

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

May 4, 2025
Communion Sunday
3rd Sunday of Easter

Prelude – *People Need The Lord*

Welcome

Prayer Requests

Choral Call To Worship

Opening Hymn

Christ is Made the Sure Foundation
#403 Celebration Hymnal

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

He Lives
v. 1 #368 Celebration Hymnal

First Scripture Reading

Acts 9:1-9

¹Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ²and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?” ⁵He asked, “Who are you, Lord?” The reply came, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.” ⁷The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. ⁸Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. ⁹For three days he was without sight and neither ate nor drank.

A Moment With Children – When the Bully Falls

Second Scripture Reading

Acts 9: 10-20

¹⁰ Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." ¹¹ The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, ¹² and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." ¹³ But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem, ¹⁴ and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." ¹⁵ But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; ¹⁶ I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." ¹⁷ So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." ¹⁸ And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, ¹⁹ and after taking some food, he regained his strength. For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, ²⁰ and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God."

Prayer Of Illumination

Sermon - Sometimes That's What it Takes Pastor Dan McCurdy

Choir – *Table of Mercy, Table of Rest*

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 fear to speak of the downfall of persecutors, forgetting that your call to Justice should be our only guide. 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.

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 – *My Jesus, I Love Thee*

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.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation

Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's prayer (Debts/Debtors)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your Hearts.

We lift them up to the LORD!

Let us give thanks to the LORD our God!

It is right to give our thanks and praise!

Most holy and gracious God, we praise you who has gathered us around this table... and who forever sing to the glory of your name;

**Holy, holy, holy LORD, God of Power and Might,
Heaven and Earth are full of your glory,
Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD,
Hosanna in the highest!**

Forgiving God, we call upon you in our times of fear and doubt... for great is the mystery of the faith:

**Christ has died,
Christ is Risen,
Christ will come again!**

And while we wait on that day when we will share this meal in heaven with you, we say the prayer that Jesus taught us to pray, saying...

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.

Receiving The Elements

Closing Hymn

Take My Life

v. 1, 5, 6 #597 Celebration Hymnal

Benediction

Song of Sending

Because He Lives

#358 Celebration Hymnal

Pastor: Go in Peace. Serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

The Postlude

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

May 4, 2025 Worship Team	
Liturgist	Avis Evenson
Musicians	Caroline Sells Greg Meeuwsen
Sound Room	Ethan Crusan
Choir & Handbell Director	Vicki Arndt
Usher	Mike Siekert

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

First and Third Mondays

11:30am – 2:30pm

Bring a lunch

Would you like a visit from the Pastor?

***You are important to the Presbyterian Church
of West Salem. Please contact the church
office if you would like a pastoral visit or to set
up an appointment with the pastor.***

Call 608-786-0910

Or preschurchws@gmail.com

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.

Exercise Group

Not on the 20th

9:00 to 10:00 am

Fellowship Hall

VBS 2025

July 28th-30th

5:30-8:00pm

**Community Garden this year
Volunteers are really needed
to keep the garden going.**

**If anyone can help us out with the garden,
we would really appreciate it.**

**Please call the office at 608-786-0910 or
Sherry Bonsall at 608-786-1280**

Community Dinner

May 28th

5pm – 6pm

Support the West Salem Food Pantry

**Please bring food donations
and place them in the shopping carts
between the entryway doors.
The current need is canned vegetables
and soups.**

Graduate Recognition Sunday

May 18th

Blood Drive

May 30th

11:30am - 4:30pm

Confirmation Sunday

June 1st

All Sunday School Studies

End on May 11th

Summer Camp Scholarship Applications

Are due May 11th

Applications on back table

Women's Summer Bible Study

**Please contact Jenni Logging or
Sara Oldenburg if you are interested**

**Senior Scholarships are due
on July 16th.**

**All confirmed seniors should have received
an application in the mail.**