

4th Sunday of Epiphany
January 27 & 30, 2022



**Life is a Gift to be
Respected**

Our Savior Ev. Lutheran Church

(Wisconsin Synod)

1332 Arrowhead Rd.

Grafton, Wisconsin 53024

Church: 262-377-6363 School: 262-377-7780

WORSHIP NOTES Today, we see that respecting God as the Author and Controller of life means not trying to prevent Him from doing what He does – not thinking ourselves above Him – but being willing to let go. We can have the confidence that when we entrust ourselves or our loved ones to his grace in Christ we are safe even as we change residences (from here to there). Our seasonal theme is “Agenda Uncovered – What must be said, not what asks to be heard.” This applies well to the topic and concern for life, as the country still seems divided on who counts enough to be cared for.

PRAYER OF THE DAY Almighty God, you sent your Son to proclaim your kingdom and to teach with authority. Anoint us with the power of your Spirit that we, too, may bring good news to the afflicted, bind up the brokenhearted, and proclaim liberty to the captive; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

GUESTS Welcome to our visitors!

Restrooms: At the far (south) side of the entry area.

Parents’ Room: Also at the far (south) side of the entry area.

Large Print Hymnal: Contact an usher.



Introduction: Respect for life appears to be a major issue for Americans, especially when we see how often the elderly and children are killed (as in the Waukesha parade). As a result, life issues are no longer limited to only the abortion topic. Who’s life matters and under what conditions? Christians believe that God is the Giver of Life and as a result only his Word can set the boundaries. Today we’ll talk about the value of life from 2 Timothy 3 as we listen and learn how God guards us and others. Our service today directs us into the Scripture and to biblically sound resources.

OPENING HYMN

“Come, Rejoice before Your Maker”

CW, # 228

Come, rejoice before your Maker,
All you peoples of the earth.
Serve the Lord your God with gladness;
Come before him with a song.

Know for certain our Creator
Is the true and only God.
We are his, for he has made us;
We are sheep within his fold.

Come with grateful hearts before him;
Enter now his courts with praise.
Show your thankfulness in worship;
Give due honor to his name.

For the Lord our God is gracious,
Everlasting in his love,
And to ev'ry generation
His great faithfulness endures.

INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father, our Creator; and of the Son, our Savior; and of the Holy Spirit, our Life-Giver.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS

P: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

C: Holy and merciful Father, you created me to live perfectly with you and to dwell with one another in complete harmony for all of life's days. All too often, however, I have fallen far short of your holy desires. I have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. I have failed to love my neighbor as myself. I have failed to treasure all of humankind as precious in your sight. I have exchanged selfless love for selfish conceit. For all of this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

SUNG RESPONSE

CW, # 304:5

I, a sinner, come to you, With a penitent confession.
Savior, show me mercy, too; Grant for all my sins remission.
Let these words my soul relieve - Jesus sinners does receive.

ABSOLUTION

P: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen

SUNG RESPONSE

CW, # 304:6-7

Oh, how blest it is to know, Were as scarlet my transgression,
It shall be as white as snow, By your blood and bitter passion,
For these words I do believe - Jesus sinners does receive.

Jesus sinners does receive. Even I have been forgiven.
And when I this earth must leave, I shall find an open heaven.
Dying, still to him I cleave - Jesus sinners does receive.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, every good and perfect gift comes from your gracious and loving hands. Give to us a thankful and caring heart as we realize your blessings in every new day. Through your Word, teach us to have reverence for life in every stage and a mindset that sees all of humankind as souls bought by the blood of your Son. 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.

C: Amen

CHRIST CLEARLY CARES ABOUT OUR BODIES

FIRST LESSON **Jeremiah 1:4-10**

The word of the Lord came to me, saying, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations." "Ah, Sovereign Lord," I said, "I do not know how to speak; I am only a child." But the Lord said to me, "Do not say, 'I am only a child.' You must go to everyone I send you to and say whatever I command you. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you," declares the Lord. Then the Lord reached out his hand and touched my mouth and said to me, "Now, I have put my words in your mouth. See, today I appoint you over nations and kingdoms to uproot and tear down, to destroy and overthrow, to build and to plant.

SUNG RESPONSE

(sung to the tune of CW 341)

Life is a gift from God,
Who ordered all my days
And wrote them in His Book of Life
So I could give him praise!
He guards and still preserves
That Life He gave to me,
And loves me with a Father's love
And will eternally!

CHRIST CLEARLY CARES ABOUT OUR SOULS

SECOND LESSON

2 Timothy 3:14 – 4:5

But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, and how from infancy you have known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage--with great patience and careful instruction. For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths. But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry.

SUNG RESPONSE

(sung to the tune of CW 341)

Life is a Holy Gift
Which God alone can give.
He sets before us death and life
Choose life that you might live!
For God has sent His Son
Who could have come a King,
But chose a mother's womb instead
Eternal life to bring.

GOSPEL

Luke 4:38-44

Jesus left the synagogue and went to the home of Simon. Now Simon's mother-in-law was suffering from a high fever, and they asked Jesus to help her. So he bent over her and rebuked the fever, and it left her. She got up at once and began to wait on them. When the sun was setting, the people brought to Jesus all who had various kinds of sickness, and laying his hands on each one, he healed them. Moreover, demons came out of many people, shouting, "You are the Son of God!" But he rebuked them and would not allow them to speak, because they knew he was the Christ. At daybreak Jesus went out to a solitary place. The people were looking for him and when they came to where he was, they tried to keep him from leaving them. But he said, "I must preach the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns also, because that is why I was sent." And he kept on preaching in the synagogues of Judea.

APOSTLES' CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

SERMON HYMN

“Forth in the Peace of Christ We Go”

CW, # 518

Forth in the peace of Christ we go;
Christ to the world with joy we bring;
Christ in our minds, Christ on our lips,
Christ in our hearts, the world's true king.

King of our hearts, Christ makes us kings;
Kingship with him his servants gain;
With Christ, the Servant-Lord of all,
Christ's world we serve to share Christ's reign.

Priests of the world, Christ sends us forth,
The world of time to consecrate,
The world of sin by grace to heal,
Christ's world in Christ to recreate.

Christ's are our lips, his word we speak;
Prophets are we whose deeds proclaim
Christ's truth in love that we may be
Christ in the world, to spread Christ's name.

We are the Church; Christ bids us show
That in his Church all nations find
Their hearth and home where Christ restores
True peace, true love, to humankind.

SERMON 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5 “God’s Word is Tough on Life”

OFFERING

To honor God and to remind each other that our offerings are part of our regular gathering and worship, we bring the offering plates forward to the altar at this time.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P:** God our Father, your Son welcomed all who came to him, even the outcasts and despised. Give a faith that dares to come to you, trusting only in your love. Give me a love that accepts and cares for others, as I have been accepted and cared for by you. Thank you for your caring heart, O Lord.
- C:** **Gracious God, thank you for my home and family, for love and gentleness, for laughter enjoyed and sorrows shared, for daily bread. Help me to be mindful of all your gifts and to rejoice in your goodness. Give me a caring heart, O Lord.**
- P:** Gracious God, too often I put my own concerns and priorities above your will and work. Rid me of my selfishness, and fill me with the zeal to keep you first in my life. Give me a caring heart, O Lord.
- C:** **Gracious God, all that I have comes from you: my body and mind, my strength and intelligence, my time and abilities, my energy and possessions. Guard me from the temptation to use these gifts only for my personal benefit. Make me willing to use them joyfully in service to you and to your people. Give me a caring heart, O Lord.**
- P:** Gracious God, teach me to love others as you have loved me. Help me be more patient and alert to the needs of others, and always ready to serve them with the blessings you have given to me. Give me a caring heart, O Lord.
- C:** **Gracious God, make me an instrument of your peace: where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; and where there is sadness, joy.**
- P:** We ask this all in our Savior’s name, who also taught us to pray...

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

P: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness. 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.

C: Amen. Amen. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

“Love in Christ Is Strong and Living”

CW, # 490

Love in Christ is strong and living,
Binding faithful hearts in one;
Love in Christ is true and giving.
May His will in us be done.

Love is patient and forbearing,
Clothed in Christ's humility,
Gentle, selfless, kind and caring,
Reaching out in charity.

Love in Christ abides forever,
Fainting not when ills attend;
Love, forgiving and forgiven,
Shall endure until life's end.

SILENT PRAYERS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our Connection & Resource - Pastor Jeff Samelson began his service as Christian Life Resources’s Director of Ministry Advancement in April 2021, having served on the CLR National Board for the previous four years. He came to CLR with experience both in and out of the parish: he was the pastor of Christ Lutheran Church (WELS) in Clarksville, Maryland from 2000-2021, and prior to studying for the ministry spent five years in the U.S. Foreign Service as a consular officer, serving at the embassies in Singapore and Bogotá, Colombia. Rev. Samelson’s role at CLR includes establishing opportunities for Christian service and equipping Christians affected by the erosion of life and family values. Applying the truth of God’s Word on pertinent life and family issues, his responsibilities will include a regular schedule of preaching engagements, education on the broader scope of the CLR ministry, monitoring of life issues, and leadership as a contact for the affiliate organizations of CLR. Rev. Samelson’s service continues a long family involvement: his father was one of the founding members of the first affiliate of Christian Life Resources. Rev. Samelson resides with his wife, Charlene, in Grafton, WI. They are members here at Our Savior. He will host a special emphasis service in May.



CHRISTIAN LIFE RESOURCES (CLR) MISSION:

The mission of Christian Life Resources is to use life and family issues as bridges to convey the love of God and to share the message of salvation through Christ. We love because HE first loved us.

CHRISTIAN LIFE RESOURCES (CLR) PURPOSE:

Christian Life Resources counsels clergy, teachers, doctors, lawyers, moms, and dads on a wide range of life- and family-related topics. It is a resource center of materials and services on these issues.

Most importantly, the national office educates others on the perspective of God's Word as it relates to these issues.

Through its official publication, *Clearly Caring*, email services, annual national convention, presentations, and articles, we seek to answer the question, "What would God have me to do?" based on the direction found in God's Word.

CLR RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION:

Christian Life Resources subjects itself to the doctrine and practice of the **Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod**. We are not, however, directly supervised or funded by the WELS budget or its administrators.

CLR SERVICES AFFILIATION:

Christian Life Resources and its network of care centers and home for mothers are affiliated with *Heartbeat International*. We work with *Heartbeat* to maintain the highest level of professionalism and compliance with contemporary standards.

CLR GROWTH:

Today, our organization consists of pregnancy care centers across the United States. These centers are visited by approximately 11,000 clients each year. Our network of pregnancy care affiliates offer a warm heart, listening ear, and helping hand along with a wealth of information to guide those involved in an unexpected life choice. Christian Life Resources founded and supports *New Beginnings – A Home for Mothers*, located in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. We opened the doors to *New Beginnings* in October of 1993 to help single mothers and their newborns with spiritual, academic, and vocational assistance in a residential setting. *New Beginnings* also networks with single mothers in the community to provide assistance where possible.

BEGINNING OF LIFE

- Abortion
 - Reasons
 - Types
 - Post-Abortion
- Infanticide
- Fertility / Infertility / IVF
- Birth Control
- Pregnancy
- Adoption
 - Domestic / Foreign
 - Embryo

FAMILY TOPICS

- Marriage
- Parenting
- Fertility / Infertility / IVF
- Pregnancy
- Adoption
 - Domestic / Foreign
 - Embryo

MEDICAL CONCERNS

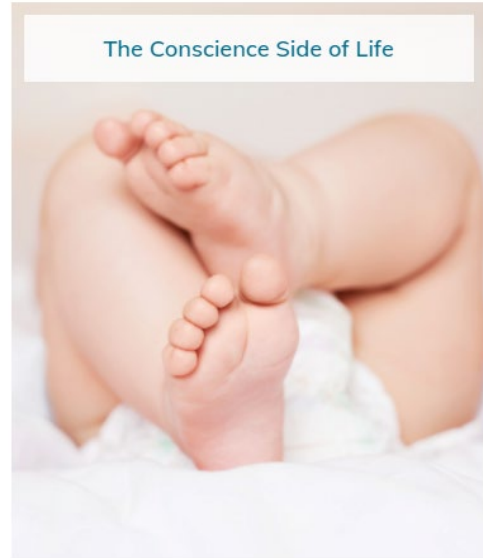
- Medical Directives
- Organ Donation
- Stem Cell / Cloning
- Substance Abuse
- Cancer
- Dementia / Alzheimer's Disease
- Immunizations
- COVID-19
- Other Health Issues
- Caregiving
 - Palliative Care
 - Hospice
 - Pain Management
- Decision Making
 - Resuscitation
 - Feeding / Hydration
 - Experimental Treatments

ETHICAL & SOCIAL ISSUES

- Ethics
 - Bioethics
 - Eugenics
- Church and State
- Euthanasia / Assisted Suicide
- Suicide
- Sexuality
 - Chastity
 - Homosexuality

RESOURCES

- Q & A
- Pro-Life 101
 - Abortion
 - Caregiving
 - Death & Dying
 - Euthanasia
 - Medical Decision Making
- Christian Medical Directives
- Clearly Caring Magazine
- Life Challenges Podcast
- Pregnancy Care Centers
- New Beginnings
- Position Statements
- Life Celebration Materials
- Events
 - Wine Tasting Night Out
 - Request A Speaker
- Educational Materials
- Store
- Videos



For Information go to: <https://christianliferesources.com>

THIS WEEK AT OUR SAVIOR

Sunday (1/30)	8:00 AM	Worship Service
	9:15 AM	Adult Bible Class
	9:15 AM	Sunday School
	9:15 AM	Teen Bible Study
	10:30 AM	Worship Service
Tuesday	10:30 AM	Senior Bible Study
Wednesday	8:30 AM	Children's Chapel
	4:00 PM	Public School Confirmation Class
Thursday	7:00 PM	Worship Service w/Communion
Saturday	7:00 AM	Men's Bible Study
Sunday (2/6)	8:00 AM	Worship Service w/Communion
	9:15 AM	Sunday School
	9:15 AM	Adult Bible Study
	9:15 AM	Teen Bible Study
	10:30 AM	Worship Service w/Communion
	11:45 AM	Call Meeting

Next Week's Readings

First Lesson	1 Kings 17:7-16
Second Lesson	Romans 10:18-11:6
Gospel	Luke 4:20-32
Psalm	Psalm 78

*LiveStream on Youtube Channel at 10:30am every Sunday
This service is also recorded for review after livestream.
Link on our website (see below).*

OUR SAVIOR EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

(Wisconsin Synod)

1332 Arrowhead Rd., Grafton, Wisconsin 53024
Church: 262-377-6363 oslcoffice@wi.rr.com
School: 262-377-7780 osls@oursaviorgrifton.org

Mark C. Wagner
Pastor
oslc@wi.rr.com

Nathan Schultz
Principal
nschultz@oursaviorgrifton.org

THIS WEEK'S WORSHIP SERVICE

"LIFE IS A GIFT FROM GOD"
Service Theme

PASTOR: Mark Wagner

ORGANIST: Ann Petermann

HYMNS: 228, 304:5,
304:6-7, 518, 490

FIRST LESSON:
Jeremiah 1:4-10

SECOND LESSON:
2 Timothy 3:14 – 4:5

GOSPEL LESSON:
Luke 4:38-44

THE SERMON:
2 Timothy 4:6-13

**"God's Word is
Tough on Life"**
