



**Our Savior Lutheran Church
Third Sunday after Epiphany – January 25, 2026
9:00 a.m. Worship Service**

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Prayer Concerns

Sharing of the Peace

Land Acknowledgement

L: As children of God, we honor the true story of this land where we worship. This congregation of Our Savior Lutheran Church acknowledges and honors the Sauk & Fox, Kickapoo, Kaskaskia, Myaamia, Peoria and Sioux (Očhéthi Šakówin) peoples,

C: upon whose ancestral homelands we gather for worship, as well as all our Indigenous siblings who continue to care for this land and call it their home. May we tell our story in its fullness, for in knowing the truth of who we have been, we come to know more fully who we are called to be.

Call to Worship (from Psalm 27)

A: Teach me your way, O Lord, and lead me on a level path because of my enemies.

C: Do not give me up to the will of my adversaries, for false witnesses have risen against me, and they are breathing out violence.

A: I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.

C: Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!

Gathering Hymn - This is My Song – ELW #887

Confession and Forgiveness

L: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

L: 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.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

L: Mighty God, lover of justice,

C: 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.

L: The former things have passed away, and new things God now declares: Like a spring of water that never fails, God covers us in the righteousness of Christ, and forgives our sin in + Jesus' name.

May the Spirit give us strength to live for others, and bless us with the gift of peace. **C: Amen.**

Greeting

L: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Kyrie

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.

Hymn of Praise – Christ, Be Our Light – ELW #715 vs 1 & 2

Prayer of the Day

A: Lord God, your lovingkindness always goes before us and follows after us.

C: Summon us into your light, and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come

A: through the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

The Word

First Reading – Isaiah 9:1-4

¹ But there will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he 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.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 27:1, 4-9

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

⁴ One thing I asked of the Lord; this I seek: to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in his temple.

⁵ For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will set me high on a rock.

6 Now my head is lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the Lord.

7 Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud; be gracious to me and answer me!

8 “Come,” my heart says, “seek his face!” Your face, Lord, do I seek. 9 Do not hide your face from me. Do not turn your servant away in anger, you who have been my help. Do not cast me off; do not forsake me, O God of my salvation!

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

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.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel: Matthew 4:12-23

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew. Glory to you, O Lord.

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 the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Message – Tim Leitner, SAM

Hymn of the Day – Let Streams of Living Justice – ELW #710

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was
buried; he descended to the dead,
on the third day, he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.**

Prayers of Intercession

L: 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. 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. 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.

A: 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,
C: receive our prayer.

L: 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.
C: Amen.

Offering

Offertory Hymn – Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful - ELW #182

Offertory Prayer

A: God of majesty, no eye has seen, no ear has heard

C: what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy.

A: Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth, as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Communion Distribution

Post Communion Blessing

L: Now may the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

C: Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

A: Radiant God, we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.

C: In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart.

A: Send us from this table with delight,

C: that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard,

A: through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Blessing

L: May the triune God, who has put a new song in your mouth and tuned your heart for praise \pm bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn – O Lord, Now Let Your Servant – ELW #313

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude