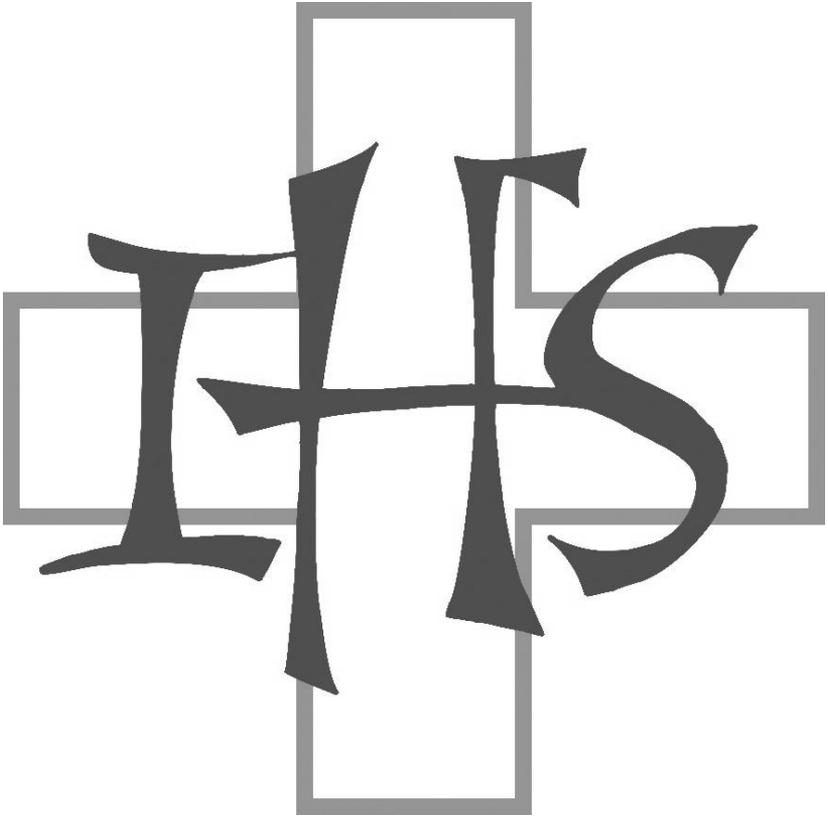


The Lutheran Church of the Savior

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



Order of Worship

January 18, 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

Introit

Psalm 19:1–4a, b; antiphon: v. 14

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be
acceptable in your sight,

O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

The heavens declare the glory of God,
and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.

Day to day pours out speech,
and night to night reveals knowledge.

There is no speech, nor are there words,
whose voice is not heard.

Their measuring line goes out through all the earth, and their words to
the end of the world.

In them he has set a tent for the sun.

*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.*

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be
acceptable in your sight,

O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

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

Communion Theology and Practice

Please see our statement of Communion Theology and Practice on the
back page of the worship bulletin.

*If you are a visitor with us this morning and wish to receive the
Lord's Supper, please speak with the pastor before the service.*

Thank you.

Second Sunday after the Epiphany

Divine Service, Setting Two

Welcome

Stand

Christ Is the World's Redeemer

LSB 539



1 Christ is the world's Re - deem - er, The lov - er of the pure,
2 Christ has our host sur - round - ed With clouds of mar - tyrs bright,
3 Down through the realm of dark - ness He strode in vic - to - ry,
△ 4 Glo - ry to God the Fa - ther, The un - be - got - ten One,



The font of heav'n-ly wis - dom, Our trust and hope se - cure,
Who wave their palms in tri - umph And fire us for the fight.
And at the hour ap - point - ed He rose tri - um - phant-ly.
All hon - or be to Je - sus, His sole - be - got - ten Son,



The ar - mor of His sol - diers, The Lord of earth and sky,
Then Christ the cross as - cend - ed To save a world un - done
And now, to heav'n as - cend - ed, He sits up - on the throne
And to the Ho - ly Spir - it— The per - fect Trin - i - ty.



Our health while we are liv - ing, Our life when we shall die.
And, suf - f'ring for the sin - ful, Our full re - demp - tion won.
Whence He had ne'er de - part - ed, His Fa - ther's and His own.
Let all the worlds give an - swer: A - men! So let it be.

Text: attr. Columba, 521–597; tr. Duncan MacGregor, 1854–1923, alt. Tune: Irish

Text and Tune: Public domain

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.**

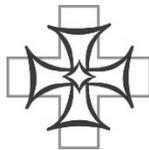
- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Kneel/Stand

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

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- 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.**



Stand

Service of the Word

Psalm

Psalm 40:1–11; antiphon: v. 3



A Together, we sing Psalm 40 responsively:

³*He put a new song in my mouth,
a song of praise | to our God.*
Many will see and fear,
and put their trust | in the LORD.*

¹I waited patiently | for the LORD;*
he inclined to me and | heard my cry.

**²He drew me up from the pit of destruction,
out of the | miry bog,*
and set my feet upon a rock,
making my | steps secure.**

³He put a new song in my mouth,
a song of praise | to our God.*
Many will see and fear,
and put their trust | in the LORD.

**⁴Blessèd is the man who makes
the | LORD his trust,*
who does not turn to the proud,
to those who go astray af- | ter a lie!**

⁵You have multiplied, O LORD my God,
your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us;
none can com- | pare with you!*
I will proclaim and tell of them,
yet they are more than | can be told.

**⁶Sacrifice and offering you have not desired,
but you have given me an | open ear.*
Burnt offering and sin offering
you have | not required.**

⁷Then I said, "Behold, | I have come;*"
in the scroll of the book it is writ- | ten of me:

**⁸I desire to do your will, | O my God;*
your law is with- | in my heart."**

⁹I have told the glad news of deliverance
in the great congre- | gation;*
behold, I have not restrained my lips,
as you know, | O LORD.

**¹⁰I have not hidden your deliverance within my heart;
I have spoken of your faithfulness and your sal- | vation;*
I have not concealed your steadfast love and your faithfulness
from the great congre- | gation.**

¹¹As for you, O LORD, you will not restrain
your mer- | cy from me;*
your steadfast love and your faithfulness will
ever pre- | serve me!

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

³*He put a new song in my mouth,
a song of praise | to our God.*
Many will see and fear,
and put their trust | in the LORD.*

Kyrie

LSB 168

A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

A 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.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

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



C Lord, have mer - cy.

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



C A - men.

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 170

A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.



C Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and



Fa - ther: We wor - ship You, we give You thanks, we



praise You for Your glo - ry. 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. 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.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, who governs all things in heaven and on earth, mercifully hear the prayers of Your people and grant us Your peace through all our days; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C A - men.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 49:1–7

¹Listen to me, O coastlands,
and give attention, you peoples from afar.
The LORD called me from the womb,
from the body of my mother he named my name.
²He made my mouth like a sharp sword;
in the shadow of his hand he hid me;
he made me a polished arrow;
in his quiver he hid me away.
³And he said to me, “You are my servant,
Israel, in whom I will be glorified.”
⁴But I said, “I have labored in vain;
I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;
yet surely my right is with the LORD,
and my recompense with my God.”
⁵And now the LORD says,
he who formed me from the womb to be his servant,
to bring Jacob back to him;
and that Israel might be gathered to him—
for I am honored in the eyes of the LORD,
and my God has become my strength—
⁶he says:
“It is too light a thing that you should be my servant
to raise up the tribes of Jacob
and to bring back the preserved of Israel;
I will make you as a light for the nations,
that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.”
⁷Thus says the LORD,
the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One,
to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nation,
the servant of rulers:
“Kings shall see and arise;
princes, and they shall prostrate themselves;
because of the LORD, who is faithful,
the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:1–9

¹Paul, called by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus, and our brother Sosthenes,

²To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge—⁶even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you—⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, ⁸who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**



Stand

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 173

C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
 You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

John 1:29–42a

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

²⁹The next day [John] saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" ³⁰This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me.' ³¹I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel." ³²And John bore witness: "I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. ³³I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' ³⁴And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God."

³⁵The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples, ³⁶and he looked at Jesus as he walked by and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God!" ³⁷The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸Jesus turned and saw them following and said to them, "What are you seeking?" And they said to him, "Rabbi" (which means Teacher), "where are you staying?" ³⁹He said to them, "Come and you will see." So they came and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day, for it was about the tenth hour. ⁴⁰One of the two who heard John speak and followed Jesus was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. ⁴¹He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which means Christ). ⁴²He brought him to Jesus.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

**☩ 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.**

The Only Son from Heaven

LSB 402



1 The on - ly Son from heav - en, Fore - told by an - cient seers,
2 O time of God ap - point - ed, O bright and ho - ly morn!
3 O Lord, our hearts a - wak - en To know and love You more,
△ 4 O Fa - ther, here be - fore You With God the Ho - ly Ghost



By God the Fa - ther giv - en, In hu - man form ap - pears.
He comes, the king a - noint - ed, The Christ, the vir - gin - born,
In faith to stand un - shak - en, In spir - it to a - dore,
And Je - sus, we a - dore You, O pride of an - gel host:



No sphere His light con - fin - ing, No star so bright - ly
Grim death to van - quish for us, To o - pen heav'n be -
That we, through this world mov - ing, Each glimpse of heav - en
Be - fore You mor - tals low - ly Cry, "Ho - ly, ho - ly,



shin - ing As He, our Morn - ing Star.
fore us And bring us life a - gain.
prov - ing, May reap its full - ness there.
ho - ly, O bless - ed Trin - i - ty!"

Text (sts. 1–3): Elisabeth Cruciger, c. 1500–1535; (sts. 1–3): tr. Arthur T. Russell, 1806–74, alt.; (st. 4): Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978. Tune: Eyn Enchiridion oder Handbüchlein, 1524, Erfurt
Text and Tune: Public domain

Sermon

Stand

Prayer of the Church

- 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:

- Lord, in your mercy,
- hear our prayer.**

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 179

- 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.**

Sit

Lamb of God, Pure and Holy

LSB 434



1 Lamb of God, pure and ho - ly, Who on the cross didst suf - fer,
2 Lamb of God, pure and ho - ly, Who on the cross didst suf - fer,
3 Lamb of God, pure and ho - ly, Who on the cross didst suf - fer,



Ev - er pa - tient and low - ly, Thy - self to scorn didst of - fer.
Ev - er pa - tient and low - ly, Thy - self to scorn didst of - fer.
Ev - er pa - tient and low - ly, Thy - self to scorn didst of - fer.



All sins Thou bor - est for us, Else had de - spair reigned o'er us:
All sins Thou bor - est for us, Else had de - spair reigned o'er us:
All sins Thou bor - est for us, Else had de - spair reigned o'er us:



Have mer - cy on us, O Je - sus! O Je - sus!
Have mer - cy on us, O Je - sus! O Je - sus!
Thy peace be with us, O Je - sus! O Je - sus!

Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941. Text and tune: Nicolaus Decius, c. 1485–after 1546
Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Two from Lutheran Service Book

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Resources for Meditation this Week

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).

Readings

Isaiah 9:1–4

1 Corinthians 1:10–18

Matthew 4:12–25

The Lord Manifests His Glory through His Office of the Holy Ministry

By His coming in the flesh and by His preaching and miracles, the Lord Jesus shines the light of His Gospel upon *“the people who walked in darkness”* and *“who dwelt in a land of deep darkness”* (Is. 9:2). He also has *“multiplied the nation”* and *“increased its joy”* (Is. 9:3) by calling disciples to Himself from the ends of the earth. For this purpose, He calls Peter and Andrew, with James and John, to follow Him and be *“fishers of men”* (Matt. 4:19). As Jesus did, they also go forth *“proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people”* (Matt. 4:23). They preach the foolishness of the cross of Christ as the very power and wisdom of God. This word and preaching of the cross divides *“those who are perishing”* from *“us who are being saved”* (1 Cor. 1:18), but it unites the Church, the one Body of Christ, *“in the same mind and the same judgment”* (1 Cor. 1:10).



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!