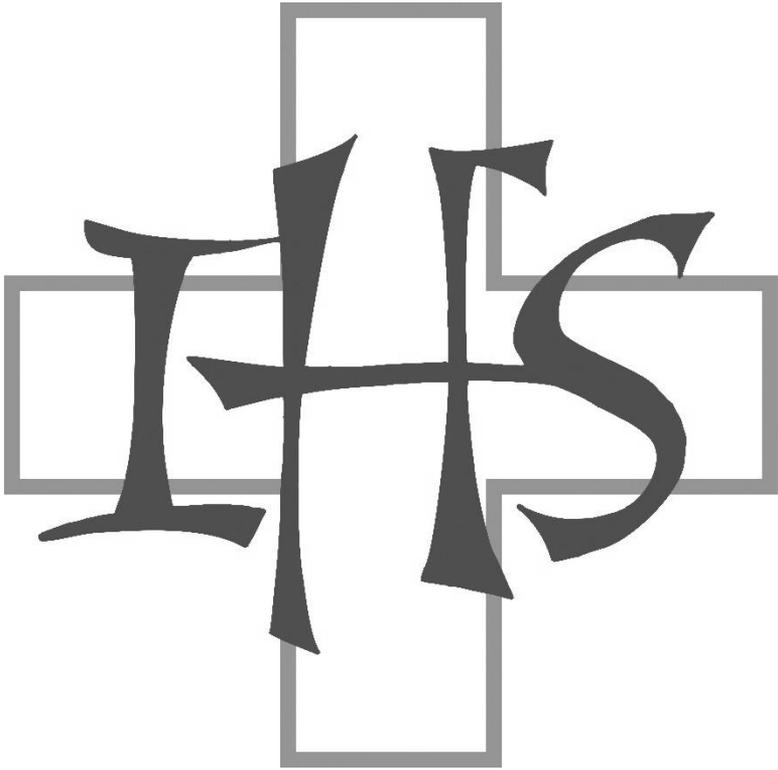


The Lutheran Church of the Savior

A Community of Faith: *Centered in Christ – Called to Serve*



And when Jesus was baptized, ... behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; and behold, a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased." *Matthew 3:16–17*

Order of Worship

January 11, 2026 10:45 AM

The Lutheran Church of the Savior

426 Davis Road - Bedford, MA 01730

church@lcsavior.org 781-275-6013

<https://www.lcsavior.org>

Rev. Nils Niemeier, Pastor

email: pastor@lcsavior.org

Communion Theology and Practice

Welcome! In Holy Communion, our Lord invites us to eat and drink His true Body and Blood for the forgiveness of sins and eternal life (Matthew 26:26-28). In preparation for this sacrament, each communicant should examine him or herself and come to the Lord's Table seeking these things. As the Small Catechism teaches, "a person is truly worthy and well prepared who has faith in these words: 'Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.'" We likewise take seriously St. Paul's admonition in 1 Corinthians 11:27-30 regarding recognizing the Lord's Body and Blood in this sacrament and receiving it worthily. We also believe that Holy Communion is a profession of confessional unity in which all who commune at the Lord's Table are united in their confession and faith (1 Corinthians 11:26).

Therefore, we practice what is often called "closed communion," in which we invite those Christians who have been baptized and instructed in the Christian faith, who share in the same confession of faith as the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and who believe that Jesus offers here His true Body and Blood, in, with, and under the elements of bread and wine, for the strengthening of their bodies and souls, cleansing them of their old nature and giving them new life, to join us at His table.

If you are new here, have not been baptized, or have not received instruction with regard to the teachings of the Lutheran Church regarding the Lord's Supper, have doubts about the nature of the sacrament, or have questions, please introduce yourself to our pastor before the service. He will be happy to discuss these things with you and help determine whether or not you should commune. If you do not wish to commune, have not been baptized, or have not been instructed in the Christian faith, we invite you to come receive a blessing. When you come to the altar, please come forward with your arms crossed to indicate that you would like the pastor to bless you. If you would like to learn more about the Christian faith or wish to be baptized, please speak to our pastor!

The Baptism of Our Lord

Divine Service

Welcome

Stand

Song

Lord, I Lift Your Name on High

Founds

Verse, Chorus, Verse, Chorus x2

VERSE

Lord, I lift your name_____ on high,
Lord, I love to sing_____Your prais- es; I'm so glad You're in_____ my
life, I'm so glad You came_____ to save_____ us.

CHORUS

You came from heav- en to earth_____ to show_____ the way,_____
_____ from the earth_____ to the cross_____ my debt_____ to pay;_____
_____ From the cross_____ to the grave,_____ from the grave_____ to the sky._____
_____ Lord, I lift Your name_____ on_____ high._____

Fine

Confession and Absolution

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Holy Lord, as we stand in your presence, we are aware of our sins of thought, word, and action.

C **We have not lived our lives according to your will.**

P We have failed to live up to your expectations.

C **We all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.**

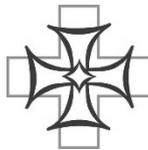
Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P Hear us now, O Lord, as we confess our sins to you:

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**



Song

Thy Word

Grant, Smith

Chorus x2, Verse 1, Chorus x2, Verse 2, Chorus x2



Thy Word is a lamp un-to my feet and a light un-to my path.



1. When I feel a-fraid, think I've lost my way, still You're there right be-
 2. I will not for-get your love for me, and yet my heart for - ev - er is



side me. And noth-ing will I fear as long as You are near.
 wan - der-ing. Je - sus, be my guide and hold me to your side; and

D.C.



Please be near me to the end.
 I will love You to the end.

Service of the Word

Psalm

Psalm 29; antiphon: v. 3

A Together, we speak Psalm 29 responsively:

³*The voice of the LORD is over the waters;
 the God of glory thunders, the LORD, over many waters.*

¹Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings,
 ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

²**Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;
 worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness.**

³The voice of the LORD is over the waters;
 the God of glory thunders, the LORD, over many waters.

⁴**The voice of the LORD is powerful;
 the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.**

⁵The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars;
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon.

**⁶He makes Lebanon to skip like a calf,
and Sirion like a young wild ox.**

⁷The voice of the LORD
flashes forth flames of fire.

**⁸The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

⁹The voice of the LORD makes the deer give birth
and strips the forests bare,
and in his temple all cry, "Glory!"

**¹⁰The LORD sits enthroned over the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.**

¹¹May the LORD give strength to his people!
May the LORD bless his people with peace!

**C Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

*³The voice of the LORD is over the waters;
the God of glory thunders, the LORD, over many waters.*

Collect of the Day

P Let us pray.

Father in heaven, at the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River You proclaimed Him Your beloved Son and anointed Him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized in His name faithful in their calling as Your children and inheritors with Him of everlasting life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 42:1–9

¹Behold my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
I have put my Spirit upon him;
he will bring forth justice to the nations.
²He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice,
or make it heard in the street;
³a bruised reed he will not break,
and a faintly burning wick he will not quench;
he will faithfully bring forth justice.
⁴He will not grow faint or be discouraged
till he has established justice in the earth;
and the coastlands wait for his law.
⁵Thus says God, the LORD,
who created the heavens and stretched them out,
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,
who gives breath to the people on it
and spirit to those who walk in it:
⁶"I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness;
I will take you by the hand and keep you;
I will give you as a covenant for the people,
a light for the nations,
⁷to open the eyes that are blind,
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
from the prison those who sit in darkness.
⁸I am the LORD; that is my name;
my glory I give to no other,
nor my praise to carved idols.
⁹Behold, the former things have come to pass,
and new things I now declare;
before they spring forth
I tell you of them."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

Romans 6:1–11

¹What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? ²By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? ³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷For one who has died has been set free from sin. ⁸Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. ¹¹So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Holy Gospel

Matthew 3:13–17

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the third chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹³Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" ¹⁵But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. ¹⁶And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; ¹⁷and behold, a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Nicene Creed

**☩ I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.**

Song

King Of The Ages

Sadler

Verse, Chorus, Verse, Chorus x2

VERSE

$\text{♩} = 108$ F B \flat 2 C F B \flat 2 C

Cre - a - tor, Re - deem - er, the Lamb for sin - ners slain,

F B \flat 2 C F B \flat Csus C

Mes - si - ah, our Sav - ior, Je - sus, we lift up Your name;

Gm7 F/A B \flat Dm Csus C

Most Ho - ly, most wor - thy, all men will pro - claim.

CHORUS

F B \flat 2 C F B \flat Dm7 C/E F

Wor - ship and prais - es to the King of the Ag - es,

B \flat C Dm7 Gm7 B \flat maj7 Csus C

pow - er and maj - es - ty to the Lamb on the throne;

F Bb2 C F Bb2 Dm7

Hon - or and glo - ry to our God, The Al -

C/E F Bb C Dm7

might - y, now and for - ev - er You reign,

Gm7 Dm7 Bb Csus F

You are the King of the Ag - es.

Sermon



Prayers of the Church Family and the Lord's Prayer

- L** Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

The response after each petition is as follows:

- L** Lord, in your mercy,
C hear our prayer.
C Amen.

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C **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.

Benediction

P The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **Amen.**

Song

You Never Let Go

Becker, Handt, Hanson

Verse 1, Chorus 1, Verse 2, Chorus 2, Chorus 1, Bridge x2, Chorus 1 x2, Tag

1. E - ven though I

1 Verse

walk through the val - ley of the shad - ow of death Your
(2.) light that is com - ing for a heart that holds on; a

per - fect love is cast - ing out fear. And e - ven when I'm
glo - rious light be - yond all com - pare. And there will be an



caught in the mid-dle of the storms of this life, I
end to these trou-bles, but un - til that day comes we'll



won't turn back I know you are near. And I will fear no e -
live to know You here on the earth.



vil, for my God is with me. And if my God is with



me whom then shall I fear, whom then shall I fear?



2 Chorus

Oh, no, You nev-er let go through the calm and through the storm.



Oh, no, You nev-er let go, ev - 'ry high and ev - 'ry low.



1 - To Verse 2

Oh, no, You nev-er let go, Lord, You nev-er let go of me



2 - Repeat to Chorus

2. And I can see the Lord, You nev-er let go of me. You



keep on lov-ing and You nev-er let go. Sing-ing

continued on next page

3 - to Bridge

Lord, Younev-er let go of me. Yes, I can see a

3 Bridge

light that is com-ing for the heart that holds on. And there will be an

end to these trou-bles, but un - til that day comes

still I will praise You, still I will praise You,

2a Chorus

Oh, no, Younev-er let go through the calm and through the storm.

Oh, no, Younev-er let go, ev - 'ry high and ev - 'ry low.

Oh, no, Younev-er let go Lord, Younev-er let go of me.

Lord, Younev-er let go of me.



Acknowledgments

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Resources for Meditation this Week

Introit

Psalm 2:7–11, 12c; antiphon: Isaiah 42:1a

Behold my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen, in whom my soul delights.

I will tell of the decree:

The LORD said to me, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you.
Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage,
and the ends of the earth your possession.

You shall break them with a rod of iron
and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel."

Now therefore, O kings, be wise;
be warned, O rulers of the earth.

Serve the LORD with fear,
and rejoice with trembling,
for his wrath is quickly kindled.

Blessèd are all who take refuge in him.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Behold my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen, in whom my soul delights.



SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

18 January 2026

Readings

Isaiah 49:1–7

1 Corinthians 1:1–9

John 1:29–42a

God Reveals His Glory in Christ and His Cross

"The LORD, the Redeemer of Israel," calls forth *"his Holy One"* (Is. 49:7), Jesus, the Christ, *"from the womb"* of His mother (Is. 49:1). The incarnate Son of God is revealed as the Savior, not only for Israel but also *"as a light for the nations,"* whose salvation reaches *"to the end of the earth"* (Is. 49:6). John came *"baptizing with water"* (John 1:31) to reveal Jesus as *"the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world"* (John 1:29), and who glorifies His God and Father by His atoning sacrifice upon the cross. When Jesus was baptized in the waters of the Jordan, the Holy Spirit descended *"from heaven like a dove"* and *"remained on him"* (John 1:32). By our Baptism, we are anointed by the same Spirit, adopted by God the Father, and *"called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ"* (1 Cor. 1:9). Therefore, we *"are not lacking in any gift,"* but we can trust Him who promises to sustain us to the end, *"guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ"* (1 Cor. 1:7–8).

