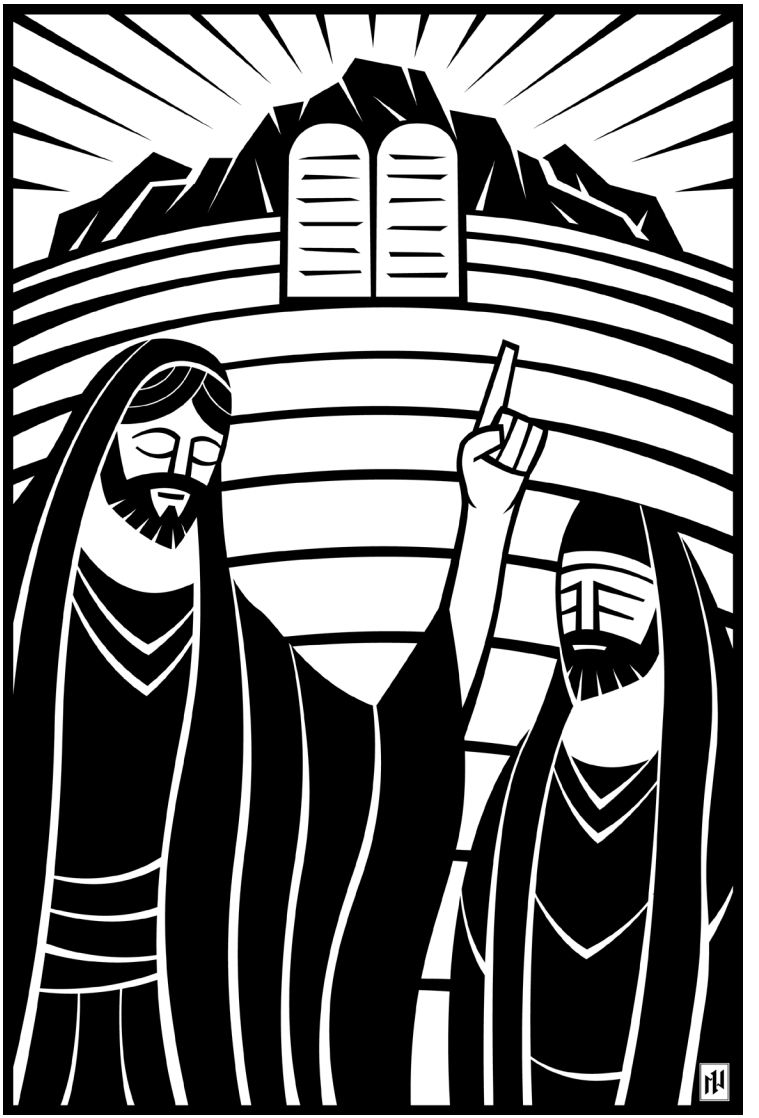


Our Savior Ev. Lutheran Church & School
Grafton, WI
November 15, 2026

Twenty-Fifth Sunday After Pentecost

Today's Focus:
The Beginning of the End--Continue to love everyone around you!
What does God want from us? He does not ask for anything new. He does not ask anything complicated. When it comes to pleasing God, he simply urges us to look at those around us. He desires that we love him above all things, by loving and serving our neighbors--even as the end of days draws nearer.

Stewardship from God's Word: Genesis 4:1-16
Behind Cain's sinful act was a heart not fully aware of God's goodness. Abel was happy to give an offering to the Lord because he knew how good God had been to him. Cain, on the other hand, did not fully recognize God's love in his life. Jealous that God received his brother's sacrifices with joy while rejecting his offerings, Cain murdered his brother Abel. May the love of God so fill our hearts that we will find true joy in gladly and gratefully serving the Lord.

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Presiding	Pastor Jonathan Fischer
Preacher	Jedidiah Mittelstadt
Organist:	Laura Rodrigue

Pastor: Jonathan Fischer	pastorfischer@oursaviorgrafton.org
Church Office: Lisa Skogstad	church@oursaviorgrafton.org
School Office: Jill Klug	school@oursaviorgrafton.org

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

Our Savior
LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

1332 Arrowhead Rd, Grafton, WI
OurSaviorGrafton.org
Church 262-377-6363
School 262-377-7780

Welcome!

In Adam We Have All Been One

CW 565

Stand

In the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Confession

CW 173

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.
Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.
Almighty and merciful Father,
we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.
We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.
We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.
We have done those things that we should not have done,
and we have not done those things that we should have done.
Have mercy on us, Lord!
Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,
according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

Silence for meditation and reflection

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.
Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy

CW 174

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.

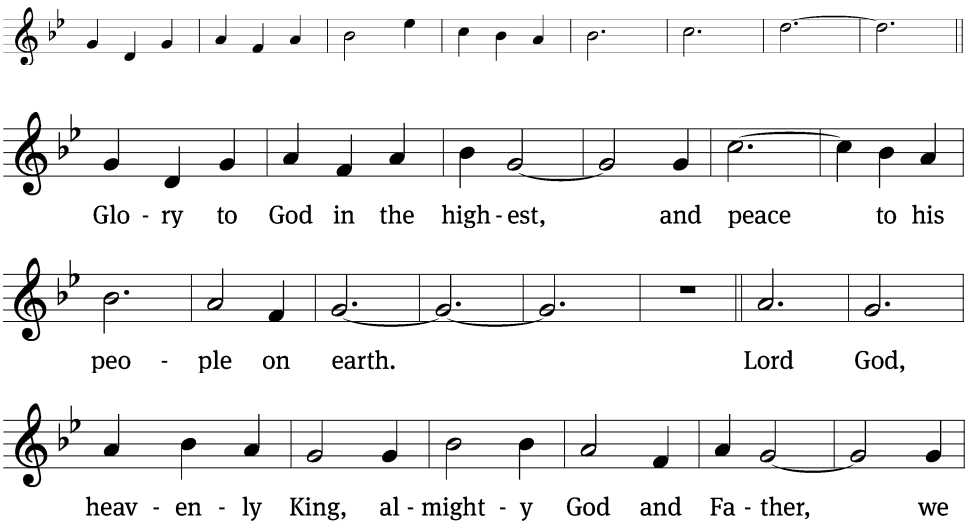
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

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

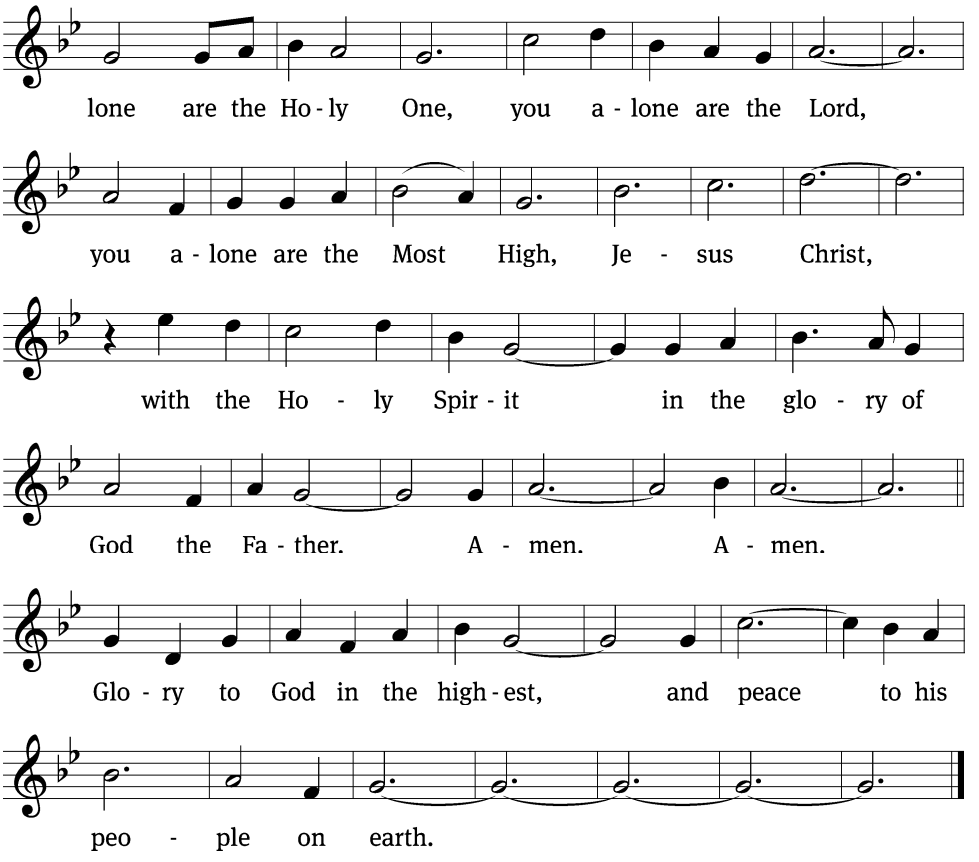
Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
Amen.

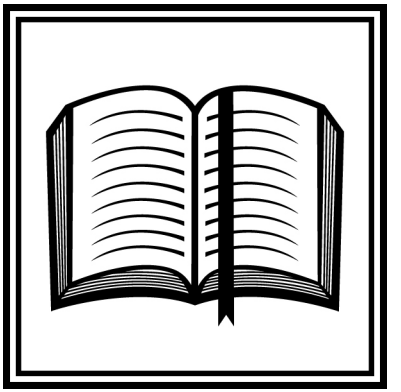
Glory to God in the Highest

CW 176




wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your
glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth.
Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. You are seat - ed at the
right hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer.
Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his
peo - ple on earth. For you a -


lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ,
with the Ho - ly Spir - it in the glo - ry of
God the Fa - ther. A - men. A - men.
Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his
peo - ple on earth.



The Word

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O God, you have commanded us to love you above all things and our neighbors as ourselves. Grant us the Spirit to think and do what is pleasing in your sight, that our faith in you may never waver and our love for one another may not falter; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

Genesis45:1–16

Mere obedience does not please God, only obedience that flows from faith and love.

[1]Adam made love to his wife Eve, and she became pregnant and gave birth to
Cain. She said, "With the help of the Lord I have brought forth a man." [2]Later she
gave birth to his brother Abel.

Now Abel kept flocks, and Cain worked the soil. [3]In the course of time Cain
brought some of the fruits of the soil as an offering to the Lord. [4]And Abel also
brought an offering—fat portions from some of the firstborn of his flock. The Lord
looked with favor on Abel and his offering, [5]but on Cain and his offering he did not
look with favor. So Cain was very angry, and his face was downcast.

[6]Then the Lord said to Cain, "Why are you angry? Why is your face downcast?
[7]If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right,
sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must rule over it."

[8]Now Cain said to his brother Abel, "Let's go out to the field." While they were
in the field, Cain attacked his brother Abel and killed him.

[9]Then the Lord said to Cain, "Where is your brother Abel?"

"I don't know," he replied. "Am I my brother's keeper?"

[10]The Lord said, "What have you done? Listen! Your brother's blood cries out to
me from the ground. [11]Now you are under a curse and driven from the ground, which
opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. [12]When you work
the ground, it will no longer yield its crops for you. You will be a restless wanderer
on the earth."

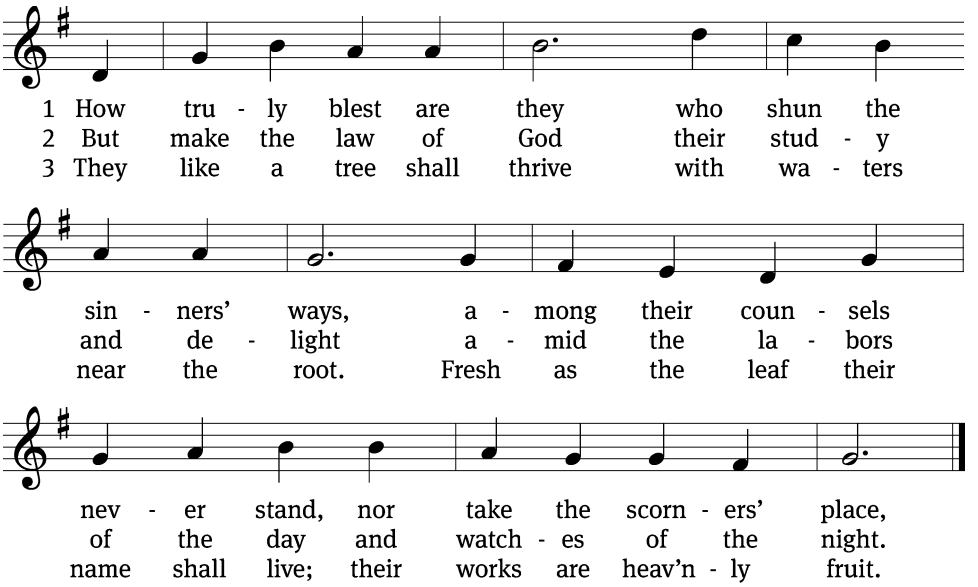
[13]Cain said to the Lord, "My punishment is more than I can bear. [14]Today you are
driving me from the land, and I will be hidden from your presence; I will be a restless
wanderer on the earth, and whoever finds me will kill me."

[15]But the Lord said to him, "Not so; anyone who kills Cain will suffer vengeance
seven times over." Then the Lord put a mark on Cain so that no one who found him
would kill him. [16]So Cain went out from the Lord's presence and lived in the land of
Nod, east of Eden.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

1B How Truly Blest Are They

Psalm 1B sts. 1–3



Second Reading

2 John 1–6

We walk in obedience to God when we love one another.

1 The elder,

To the lady chosen by God and to her children, whom I love in the truth—and not
I only, but also all who know the truth— 2 because of the truth, which lives in us and
will be with us forever:

3 Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and from Jesus Christ, the Father's
Son, will be with us in truth and love.

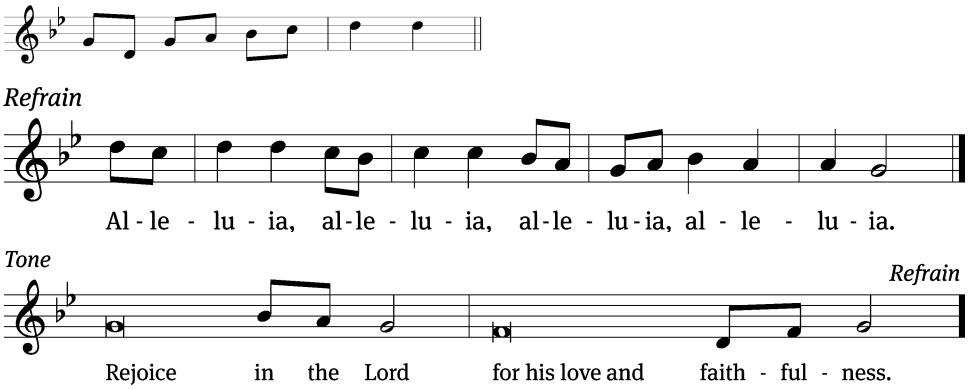
4 It has given me great joy to find some of your children walking in the truth, just
as the Father commanded us. 5 And now, dear lady, I am not writing you a new
command but one we have had from the beginning. I ask that we love one another.
6 And this is love: that we walk in obedience to his commands. As you have heard
from the beginning, his command is that you walk in love.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

CW 179



Gospel

Matthew 22:34–46

God sent a Savior, for even though we have the command to love, we do not always walk in love toward one another.

34 Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together. 35 One
of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: 36 "Teacher, which is the
greatest commandment in the Law?"

37 Jesus replied: " 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul
and with all your mind.' 38 This is the first and greatest commandment. 39 And the
second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' 40 All the Law and the Prophets
hang on these two commandments."

41 While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them, 42 "What do you
think about the Messiah? Whose son is he?"

"The son of David," they replied.

43 He said to them, "How is it then that David, speaking by the Spirit, calls him
'Lord'? For he says,

44 " 'The Lord said to my Lord:

"Sit at my right hand

until I put your enemies
under your feet.” ’
45If then David calls him ‘Lord,’ how can he be his son?” 46No one could say a word in
reply, and from that day on no one dared to ask him any more questions.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart

CW 817

Sermon

Genesis 4:1-16

Cain's Failure, God's Triumph

1. **God's patience with sinners**
2. **God's mercy for sinners**

Space is provided for you to take notes during the sermon.

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

Offering

Our Savior's ministries are supported by the joyful and generous 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. You may make your gift in the following ways:

Give In person: The offering is collected during each service.

Give with the App: Download the *Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement* app, search near me and select "Our Savior Evangelical Lutheran".

Give Online Oursaviorgrafton.org/give.

During the offering, please sign the friendship register located in each pew.
Or use the following QR code to log attendance online:

The Sacrament

Stand

Preface

CW 183

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.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock until he comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy

CW 184



Prayer of Thanksgiving

Lord God, you are worthy to receive thanks and praise from all people. You created the world and all who live in it, and in your mercy you saved us. We give thanks to you for the grace of your Son, Jesus Christ.

Though in very nature God, he took the nature of a servant and became obedient to death, even death on a cross. He offered himself as a sacrifice for sin and redeemed us from its curse and penalty. He rescued us from the terrors of death and restored eternal life with you. He conquered our enemies and gained for us the kingdom of grace and glory.

Bless us as we receive your Son's body and blood, and lead us to remember his suffering, death, and resurrection. Forgive our sins and fill us with the hope of new life in heaven. Hear our praise and receive our thanks as we worship you—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
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.

Jesus, Lamb of God

CW 186



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.

This Is My Will *CW 728*

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 you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet you have given us in this Sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit, help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, 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.

Be seated

Oh, How Good It Is *CW 731*

THIS WEEK AT OUR SAVIOR

Sunday (11/15)	8:00 a.m.	Worship and Communion
	9:30 a.m.	Bible Study & Sunday School
	10:30 a.m.	Worship and Communion
Tuesday (11/17)	10:30 a.m.	Tuesday Morning Bible Study
	7:00 p.m.	LWOS Life with Our Savior
Wednesday (11/18)	4:00 p.m.	Catechism Class
	6:00 p.m.	Choir Practice
	6:00 p.m.	Campus Ministry
Thursday (11/19)	7:00 p.m.	Worship
Saturday (11/21)	8:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study
Sunday (11/22)	8:00 a.m.	Worship
	9:30 a.m.	Bible Study & Sunday School
	10:30 a.m.	Worship

SERVING IN WORSHIP

	Thursday November 12th	**Early November 15th**	**Late November 15th**
Ushers	Team Whitford	Team 4E	Team 4L
Altar Asst	Stu Stein	Ben Raddatz Jed Mittelstadt	Jeff Samelson Jed Mittelstadt
Tech Team		Abby Behnke	Landyn Noble
Altar Guild	Dianne Robertson Hilary Vatter Katie Vatter	Dianne Robertson Hilary Vatter Katie Vatter	Dianne Robertson Hilary Vatter Katie Vatter
	Thursday November 19th	*Early November 22nd*	*Late November 22nd*
Ushers	Team Whitford	Team 4E	Team 4L
Altar Asst			
Tech Team		Ben Lederer	Simeon Fischer
Altar Guild	Dianne Robertson Hilary Vatter Katie Vatter	Dianne Robertson Hilary Vatter Katie Vatter	Dianne Robertson Hilary Vatter Katie Vatter

Know Christ

Our Savior Lutheran School's Board of Christian Education (BoCE) is an elected/appointed group whose purpose is to establish and review policies and activities which promote the school's mission, this year stated with the theme, *KNOW CHRIST.*

The BoCE meets monthly and current initiatives include actions to follow up last year's *Blueprint for Lutheran Schools'* recommendations for helping our school, with the Lord's blessings, to grow and improve our school. Staffing, especially calling a new permanent principal/teacher to lead these efforts, and the current
Self-study/Accreditation program stand out as priorities at this time.

Subcommittees have completed preliminary work for the accreditation, and preparations for an early 2027 on-site visit are now underway. We thank the many individuals who, to this point, have put in time and effort to complete the first phases of the program and especially, Jennifer Johnson who is coordinating our documentation. Finally, we thank the Lord for blessing us with a pastor who is capably serving as our principal this year and also providing us with a dedicated, quality teaching staff as well.

2026-2027 Board of Christian Education Members

Gary Johnson, Chairman and 6th grade OSLS parent

Andrew Bintz, OSLS PK4 and K5 parent

Jonathan Hahm, retired Lutheran school principal/teacher

Matthew Liebenow, OSLS PK4, grades 1,3,5 parent

Earl Monday, retired Lutheran high school and college professor, grandparent of OSLS grades 5,8 students and St. Matthew member representative

Acknowledgments

Setting Two from Christian Worship
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