

The People of God Gathered to Worship As
THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WEST SALEM

March 23, 2025

Third Sunday in Lent

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God above ye heavenly hosts.
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

Gracious God, our gifts are small next to all that you have given us. Take our gifts, LORD, and make them holy, so that they may help to feed the hungry, grow the church, and share your Light with a world lost in darkness. Amen.

Closing Hymn

Just As I am, Without One Plea
#370 Presbyterian Hymnal

Benediction

Song of Sending

LORD, You Have Come to The Lakeshore
v. 1 #377 Presbyterian Hymnal

Pastor: Go in Peace. Serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

The Postlude

Prelude – *Lord I Would Follow Thee*

Welcome

Prayer Requests

Call to Worship

Leader: People of God, why are we here?

People: We come to worship God, our Creator and Sustainer.

Leader: People of God, who else could we need?

People: We need no one but God, for the world will fail in time.

Leader: So let us sing the Praises to our God, great and small!

People: Let us Praise the LORD!

Opening Hymn *O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing*
#21 Celebration Hymnal

Prayers of the People and the 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Passing of the Peace

Let us greet one another as forgiven sinners
with the peace of Christ:

*"May the Peace of our LORD Jesus Christ be with you!
And also, with you."*

Hymn of Illumination

Thy Word
v. 1 #184 Celebration Hymnal

First Scripture Reading

Isaiah 55:1-9 – See Insert

A Moment with the Children – Think Good Thoughts!

Second Scripture Reading

Luke 13:1-9 - See Insert

Prayer Of Illumination

Sermon – Faithfulness, not Stubbornness - Pastor Dan McCurdy

Handbells – *What Wondrous Love Is This*

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we are a sinful people. We struggle to be who you call us to be, we constantly fall short of your expectations, and we find ourselves all too often becoming more who the world expects us to be. We have not done what we are called to do, and often we do the things we are called to avoid. We stubbornly cling to our old ways of doing things, instead of looking for new ways to inspire. LORD, we believe, help our unbelief, and hear us as we raise our silent prayers up to you.

Moment of Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

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.**

Affirmation of Faith

(The Apostles Creed)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Presentation of Tithes, Offerings, and Gifts

The Gifts of God are all around us, our lives and our homes, our talents and our joys, our family and friends, and the greatest gift of all was the Salvation promised, the life of Christ seeking to end our division from God and each other. When we give, we do not do so to purchase anything... for the gifts of God were already given. Instead, we give in imitation of our LORD, offering what we have to support others, and to be ourselves the gift that God gives the World, so let us worship God with our Giving.

Offertory – *Above All*

First Scripture Reading

Isaiah 55:1-9

¹Hear, everyone who thirsts; come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. ² Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread and your earnings for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. ³ Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. ⁴ See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. ⁵ Now you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. ⁶ Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; ⁷ let the wicked forsake their way and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. ⁸ For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. ⁹ For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Second Scripture Reading

Luke 13:1-9

¹At that very time there were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. ² He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans?" ³ No, I tell you, but unless you repent you will all perish as they did. ⁴ Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the other people living in Jerusalem? ⁵ No, I tell you, but unless you repent you will all perish just as they did." ⁶ Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. ⁷ So he said to the man working the vineyard, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' ⁸ He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. ⁹ If it bears fruit next year, well and good, but if not, you can cut it down.' "

**Nursery Available – 4k and under only
Not staffed**

**Coffee and Cookies
Fellowship time in the Fellowship Hall
9:30-10:00 am**

March 23, 2025 Worship Team	
Liturgist	Kevin Arndt
Musicians	Caroline Sells Greg Meeuwesen
Sound Room	Evan Crusan
Choir & Handbells Director	Vicki Arndt
Usher	Fred Miller

Tithes and Offerings

Donations can be mailed to:

**Presbyterian Church of West Salem
PO Box 861
West Salem, WI 54669**

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Tabitha Circle

***Bring your crafts, sack lunch and join us!
The first and third Monday of each month
11:30-2:30 pm***

***Exercise Group
Not April 1st***

**Tuesdays and Fridays
9:00 to 10:00 am
Fellowship Hall**

Voting – April 1st

The ongoing mission of The Presbyterian Women is to support the Salvation Army and WINN (What I Need Now) by collecting needed items (lists are on tables and Lamplighter. All items can be placed in the purple tote at the back of the sanctuary. Money donations are accepted as well.

***Handbell Rehearsals
Thursdays
6:30 pm***

***Choir Rehearsals
Thursdays
7:30 pm***

***Community Dinner
March 26th
5pm – 6pm***

Our Savior's Food Pantry

***Each family receives coupons for dairy, bread and \$10 for meat. Hunger Task Force is where our weekly volunteers shop at. Open Saturdays 10 am to Noon.
Thank you for your donations of food and money.***

***Lenten Soup Supper
None – Community Dinner***

***Lenten Service
March 26th at 6:30 pm***

***Blood Drive
March 31st
11:30am to 4:30pm***