

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

68160 S. George Street, P. O. Box 688, Iron River, WI 54847

Church Office 715-372-8728

Secretary's e-mail: oslsec@cheqnet.net

Pastor's e-mail: osl@cheqnet.net

ironriverlutherans.org

Find us on Facebook



September 27, 2020

Welcome to worship at Our Savior's Lutheran!

We are blessed to have you join us. If you do not have a church home, we invite you to become a part of the Our Savior's community.

TODAY'S FOCUS

Jesus' parable about two sons who don't do what they say reveals surprises in the reign of God. In the reading from Ezekiel the people claim the ways of the Lord are unfair, while God offers repentance and new life. Paul urges us to look to Christ as a model of humility, putting the interests of others above our own. Nourished by the broken bread and shared cup, we offer our lives for the sake of our needy world.

GATHERING

WELCOME

SEASON OF CREATION (Written by Archbishop Linda Nicholls, Anglican Church of Canada)

I will be standing there in front of you on the rock of Horeb. Strick the rock, and water will come out of it , so that the people may drink. Exodus 17:6

As a settler Canadian, I am accustomed to the ready availability of fresh, clean water at any moment on any day. I have also lived in the Himalayas of India where the provision of water was unpredictable day to day, and what was available had to be boiled thoroughly first because it was not safe to drink. Like the Israelites in the desert, I readily grumbled and complained when it was not available. This became a lesson for me in the dangers of the privileges that I had enjoyed and took for granted in Canada. I became acutely aware that the lack of water was a daily reality for millions of people – and that clean water was even more scarce. I also became aware of those who profit from the bottling and selling of a resource that is a necessity of life and a gift of the Creator. The ongoing protection and sharing of clean water are part of our baptismal vocation to love neighbour as self and to “safeguard the integrity of God’s creation, and respect, sustain and renew the life of the earth.” Just as Moses followed God’s direction in order to offer water to the Israelites in the desert, we are called to partner with those protecting and sharing water. From joining the advocacy of Autumn Peltier, a young Indigenous water protector, to the relief efforts of the Red Cross to our daily habits to conserve and protect water in our community, we are called to share in the provision of God’s gift of water now and for future generations.

Creator of all, stir in us the passion to share the living water of the gospel as we also protect and share the waters of your creation to nourish all creatures. Amen

Gathering Song

Now the Green Blade Rises

ELW 379

- 1 Now the green blade rises from the buried grain,
wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;
love lives again, that with the dead has been;
love is come again like wheat arising green.
- 2 In the grave they laid him, love by hatred slain,
thinking that he would never wake again;
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen;
love is come again like wheat arising green.

- 3 Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,
he that for three days in the grave had lain;
raised from the dead, my living Lord is seen;
love is come again like wheat arising green.
- 4 When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,
your touch can call us back to life again,
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;
love is come again like wheat arising green.

Text: John MacLeod Campbell Crum, 1872-1958 Text from *Oxford Book of Carols* © Oxford University Press 1928. All rights reserved
Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

GREETING

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

C **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

C: **God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

WORD

CHILDREN'S TIME

First Reading: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

Ezekiel challenges those who think they cannot change because of what their parents were and did, or who think they cannot reverse their own previous behavior. God insistently invites people to turn and live.

¹The word of the LORD came to me: ²What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge"? ³As I live, says the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die. ²⁵Yet you say, "The way of the Lord is unfair." Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? ²⁶When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. ²⁷Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. ²⁸Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. ²⁹Yet the house of Israel says, "The way of the Lord is unfair." O house of Israel,

are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? ³⁰Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. ³¹Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³²For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.

L: Word of God, word of Life

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 25:1-9

¹To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

²My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.

³Let none who look to you be put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

⁴Show me your ways, O LORD, and teach me your paths.

⁵Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I
trusted all the day long.

⁶Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love,
for they are from everlasting.

⁷Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.

⁸You are gracious and upright, O LORD; therefore you teach sinners in your way.

⁹You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way.

Second Reading: Philippians 2:1-13

As part of a call for harmony rather than self-seeking, Paul uses a very early Christian hymn that extols the selflessness of Christ in his obedient death on the cross. Christ's selfless perspective is to be the essential perspective we share as the foundation for Christian accord.

¹If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, ²make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. ⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, ⁷but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, ⁸he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. ¹²Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and

trembling; ¹³for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

L: Word of God, word of Life

C: Thanks be to God.

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 21st Chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 21:23-32

After driving the moneychangers out of the temple (21:12), Jesus begins teaching there. His authority is questioned by the religious leaders, who are supposed to be in charge of the temple.

²³When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" ²⁴Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?'" ²⁶But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." ²⁷So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. ²⁸What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' ²⁹He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. ³¹Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³²For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ

MESSAGE

PASTOR TOM WAGNER

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

(See end of bulletin)

PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

MEAL

OFFERING Thank You for your continued support!

OFFERTORY SONG **As the Grains of Wheat** **ELW 465**

Refrain

As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill
were gathered into one to become our bread;
so may all your people from all the ends of earth
be gathered into one in you.

- 1 As this cup of blessing is shared within our midst,
may we share the presence of your love. *Refrain*
- 2 Let this be a foretaste of all that is to come
when all creation shares this feast with you. *Refrain*

Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; Marty Haugen, b. 1950 Text © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638.
www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid
license from copyright administrator.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.**

Prayer after Communion

P: We give you thanks, gracious God,

C: **that you have once again fed us with food beyond compare, the body and
blood of Christ. Lead us from this place, nourished and forgiven, into your
beloved vineyard to wipe away the tears of all who hunger and thirst, guided
by the example of the same Jesus Christ and led by the Holy Spirit, now and
forever. Amen.**

SENDING

TIME OF SHARING

BLESSING

P: Mothering God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life.

C: **Amen.**

SENDING SONG They Will All Know We Are Christians By Our Love

1. We are one in the spirit, we are one in the lord,
we are one in the spirit, we are one in the lord,
and we pray that all unity may one day be restored:
and they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.
2. We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand,
we will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand,
and together we'll spread the news that god is in our land:
and they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.
3. We will work with each other, we will work side by side,
we will work with each other, we will work side by side,
and we'll guard human's dignity and save human's pride:
and they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.
4. All praise to the father, from whom all things come,
and all praise to Christ Jesus, his only son,
and all praise to the spirit, who makes us one:
and they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

Text: peter scholtes, b.1938, © 1966, f.e.l. publications, assigned to the lorenz corp., 1991 Valid: 11/08/2019-11/07/2020 Dupication in any form without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

DISMISSAL: P: Go in peace. Remember the poor. **C: Thanks be to God.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Drawn together in the compassion of God, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need. (*A brief silence.*)

In all the world, give your church unity. Inspire all the baptized with the mind of Christ. Where the church is powerful and where it struggles, shape us with humility and obedience so that your love may be at work in us. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Your Son took on all of bodily life in our world, even to death. Preserve and keep your creation, O God. Mend and redeem places that are polluted and damaged, so that all of creation confesses you as Lord. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Turn the nations toward life. Where our ways are unfair, give us new hearts and new spirits. Where sin permeates our cultures and institutions (*especially*), change our minds and teach us to trust your authority. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Our lives are yours, O God. Relieve the suffering of those who are ill in body, mind, or spirit. Defend the lives and welfare of children who are abused or neglected, hungry or exploited, bullied or lonely. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Turn this congregation away from our own interests toward the interests of others. Fill us with your compassion and sympathy. Bless ministries of care in our community (*especially*); make us into signs of your mercy and justice for our neighbors. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Thank you for those who have gone into the kingdom ahead of us—tax collectors and prostitutes, likely and unlikely, obedient and slow to learn. By their witness, teach us to confess Jesus Christ as Lord in life and in death. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

All these things and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your mercy; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

“CALLED TO WORSHIP, SENT FORTH TO SERVE”

Pastor:	Pastor Carol Braun	osl@cheqnet.net
Secretary:	Evelyn Pamer	oslsec@cheqnet.net
Musicians	Linda Hultman/Patty Lehman/Kathy Rewalt	
Lector	Ellen Wagner	
Recording Technician	Dick Rewalt	



Our Savior's Lutheran Church
 68160 S. George St.
 P.O. Box 688
 Iron River, WI 54847

STAFF
 Pastor Carol Braun
 Linda Hultman, Keyboard
 Patty Lehman, Keyboard
 Evelyn Pamer, Secretary

Church Phone 715-372-8728
 Pastor Carol's Email osl@cheqnet.net
 Pastor Carol's Cell 715-699-3177

Secretary's Email oslsec@cheqnet.net
ironriverlutherans.org
 Find us on Facebook

September/ October '20

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
27 Worship Services available via YouTube Check your email for a link to our YouTube service.	28 7:00 Al-Anon	29 Office Closed 9:00 TOPS	30 9:30 Bible Study	1	2	3
4 Parking Lot Church 10 a.m. Iron River Community Center Worship Services available via YouTube Check your email for a link to our YouTube service.	5 7:00 Al-Anon	6 Office Closed 9:00 TOPS	7 9:30 Bible Study	<u>Pastor Carol's Days</u> Sundays, Mondays, and Wednesdays <u>Secretary's Hours</u> Mon, Wed, Thur. & Fri. 7:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.		

Next Week's Readings: Isa 5:1-7, Ps 80:7-15, Phil 3:4b-14, Matt 21:1-14

We will continue to stay in touch electronically by Email, Facebook and our website (ironriverlutherans.org) We are posting worship services on YouTube and are sending out regular mail for those who do not have electronic connections. Let us continue to keep in touch with one another by phone, text, and emails and continue to lift in prayer all who are being affected by this virus.



Lynette Smith, Lorin Wicklund, Rodney Lahti, Jane Jensen, Ken & Linda Watters, Jim DeRosia, Nancy Anderson, Gregg Levine, Darren Forsythe, Todd VanTil, Mark Hokkanen. *Remember those in nursing homes and assisted living who cannot have family, friends or volunteers visit them during this sad time.*

**Next parking Lot Church date-
Sunday, October 4th
10:00am
Iron River Community Center**

**The Words in Season October-
November- December Devotionals are
available at the church for pick-up. They
are by the front door to drive up and
easily pick one up.**

School Supplies for Lutheran World Relief A huge thank you to all who donated items or money for our school supply kits for LWR. We hope to fill 100 bags to be sent overseas. We appreciate your support. COVID can't stop your generosity. Thank you. WELCA.



Iron River Elementary Students Are Asking For Your Help For Their Shoe Fundraiser. They are collecting GENTLY WORN, NEW and USED SHOES of any size and kind. They get .40¢ a pound. Drop boxes are in the school lobby and Our Savior's Lutheran.

Mark your calendars- Last Parking Lot Worship Service and Pet Blessing day on Sunday, October 4

We have booked the Community Center Parking Lot for one last outdoor worship service on Sunday, Oct. 4 at 10:00 a.m. We are hoping for one more warm sunny day for outdoor worship before fall becomes to chilly to meet outside.

We will also be celebrating the Blessing of the Animals so plan to bring your furry friends. If they aren't crazy about crowds feel free to bring a photo of your pets for a special blessing.

Connections with Creation Sept 27

The theme of humility runs through the lectionary readings this week. In particular, the New Testament passages point out the need for humans to adopt a posture of genuine humility in order to participate in the reign of God on Earth. Humility has often been wrongly interpreted to mean that people should restrain themselves, make themselves small, and hold back from using their talents in ways that are too powerful. However, when we spend time in the natural world, we might learn a different way of thinking about humility. Whether pondering the size of a universe that is ninety-three billion light-years in diameter or considering the fact that one billion microbes live within a teaspoon of soil, we are called to wonder at the vastness of God's creation and understand appropriately our place in this larger community of life. To be humble is to be fully and powerfully all that one is capable of being, while also seeing oneself as part of a larger web of connection.

LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE
U.S. WILDFIRES

SEPTEMBER 2020

ELCA.org/disaster

Fueled by a heat wave and unfavorable winds, wildfires have erupted across California, Oregon, Washington and other western states. At least 20 people have died, hundreds of thousands of people are under evacuation orders and more than 3.5 million acres have burned across the three states. Some evacuees face the difficult decision of whether to stay in a shelter during the COVID-19 pandemic.

to assess the situation and determine the best ways to respond. We expect immediate needs may include food and other necessities, as well as emotional and spiritual care for those who have been traumatized.

Your gifts will support wildfire survivors. Gifts to "U.S. wildfires" will be used in full (100%) to assist those affected by wildfires, until the response is complete. Together, we can help provide immediate and long-lasting support. Give today to support this response and others like it.

Lutheran Disaster Response is engaging with at least three Lutheran social services agencies and five synods

YES, I WANT TO HELP!

- Lutheran Disaster Response: *U.S. wildfires* \$ _____ DDG0077
- Lutheran Disaster Response: *Where needed most* \$ _____ DDG0010

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP code _____

Email address _____

Give through your congregation or make your check out to Lutheran Disaster Response and send to:
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, ELCA Gift Processing Center
P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009
Write "U.S. wildfires" or "Where needed most" on your check's memo line.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.