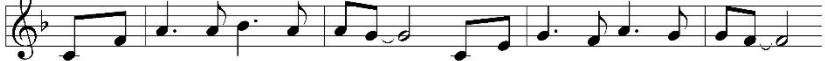


1 I can hear my Sav - ior call - ing, I can hear my Sav - ior call - ing,
2 I'll go with him through the gar - den, I'll go with him through the gar - den,
3 I'll go with him through the judg - ment, I'll go with him through the judg - ment,
4 He will give me grace and glo - ry, he will give me grace and glo - ry,



I can hear my Sav - ior call - ing, "Take thy cross and fol - low, fol - low me."
I'll go with him through the gar - den, I'll go with him, with him all the way.
I'll go with him through the judg - ment, I'll go with him, with him all the way.
he will give me grace and glo - ry, and go with me, with me all the way.

Refrain



Where he leads me I will fol - low, where he leads me I will fol - low,



where he leads me I will fol - low, I'll go with him, with him all the way.

Text: E. W. Blandy
Music: NORRIS, John S. Norris, 1844-1907

*Blessed are you, O Lord our God, king of the universe,

For in your wisdom you have formed us.

You feed the hungry and clothe the naked,

We bless you and praise your name forever.

You set free those who are bound.

We bless you and praise your name forever.

You raise up those whose courage falters.

We bless you and praise your name forever.

You provide for our every need.

Accept our grateful praises.

You have called us from all peoples.

We rejoice and bless your name forever.

You bless your people with peace.

We bless you and praise your loving grace.

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, king of the universe,

For in your wisdom you have formed us.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Lord God, your lovingkindness always goes before us and follows after us. Summon us into your light, and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Faith Begins By Letting Go



1 Faith be - gins by let - ting go, giv - ing up what had seemed sure,
 2 Faith en - dures by hold - ing on, keep - ing mem-'ry's roots a - live
 3 Faith ma - tures by reach - ing out, stretch - ing minds, en - larg - ing hearts,



tak - ing risks and press - ing on, though the way feels less se - cure:
 so that hope may bear its fruit; prom - ise - fed, our souls will thrive,
 shar - ing strug - gles, liv - ing prayer, bind - ing up the bro - ken parts;



pil - grim - age both right and odd, trust - ing all our life to God.
 not through mer - it we pos - sess but by God's great faith - ful - ness.
 till we find the com - mon - place ripe with wit - ness to God's grace.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: RATISBON, J. G. Werner, *Choralbuch*, 1815

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FIRST LESSON: ISAIAH 9:1-4

The northern tribes of Zebulun and Naphtali experienced the gloom of defeat by Assyrian military forces, but they are assured that their condition will be reversed when God makes a light-filled appearance. The joy they will experience will resemble celebrations of great harvests, because God will deliver them from everything that diminishes or oppresses them.

¹ There will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time [the LORD] brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations. ² The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. ³ You have multiplied exultation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. ⁴ For the yoke of their burden and the

bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

Word of God, Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 27:1, 4-9

Read Responsively

¹ The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

⁴ One thing I ask of the LORD; one thing I seek; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life; to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek God in the temple.

⁵ For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter, hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high upon a rock.

⁶ Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who surround me. Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing; I will sing and make music to the LORD.

⁷ Hear my voice, O LORD, when I call; have mercy on me and answer me.

⁸ My heart speaks your message—“Seek my face.” Your face, O LORD, I will seek.

⁹ Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger. Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of my salvation.

SECOND LESSON: 1 CORINTHIANS 1:10-18

Paul calls on the Corinthians to end their dissensions and share the unified outlook of the gospel. Discord arises when we forget that we belong not to human leaders or institutions but to Christ. Indeed, the unifying word of the cross of Christ is the center of the gospel and the power of God’s salvation.

¹⁰ Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you but that you be knit together in the same mind and the same purpose. ¹¹ For it has been made clear to me by Chloe’s people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. ¹² What I mean is that each of you says, “I belong to Paul,” or “I belong to Apollos,” or “I belong to Cephas,” or “I belong to

Christ.”¹³ Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?¹⁴ I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius,¹⁵ so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name.¹⁶ I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.¹⁷ For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel—and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

¹⁸ For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

Word of God, Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDRENS SERMON

***GOSPEL: MATTHEW 4:12-23**

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus begins his public ministry shortly after John the Baptist is imprisoned by Herod. He proclaims the nearness of God's reign and calls four fishermen to be his first disciples.

¹² Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee.¹³ He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali,¹⁴ so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

¹⁵ “Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the gentiles—¹⁶ the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned.”¹⁷ From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

¹⁸ As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishers.¹⁹ And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people.”²⁰ Immediately they left

their nets and followed him. ²¹ As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. ²² Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

²³ Jesus went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

The Gospel of our Lord

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 798

***APOSTLES CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen**

OFFERING

***OFFERTORY**



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right spir -
it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re-store to me the
joy of your sal-va - tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir - it.

*THE PRAYERS

As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.

A brief silence.

Holy One, you entrust the message of the cross and the mission of the gospel to the church in every land. Guide the newly baptized and deepen the faith of all who follow Christ. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Holy Creator, you lavish creation with splendor, and we praise you for the gift of life. Teach us to live as wise stewards, sharing the earth's resources with all inhabitants of this garden planet.

Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Holy Judge, your power is love, and you judge the nations by the measure of Christ. Free any who are unjustly accused or wrongly condemned. We pray for those in authority (*local and national officials may be named*). Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Holy Lover, you care for vulnerable young children, frail elders, and any who are sick (*especially*). We pray for all who are affected by natural disasters (*individuals or situations may be named*).

Provide for their needs and relieve their suffering. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Holy Giver, you gather, forgive, and shape us as disciples of Christ. Nurture in us a spirit of patience and respect, that we may love one another as you love us. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Holy Savior, you free us from the power of death. Lead and guide us until we come at last into the communion of all your saints in light. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior. **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.

***BLESSING**

The Lord bless us and keep us.

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

The Lord look upon us with favor and give us peace.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

ELW 841

Lift Every Voice and Sing



1 Lift ev - 'ry voice and sing till earth and heav - en ring,
 2 Ston - y the road we trod, bit - ter the chas - t'ning rod,
 3 God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent tears,



ring with the har - mo - nies of lib - er - ty.
 felt in the days when hope un - born had died;
 thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;



Let our re - joic - ing rise high as the lis - t'ning skies,
 yet with a stead - y beat, have not our wea - ry feet
 thou who hast by thy might led us in - to the light,



let it re - sound loud as the roll - ing sea.
 come to the place for which our par - ents sighed?
 keep us for - ev - er in the path, we pray.



Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
 We have come o - ver a way that with tears has been wa - tered;
 Lest our feet stray from the plac - es, our God, where we met thee;



sing a song full of the hope that the pres - ent has brought us;
 we have come, tread - ing our path through the blood of the slaugh - tered,
 lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we for - get thee;



fac - ing the ris - ing sun of our new day be - gun,
 out from the gloom - y past, till now we stand at last
 shad - owed be - neath thy hand, may we for - ev - er stand,



let us march on till vic - to - ry is won.
 where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.
 true to our God, true to our na - tive land.

Text: James W. Johnson, 1871-1938

Music: LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING, J. Rosamond Johnson, 1873-1954

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

Thanks be to God.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Copies of the revised constitution are being distributed today. Please look this over as it will need to be voted upon at the annual meeting.

There is an extra 50" tv from the video package installation that is not needed. If anyone is interested in purchasing it, please contact a council member. The cost is \$300.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church WELCA invites you to attend their annual soup luncheon on Sunday, February 1, 2026, from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. Chili, chicken noodle soup, and vegetable beef soup will be served, as well as desserts and a beverage. Bring a friend. We're looking forward to seeing you there"

The Annual meeting will be Sunday, February 1, 2026 immediately following the church service. Please submit all committee reports for the annual report to Pam by Sunday, January 18.

We will have 2 vacancies on the Church Council next year. If you would consider being on the council or know someone else who might, please let a current council member know. Thanks.

Please also consider attending the 2026 Synod Assembly as a voting member representing your congregation. All confirmed members are eligible to attend!!! We may send 2, which will be identified at the Annual Meeting in January.

Upcoming Community coffees are as follows:
January 30—Western National Bank
February 6—Wymore Library

Remembered in Our Prayers:

Kent Hohensee

Kathleen Remmers

Kai Spann

Pastor Gary: Phone: (402) 658-2253
Email: garygrinvalds@gmail.com

If you wish to have Pastor visit you, please contact him to set up a time.

Your Council leaders are:

President: Darla Acton (402) 239-6236

Vice President: Darin Frerichs (402) 239-6471

Secretary: Erin Saathoff (402) 239-9117

At Large: Roger Henrichs (402) 239-7740

Chavonn Mailahn (308) 214-0039

Josh Schmidt (402) 520-0950

Church Account Balance: 12/31/2025: \$45,124.43

Church Offerings: 01/04/2026: \$ 907.00

01/11/2026: \$ 749.00

Attendance 01/18/2026: 38

January Birthdays

26 Kathleen Remmers

27 Judson Frerichs

28 Jeff Mailahn

28 Erica Morse

29 Huntley Fossler

30 Margaret Michaelis

Please have any announcements for the bulletin to Pam by Wednesday noon each week. You may text or call her at (402) 239-2715 or send an email to the church at oursaviorslutheranwymore@gmail.com. Thank you.

Our Saviors Lutheran Church Council Meeting January 21, 2026
Present: Darla Acton, Darin Frerichs, Erin Saathoff, Chavonn Mailahn, Josh Schmidt, Pastor Gary, Pam Gerdes, Roger Henrichs
Absent: None

Meeting called to order by: Darla and opened with a prayer.
Approve Previous Month's Meeting Minutes -Moved by Roger, seconded by Chavonn

Financial report - Pam reviewed the financial report. Josh noted the decrease of \$10,500 is due to insurance and mileage. Moved by Josh, seconded by Darin

Pastor's Report:

- Pastor opened discussion regarding the previous week's sermon. Discussion was postponed until the end of the meeting. Pastor reported confirmation has been going well.

Old Business:

- Ushers for February - Google Calendar will be used moving forward.

- Church Directory - Erin provided an update for printing the directory. Erin received quotes from Arbor Ink and Priority Printing. Erin will order 50 from Arbor Ink for \$413.41. Directories will be distributed via email as well, after the Annual Meeting, in order to include the new Council members.

- Electronic Sign bids - Erin will reach out again. Darin will reach out to Terry Jurgens to see who recently installed the one for his business.

- Constitution Question - Erin will provide a bullet list of changes proposed to be handed out at the Annual Meeting. Copies will be handed out January 24th & February 1st at the Annual Meeting.

New Business:

- Date for next council meeting will be February 19, 2026 @ 7:30
- Grant Update - Chavonn reported we received the Morris Grant. The official letter has not been received to verify the total award amount.
- Pam reported we received \$500 from Vaughn & Tina Wright Grant Fund for the Ardys Philippi Memorial which will be put in the memorial fund. Kathleen Remmers has requested that her future contributions be designated for a special project.
- Church Annual meeting will be February 1, 2026 after service.
- Lenten Services - Ash Wednesday services will be at Filley at 6:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. at Our Savior's. All other services will be held at Our Savior's at 7:00 p.m. & led by the Council. Maundy Thursday & Good Friday services times will be discussed during the Quarterly Parish Meeting with Filley. Faith Formation will have a soup supper on Ash Wednesday. Details to be announced.
- Quarterly Parish Meeting January 28, 2026 @ 6:30 in Filley.
- Electronic Slides - Darla asked how the new system has been working. It has been well received. Pam has cut down on printing the number of bulletins & will continue to print song and announcement sheets.

The Council discussed the sermon from January 18th and the feelings of the congregation with Pastor Gary.

Closed meeting with the Lord's Prayer.