

Our Savior Lutheran Church



Service of the Word and Sacrament

01 February 2026

4th Sunday After Epiphany

Worship: 10.00am

THE GATHERING

Welcome, Announcements, Prayer Requests

CALL TO WORSHIP

O LORD, who may abide in Your tent?

Who may dwell on Your holy hill?

***Those who walk blamelessly and do what is right
and speak the Truth from their heart;***

[Those] who do not slander with their tongue and do no evil
to their friends nor heap shame upon their neighbors;

***[Those] in whose eyes the wicked are despised
but who honor those who fear the LORD;***

[Those] who stand by their oath even to their hurt;

***[Those] who do not lend money at interest and do not take a bribe
against the innocent. Those who do these things shall never be moved.***

HYMN

"To God Be The Glory"

#031

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Let us pray...***Merciful God, You call blessed the poor in spirit, yet we confess our pride and self-reliance. We trust in our own strength instead of depending on Your grace. You call blessed those who mourn, yet we turn away from the pain of the world and from the sorrow of our own sin. We harden our hearts rather than repent. You call blessed the meek, yet we seek power, control, and recognition. We insist on our own way and fail to listen to others in love. You call blessed those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, yet we are satisfied with what is easy and comfortable. We neglect justice, ignore the needs of our neighbors, and settle for less than Your will. You call blessed the merciful, yet we withhold forgiveness***

and cling to resentment and judgment. You call blessed the pure in heart, yet our motives are mixed and our devotion divided. You call blessed the peacemakers, yet we contribute to division through our words, our silence, and our fear. You call blessed those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, yet we shrink back from faithful witness when it costs us something. Forgive us, O God. By Your Spirit, turn us again to You. Create in us clean hearts, and shape our lives according to the way of Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

ABSOLUTION/ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the **Good News!** The God who calls us to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly is the same God showing mercy beyond measure. Trusting in God's steadfast love, believing in Christ Jesus as Lord and guided by the power of the Holy Spirit, we are freed to walk humbly, to love mercy, and to do justice in the joy of Christ's peace. In the name of Jesus Christ, you may be assured that you are forgiven. **AMEN**

Gloria patri

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost! As it was in the Beginning, is now and ever shall be; world without end! Amen. Amen

Holy Scripture

RESPONSIVE READING - *Micah 6:1-8*

Hear what the LORD says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice.

Hear, you mountains, the case of the LORD, and you enduring foundations of the Earth, for the LORD has a case against His people, and He will contend with Israel.

"People, what have I done to you? How have I wearied you? Answer! ***I brought you from the land of Egypt and redeemed you from the house of slavery, and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam.***

O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the LORD."

"With what shall I come before the LORD and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come with burnt offerings, with calves a year old?

Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, and rivers of oil?

Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"

He told you, O mortal, what is good; what does the LORD require of you? ***To do justice and to love kindness and to walk humbly with our God...***

READING FROM THE EPISTLES -1 *Corinthians 1:18-31*

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. For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the Power of God and the Wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength. Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to abolish things that are, so that

no one might boast in the presence of God. In contrast, God is why you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

GOSPEL LESSON - Matthew 5:1-12

When Jesus saw the crowds, He went up the mountain, and after He sat down, His disciples came to Him and He began to speak and taught them, saying:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of Heaven.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the Earth.

*"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled.*

"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

*"Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness,
for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.*

*"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter
all kinds of evil against you falsely on My account.*

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in Heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

This is the Word of the Lord!
Thanks be to God!

SERMON

"Blessed Are The Foolish..."

Pastor Larry

CONFESSION OF FAITH

We believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of All...acts faithfully toward the world, delivering, sustaining, and calling a people to live in covenant love. We believe the Lord requires of us not empty offerings or outward religion, but to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with Him, Whom we came to know through Jesus of Nazareth, His only begotten Son, constantly guided by their Holy Spirt. We confess that our life together is grounded in God's steadfast mercy. We believe that the message of the Cross is the Power of God for those who are being saved. Though it appears foolish to the world, in Jesus Christ crucified, God reveals True Wisdom, True Strength, and True Salvation. We believe that God chooses what is weak to shame the strong, what is despised to bring life and hope to the world; therefore, none may boast except in the Lord. We believe Jesus has become for us our Righteousness, our Sanctification, and our Redemption. Therefore, our life, our faith, and our witness rest not in human achievement, but in God's grace alone. Trusting in this grace, we seek to live as God's people: walking humbly, loving mercy, doing justice, and boasting only in the Cross of Christ. AMEN

OFFERING, DOXOLOGY, PRAYER

The Eucharist

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give Him thanks and praise...

Let us raise to Him in great joy and love singing:

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and 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. AMEN.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION, COMMUNION, PRAYER

HYMN

"Oh, How I love Jesus"

#092

BENEDICTION & SENDING

Go in Peace and Serve the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

LET THERE BE PEACE ON EARTH

*Let there be peace on Earth and let it begin with me; Let there be peace on Earth, Peace that was meant to be; With God as our Father, brothers all are we;
Let me walk with my brothers in perfect harmony!*

*Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now; With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow; To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally
Let there be peace on Earth and let it begin with me!*

Weekly Activities

Wednesdays
Saturday, 07 January
Sunday, 08 February
Sunday, 08 February
Friday, 13 February

Office Hours, 10.00am - 2.00pm
Ladies lunch: 1.00pm, Bamboo Fusion
Council Meeting after service
Bible Study after Service
Movie Night, 6.30pm
"Woodlawn"

*Pastor Larry is ALWAYS available by appointment...
941-763-9975 Pastor Larry Cell*

CHURCH COUNCIL

[meets every 2nd Sunday]

President
Vice President
Treasurer
Secretary
Council Member

Dot Smith
Jeanne Keyser
Dean Carson
Andrea Yerger
Bob Burchard; Bubbles Burrese
Ellie Selk; Pat Spence; Fran Thibideau

SERVING TODAY

Reader
Offering

Dean Carson
Bob Burchard

REMINDER:

For "Jesus Loves You Ministry":

All of February we will be collecting
UNDER WEAR [and] anything CAMO