

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

August 10, 2025
Communion Sunday
9th Sunday After Pentecost

Prelude – *Hour Of Worship*

Welcome

Prayer Requests

Call To Worship

Leader: People of God, Follow the LORD!

People: We follow the Call of our LORD most high!

Leader: Follow the LORD, delight in God Always!

People: Sing songs of praise, raise up our voices!

Leader: People of God, Let the LORD's Light shine in our lives!

People: Let all God's people praise the LORD!

Opening Hymn

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah
#281 Presbyterian 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

Open Our Eyes, LORD
v. 1 #633 Celebration Hymnal

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 1:1,10-20

¹ The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, which he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah. ¹⁰ Hear the word of the Lord, you rulers of Sodom! Listen to the teaching of our God, you people of Gomorrah! ¹¹ What to me is the multitude of your sacrifices? says the Lord; I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams and the fat of fed beasts; I do not delight in the blood of bulls or of lambs or of goats. ¹² When you come to appear before me, who asked this from your hand? Trample my courts no more! ¹³ Bringing offerings is futile; incense is an abomination to me. New moon and Sabbath and calling of convocation. I cannot endure solemn assemblies with iniquity. ¹⁴ Your new moons and your appointed festivals my soul hates; they have become a burden to me; I am weary of bearing them. ¹⁵ When you stretch out your hands, I will hide my eyes from you; even though you make many prayers, I will not listen; your hands are full of blood. ¹⁶ Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove your evil deeds from before my eyes; cease to do evil; ¹⁷ learn to do good; seek justice; rescue the oppressed; defend the orphan; plead for the widow. ¹⁸ Come now, let us argue it out, says the Lord: If your sins are like scarlet, will they become like snow? If they are red like crimson, will they become like wool?

¹⁹ If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land, ²⁰ but if you refuse and rebel, you shall be devoured by the sword, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

A MOMENT WITH CHILDREN – It's Not About the Pretty Party

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

¹ Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ² Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. ³ By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible. ⁸ By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance, and he set out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹ By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰ For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. ¹¹ By faith, with Sarah's involvement, he received power of procreation, even though he was too old, because he considered him faithful who had promised. ¹² Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore." ¹³ All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, ¹⁴ for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. ¹⁵ If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶ But as it is, they desire a better homeland, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Sermon - Be the Evidence

Pastor Dan McCurdy

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 seek evidence of you in our world, forgetting that we were meant to be the evidence of your light in the world. 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 – *He's Always Been Faithful*

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 *Let us Talents and Tongues Employ*
 #514 Presbyterian Hymnal

Benediction

Song of Sending *Precious Lord, Take My Hand*
 #684 Celebration Hymnal

Pastor: Go in Peace. Serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

The Postlude

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

**Community Dinner
August 27th
5-6pm**

August 10, 2025 Worship Team	
Liturgist	Josiah Wolbrink
Musicians	Caroline Sells
Sound Room	Elsa Wolbrink
Choir & Handbell Director	Vicki Arndt
Usher	Shawn McAlister

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
Will Not Be Meeting Until
After Labor Day***

***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
9:00 to 10:00 am
Fellowship Hall**

**Support the West Salem Food Pantry
Please bring food and home donations
and place them in the shopping carts
between the entryway doors.**

**Blood Drive
September 29th
11:30am - 4:30pm**

**Church Fall Rummage Sale
Thursday, Friday, Saturday
September 11, 12, 13**

Items can now be dropped off on Sunday mornings from 8:30-10:30 or by appointment. Please place your items on the back wall in the fellowship hall. We are not accepting any electronics or appliances. Furniture is only accepted by appointment. Please call Sharon at 608-797-1732 or Sara at 608-304-9926 to set up a time. This is an important mission for PW. Please consider volunteering before or during the sale. Any time you can give is of great help! If you have any questions at all, please reach out to Sara Oldenburg or Sharon Cullmann. Thank you!

**Community Dinner Update
Please contact Diana Engel or Pastor Dan
Volunteers Needed to take over planning
and implementation in January 2026**