

**Our Savior Ev. Lutheran Church & School  
Grafton, WI  
January 21, 2024**

## A God – Lived Life

**Today's Focus:** In today's worship, the particular emphasis of the God-lived life is that of being a disciple, a learner, one who grows in God's Word. May God's Word cause us to crave that pure spiritual milk so that by it we grow up in our salvation.

**Welcome!**

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### SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Presiding:  
Organist:

Jonathan Fischer  
Robert Klug

Pastor: Jonathan Fischer  
Principal: Nathan Schultz  
Church Office: Sarah Smith  
School Office: Jill Klug

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*The 10:30 service is livestreamed for our members at home.*



**Our Savior**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

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Stand

We begin our worship in the same way we were baptized: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## **Confession**

Heavenly Father, you have given us indescribable riches in your Word. But we have failed to appreciate your Word as we should. We have not read or learned it as we should have and so we can be deceived. Forgive us and let your peace rule our lives.

**♪ May the peace of God my Father Rule my life in everything, That I may be calm to comfort Sick and sorrowing. (CW<sub>467:3</sub>)**

Dear Savior Jesus, we admit that by our sinful nature we lack complete confidence in the power of your Word which you give us to share with others. We easily give way to doubt or fail to fully trust that you speak with power in your Word. Forgive us and let your love fill our lives.

**♪ May the love of Jesus fill me As the waters fill the sea,  
Him exalting self abasing – This is victory. (CW<sub>467:4</sub>)**

O Holy Spirit, give us and all believers unity in your word. Teach us to discern what is truth and what is deception. Forgive us for not taking seriously your warnings about false teachers. Give us and all believers wisdom and unity through your Word, and live within us.

**♪ May his Spirit live within me As I seek the lost to win,  
And may they forget the channel, Seeing only him. (CW<sub>467:6</sub>)**

## **Absolution**

As a called servant of the Triune God, I announce to you his grace and forgiveness. On behalf of and by the command of our Savior Jesus Christ, I forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

♪ **May the mind of Christ my Savior Live in me from day to day,  
By his love and pow'r inspiring All I do or say.**

**May the Word of God dwell richly In my heart from hour to hour, So that all may  
see I triumph Only through his pow'r. (CW467:1-2)**

Let us pray:

Gracious Heavenly Father, our refuge and strength, pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them dedicated to and unwavering in your Word. Protect and comfort your believers in all temptations. Defend them against anything that threatens their trust in Jesus. Help us to live God-lived lives and grant us your peace; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

♪ **May I run the race before me, Strong and brave to face the foe,  
Looking only unto Jesus As I onward go. (CW467:5)**

## **The Word**

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, you lived a holy life in our place and inspire in us the desire to follow. Strengthen us by your Word that we crave that Word, hear it, learn it and speak it, living our lives as your disciples; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Be seated*

## First Reading

*2 Chronicles 34:1–2, 14–21, 29–33*

<sup>1</sup>Josiah was eight years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem thirty-one years. <sup>2</sup>He did what was right in the eyes of the LORD and followed the ways of his father David, not turning aside to the right or to the left.

<sup>14</sup>While they were bringing out the money that had been taken into the temple of the LORD, Hilkiah the priest found the Book of the Law of the LORD that had been given through Moses. <sup>15</sup>Hilkiah said to Shaphan the secretary, “I have found the Book of the Law in the temple of the LORD.” He gave it to Shaphan.

<sup>16</sup>Then Shaphan took the book to the king and reported to him: “Your officials are doing everything that has been committed to them. <sup>17</sup>They have paid out the money that was in the temple of the LORD and have entrusted it to the supervisors and workers.”

<sup>18</sup>Then Shaphan the secretary informed the king, “Hilkiah the priest has given me a book.” And Shaphan read from it in the presence of the king.

<sup>19</sup>When the king heard the words of the Law, he tore his robes. <sup>20</sup>He gave these orders to Hilkiah, Ahikam son of Shaphan, Abdon son of Micah, Shaphan the secretary and Asaiah the king’s attendant: <sup>21</sup>“Go and inquire of the LORD for me and for the remnant in Israel and Judah about what is written in this book that has been found. Great is the LORD’s anger that is poured out on us because those who have gone before us have not kept the word of the LORD; they have not acted in accordance with all that is written in this book.”

<sup>29</sup>Then the king called together all the elders of Judah and Jerusalem. <sup>30</sup>He went up to the temple of the LORD with the people of Judah, the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the priests and the Levites—all the people from the least to the greatest. He read in their

hearing all the words of the Book of the Covenant, which had been found in the temple of the LORD. <sup>31</sup>The king stood by his pillar and renewed the covenant in the presence of the LORD—to follow the LORD and keep his commands, statutes and decrees with all his heart and all his soul, and to obey the words of the covenant written in this book.

<sup>32</sup>Then he had everyone in Jerusalem and Benjamin pledge themselves to it; the people of Jerusalem did this in accordance with the covenant of God, the God of their ancestors.

<sup>33</sup>Josiah removed all the detestable idols from all the territory belonging to the Israelites, and he had all who were present in Israel serve the LORD their God. As long as he lived, they did not fail to follow the LORD, the God of their ancestors.

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

Stand

### Gospel Acclamation

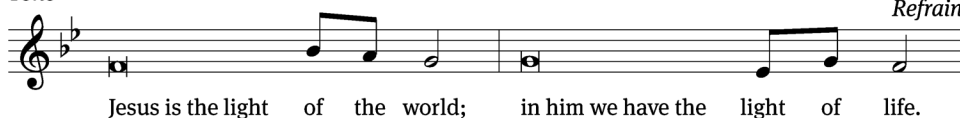
CW 161



*Refrain*



*Tone*



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## Gospel

Luke 18:9–17

<sup>9</sup>To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everyone else, Jesus told this parable: <sup>10</sup>“Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. <sup>11</sup>The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. <sup>12</sup>I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.’

<sup>13</sup>“But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, ‘God, have mercy on me, a sinner.’

<sup>14</sup>“I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

<sup>15</sup>People were also bringing babies to Jesus for him to place his hands on them. When the disciples saw this, they rebuked them. <sup>16</sup>But Jesus called the children to him and said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. <sup>17</sup>Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*Be seated*

**633 Speak, O Lord**

CW 633

## Sermon

1 Peter 1:22—2:3

<sup>22</sup>Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for each other, love one another deeply, from the heart. <sup>23</sup>For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God. <sup>24</sup>For,

“All people are like grass,  
and all their glory is like the flowers of the field;  
the grass withers and the flowers fall,  
<sup>25</sup>but the word of the Lord endures forever.”

And this is the word that was preached to you.

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind. <sup>2</sup>Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, <sup>3</sup>now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*



## 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*

## **Prayer of the Church**

Almighty God, Creator of this world, all good gifts come from you. We give you thanks for all that you have given to us—the bounties of the earth, fruitful labor, meaningful relationships, enjoyment of your gifts, and contentment.

**Hear us, good Lord.**

We confess that we have not always acknowledged you as the giver of all that is good. We confess that we have not always seen the good in all that you send into our lives. We confess that we have often complained instead of praised.

**Have mercy on us, O Lord.**

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world.

**We give you thanks, O Lord.**

Savior King, we give you thanks that you became man to set us free. You lived a perfect life in our place—living to please our Father, running in the path of his commands, and learning and loving his ways. You died the death we deserved. You rose to ensure our forgiveness and eternal life.

**We praise your name, O Lord.**

Holy Spirit, you brought and continue to strengthen faith in our hearts through the gospel in Word and sacrament. You send preachers and teachers who teach us your truth. You enlighten our minds, strengthen our hearts, and loosen our tongues to give you praise.

**Grant us your peace, O Lord.**

Give us the fervor of seeking you first and your kingdom, O God. Send us godly and faithful ministers and teachers of your Word. Grant us wisdom to daily meditate on your promises. Strengthen us to follow your will and commands. Grow our desire for your truth and your Word that we may better understand your love, your ways and your peace.

**We thank and praise you, eternal God, for all your goodness to us.**

**Amen.**

## **Offering**

*Our Savior's ministries are supported by the joyful gifts of her members. If you are not a member of Our Savior, please do not feel obligated to give an offering. It is our privilege and pleasure to serve you with God's Word today.*

*Please sign the friendship register and pass it down the pew.*

## **Challenge Card & Video**

# The Sacrament

*Stand*

## **Preface**

CW 165

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

## Holy, Holy, Holy

CW 167

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en-ly hosts:  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san - na, ho -  
san - na, ho-san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he,  
bless-ed is he, bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Ho-san - na, ho-san - na, ho-san - na in the high - est.

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

We give thanks to you, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace. Through him you made all things; in him you are well pleased. He is the incarnate Word, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. To fulfill your promises, he stretched out his hands on the cross and released from eternal death all who believe in you.

As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, we glorify and honor you, O God our Father, with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**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.**

## **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.

Be seated

## Distribution

*Out of sincere love for the truth of God's Word and precious souls, we practice closed Communion in our congregation. This has been the practice of Christians for centuries and is thoroughly scriptural. It neither questions the faith nor judges the heart of any individual, yet expects that there be full doctrinal agreement among those who commune. For this reason, we ask that only members of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) join us for the Lord's Supper today. If you have any questions please speak with Pastor Fischer after the service.*

**695 Take My Life and Let It Be**

CW 695

**874 Preserve Your Word, O Savior**

CW 874

*Stand*

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.**

**640 God's Word Is Our Great Heritage**

CW 640

## **Acknowledgments**

Setting One from Christian Worship

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