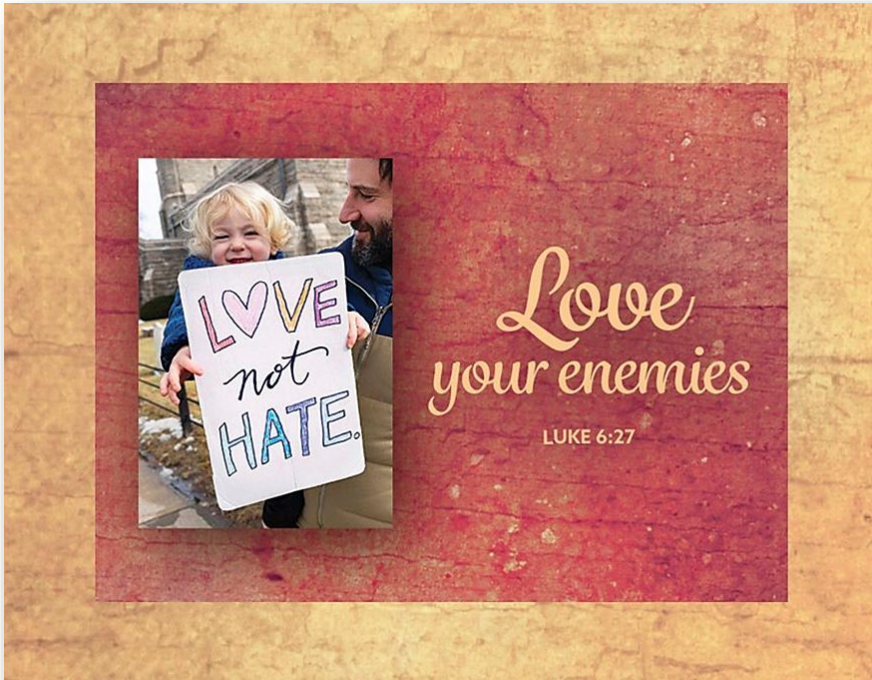


Sunday, February 23rd, 2025

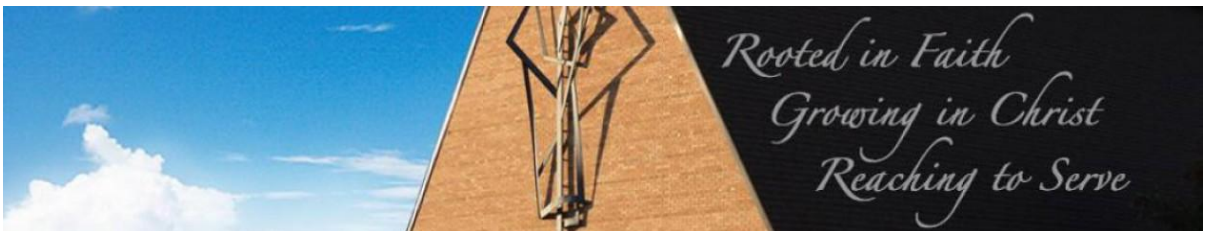
Seventh Sunday after Epiphany



Our Savior's Lutheran Church

Virginia, MN

Pastor Liz Cheney



WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING HYMN

Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us

ELW 707

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life. **Amen.**

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,

you speak blessing and compassion into the world.

Forgive us for the ways we act

with judgment, cruelty, or indifference.

We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice;

we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another.

Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp.

Show us your lovingkindness.

Restore our hearts and repair your world,

that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.

God proclaims these words of assurance:

"Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine."

In † Christ, you are forgiven.

In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy,

live anew as beloved children of God. **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

When a Star is Shining

ACS 915



1 When a star is shin-ing o - ver east - ern hills,
2 Where the world is wait-ing for an un - known day,
3 Lead us on, O Day - star, in the qui - et night;



when the air is si - lent, and the clam - or stills,
where a voice for - got - ten cries, "Pre - pare the way!"
guide us through the shad - ow with your gen - tle light;



when the night is wait-ing, and the old hopes rise,
Where an earth - ly pow - er makes the heart turn cold,
show us in a man - ger our re - demp - tion's sign;



then the time has rip - ened and the heart grows wise.
there the gifts are of - fered— in - cense, myrrh, and gold.
bring us to a morn - ing where the prom - ise shines.



Lead us on, lead us on, to a morn - ing where the



prom - ise shines. Lead us on, lead us on,



to a morn - ing where the prom - ise shines.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993
Music: WHERE THE PROMISE SHINES, Bob Moore, b. 1962
Text © 1995 GIA Publications, Inc., giapublish.com. All rights reserved.
Music © 2001 GIA Publications, Inc., giapublish.com. All rights reserved.

PRAYER OF THE DAY O Lord Jesus, make us instruments of your peace, that where there is hatred, we may sow love, where there is injury, pardon, and where there is despair, hope. Grant, O divine master, that we may seek to console, to understand, and to love in your name, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING: Genesis 45:3-11, 15

³ Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

⁴ Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵ And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶ For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷ God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸ So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹ Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. ¹⁰ You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹ I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.’”

¹⁵ And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40

¹ Do not be provoked by evildoers; do not be jealous of those who do wrong.

² **For they shall soon wither like the grass,
and like the green grass fade away.**

³ Put your trust in the LORD and do good;
dwell in the land and find safe pasture.

⁴ **Take delight in the LORD,
who shall give you your heart's desire.**

⁵ Commit your way to the LORD; put your trust in the LORD,
and see what God will do.

⁶ **The LORD will make your vindication as clear as the light
and the justice of your case like the noonday sun.**

⁷ Be still before the LORD and wait patiently.

Do not be provoked by the one who prospers, the one who succeeds in evil schemes.

⁸ **Refrain from anger, leave rage alone;
do not be provoked; it leads only to evil.**

⁹ For evildoers shall be cut off,
but those who hope in the LORD shall possess the land.

¹⁰ **In a little while the wicked shall be no more;
even if you search out their place, they will not be there.**

¹¹ But the lowly shall possess the land;
they will delight in abundance of peace.

³⁹ **But the deliverance of the righteous comes from you, O LORD;
you are their stronghold in time of trouble.**

⁴⁰ You, O LORD, will help them and rescue them;
you will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them, because in you they seek refuge.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

³⁵ But someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" ³⁶ Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. ³⁷ And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. ³⁸ But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

⁴² So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. ⁴³ It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. ⁴⁴ It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. ⁴⁵ Thus it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. ⁴⁶ But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. ⁴⁷ The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. ⁴⁸ As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. ⁴⁹ Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven.

⁵⁰ What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Refrain



Lead us on, lead us on, to a morn-ing where the
prom-ise shines. Lead us on, lead us on,
to a morn - ing where the prom - ise shines.

GOSPEL: Luke 6:27-38. The Holy Gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] ²⁷ "But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸ bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹ If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰ Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. ³¹ Do to others as you would have them do to you.

³² "If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³ If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴ If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵ But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶ Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

³⁷ "Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸ give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

Pastor Liz Cheney

HYMN OF THE DAY

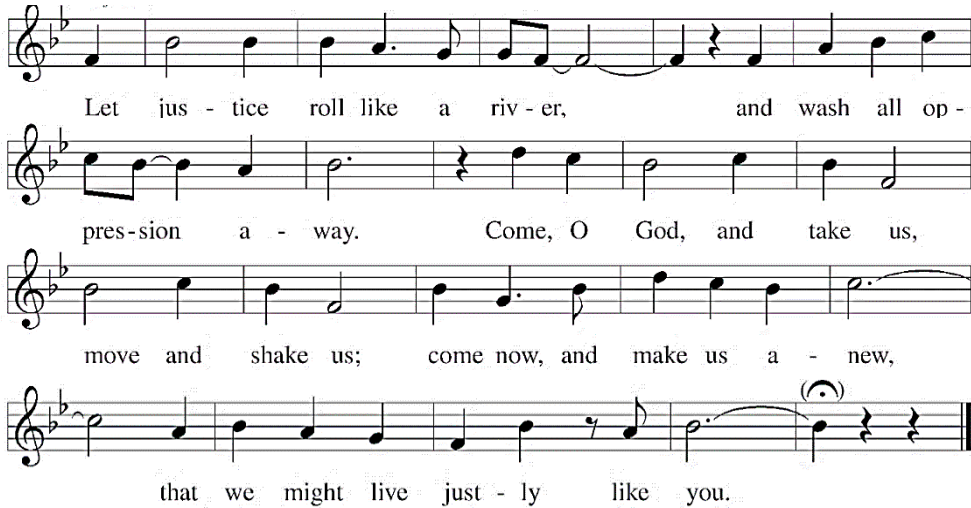
Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive

ELW 605

APOSTLES' CREED

pg. # 105

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation. We begin with the refrain from *Let Justice Roll Like a River*. The refrain will be sung after each petition ending with *Let Justice Roll*. Let us sing and pray...



Let jus - tice roll like a riv - er, and wash all op -
pres - sion a - way. Come, O God, and take us,
move and shake us; come now, and make us a - new,
that we might live just - ly like you.

We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people. **Amen.**

SHARING THE PEACE The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

Please share a sign of God's peace with one another.

OFFERING Thank you for your continued financial support of OSLC! Whether you join us in person or online, the ministry & missions of Our Savior's depend on faithful giving. You can give the following ways:

- + online links can be found by accessing our website at <https://www.oslcmn.com/>
- + Using the QR code found here:
- + Contacting the church office to set up regular automatic giving
- + Dropping off or mailing in your offering



OFFERING PRAYER God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. **Amen.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

pg. 191

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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The joy of the Lord is our strength. Come, eat this meal of gladness.

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMNS

Come to the Table

ELW 481

I Come with Joy

ELW 482

TABLE BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray, Amen.

BLESSING

The Spirit of the triune God † bless you with joy,
anoint you with compassion, and send you in love. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

Softly & Tenderly Jesus Is Calling

ELW 608

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live in hope. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Kristen Weikum

WE HOLD IN OUR PRAYERS

Please pray for people in need of comfort, hope, healing, or safe transition: Leanne, Addy, Sharon P., Deb, Cliff, Janice, Lorraine M., Eric, Kyle, Pr. Art, Bob D, Mark O., Janet, John W., Ross-(needs transplant of kidneys & pancreas), Joy T., Deb, Margaret, Shannon P., Amanda, Jan, Nicole, Deb, Luddy, Bruce & family, Andrew T., Sue, Gerilyn, Andrew, Alexandria, Courtney, Jill & husband, Amelia, Archer, Jarie, Phyllis, Wally, Deb, Adeline, Tedd, Ed & Karen, Ralph, Chuck, Sue. *Please keep Marlene Kauppinen in your prayers, at the sudden loss of her daughter. Call Janet Heglund @ 218-749-6143 for prayer needs- the prayer chain leader January through June.*

If you are in need of any pastoral care or if you or someone you know would like a visit, please call Pastor Liz Cheney at 218-780-8907 or the church office at 218-741-6207.

CONTACT US

OSLC, 1111 8th St. South, Virginia, MN Church Office: 218-741-6207

Email: office@oslcmn.com

Online: www.oslcmn.com

www.facebook.com/oslcmn

YouTube Page "Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Virginia MN Office"

OFFICE HOURS

Office Admin hours are 9am - 5pm, Tuesday - Friday.

There will be times we're away from the office doing errands, for this reason, please call ahead if you plan on coming to the church or need assistance!

PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS

Pastor Liz will be here Tues. - Thurs. & off Fridays.

Call @ 218-780-8907

or email at lizcheney44@gmail.com

STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Liz Cheney

Secretary: Colleen Brown Jacobson

Bookkeeper: Carole Rutka

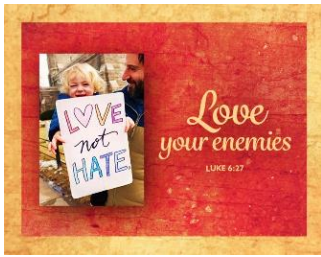
Custodian: Steve Gagnon

Musicians: Kristen Weikum, Mark Ongalo, and Ginny Ahrlin



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Seventh week of Epiphany

February 23rd, 2025

GETHESEMANE FUN NIGHT FOR ALL! Gethsemane is hosting a fun and lively night of fellowship & laughter with “Card Bingo” for Messiah Lutheran and Our Savior’s Lutheran to attend as well. It’s a free event ~ Join us Thursday, Feb. 27th @ 6pm, Gethsemane Lutheran Fellowship Hall. There will be prizes for games & ice cream!

ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP Join us for the beginning of our Lenten Journey, **Wed., Mar. 5th at 6pm.**

LENTEN WORSHIP Lenten Soup Suppers & Wednesday Worship will begin **March 12th & continue Mar. 19th, Mar. 26th, Apr. 2nd, Apr. 9th.** The sign-up sheet is on the kiosk to help with Soup Supper.

PARENTS See the information on the back page for the upcoming **First Communion Classes!**

CLOTHING SALE We are collecting clothes & gently used household items for our Annual Clothing Sale **April 25th** (8:30am – 2:30pm) & **April 26th** (8:30am – 12pm). Please bring items to the back of the Fellowship Hall and leave them on a table on the left. Since we now have the Community Closet, PLEASE label your donated items for the “Clothing Sale” or “Community Closet.” Thank you ~

CLOTHES SORTING If you are good at organizing, come help sort clothes that have been collected for our upcoming sale in April. Sorting will be on **Monday at noon!** Come anytime and stay as long as you like! Thank you for your help ~

WELCA LOVE OFFERING If you received an envelope and are giving to the WELCA ministry, please return the envelope given to you in the offering plate. During the week you may bring it to the office if that is more convenient for you. *The ‘suggestion slips’ can be placed in the basket under the electronic monitor in the narthex. WELCA thanks you!*

WORSHIP SPONSORSHIP If you are interested in sponsoring a Sunday Worship in honor of someone, or a special event (wedding anniversary, birth of children, baptism date) or in memory of a loved one who has passed, you may do so any amount you choose from \$25 - \$100. The funds will be used to keep our new sound system and electronic equipment up to date and functioning. We will need to continue to update other microphones and add additional items that will continue to enhance and expand the experience of worship. **THE SIGN-UP SHEET WILL NOW BE LOCATED ON THE KIOSK – NEW LOCATION!**



SOUP SUPPER & LENT WORSHIP

* Supper starts at 5:15pm & Worship begins at 6pm

Wednesday, March 12th

Wednesday, March 19th

Wednesday, March 26th

Wednesday, April 2nd

Wednesday, April 9th



THIS WEEK AT OLSC:

- 2/24 BOY SCOUTS IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL 6PM
- 2/25 FUN-DUH-MENTALS BIBLE STUDY 12PM
- 2/26 QUILTING 9AM – 2PM
- 2/26 COMMUNITY CLOSET OPEN 12PM – 3PM
- 2/27 LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICES FIRESIDE RM 10:30AM

First Communion Classes

CLASSES WILL BE HELD WEDNESDAY'S DURING LENT, IN 4-WEEK, 1-HOUR SESSIONS. IN THE LAST SESSION WE'LL MAKE COMMUNION BREAD & OUR OWN COMMUNION CUPS. WE'LL TAKE FIRST COMMUNION DURING WORSHIP THURS. **APRIL 17.**

HERE IS THE SCHEDULE, 4-5PM:

WED. MARCH 26 WED. APRIL 2 WED. APRIL 9 WED. APRIL 16
THURS. APRIL 17 6:00 PM, TAKING OUR FIRST COMMUNION IN WORSHIP

PLEASE SEND PASTOR LIZ AN EMAIL OR TEXT BY MARCH 5 SO SHE CAN ORDER ENOUGH MATERIALS/SUPPLIES. INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

1. CHILD'S NAME
2. AGE/GRADE
3. IF THEY'RE CURRENTLY TAKING COMMUNION.

PASTOR LIZ'S CONTACT INFO:

218-780-8907 Lizcheney44@gmail.com



Community CLOSET

OUR SAVIOR'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH
1111 8TH ST. S. VIRGINIA



*clothing for all ages
food pantry items
limited household
goods*

WEDNESDAYS
12PM - 3PM

AND 2ND SATURDAY
EVERY MONTH
9AM - 12PM

OUR WEST WING *Community Closet* IS OPEN!
HERE'S HOW YOU CAN HELP!

1. Volunteer to work a day in the Closet on Wednesdays or the second Saturday. The sign-up sheet is on the kiosk in the Narthex.
2. Bring clothing, shoes, household items, personal hygiene products, bedding, pillows, food pantry items, books, movies, puzzles.
3. Post flyers around town.

The community closet is for anyone in need of clothing, food, personal or household items, and all items are free.

IN FEBRUARY we will be collecting personal hygiene items for it, such as:

soap	toothpaste
shampoo	towels
deodorant	wash clothes

Please bring items to the w.wing Community Closet room, leave at the door to be sorted, or leave on the bench by the church office.

If you aren't able to shop or donate items for the Community Closet, you can still give to our "Good Samaritan Fund" to support the purchase of food for the pantry, etc.

