

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

September 7, 2025
Communion Sunday
13th Sunday After Pentecost

Prelude – *Will You Come And Follow Me*

Welcome

Prayer Requests

Choral Call To Worship

Opening Hymn ***When Morning Gilds the Skies***
#487 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

Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18

¹O Lord, you have searched me and known me. ²You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away. ³You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways. ⁴Even before a word is on my tongue, O Lord, you know it completely. ⁵You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me. ⁶Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it. ¹³For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother’s womb. ¹⁴I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well. ¹⁵My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. ¹⁶Your eyes beheld my unformed substance. In your book were written all the days that were formed for me, when none of them as yet existed. ¹⁷How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them! ¹⁸I try to count them—they are more than the sand; I come to the end I am still with you.

A MOMENT WITH CHILDREN – No Matter How Far You Run and Hide

ANTHEM – God Made Our Hands

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Jeremiah 18:1-11

¹ The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: ² “Come, go down to the potter’s house, and there I will let you hear my words.” ³ So I went down to the potter’s house, and there he was working at his wheel. ⁴ The vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter’s hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as seemed good to him. ⁵ Then the word of the LORD came to me: ⁶ Can I not do with you, O house of Israel, just as this potter has done? says the LORD. Just like the clay in the potter’s hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel. ⁷ At one moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, ⁸ but if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will change my mind about the disaster that I intended to bring on it. ⁹ And at another moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it, ¹⁰ but if it does evil in my sight, not listening to my voice, then I will change my mind about the good that I had intended to do to it. ¹¹ Now, therefore, say to the people of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: Thus says the LORD: Look, I am a potter shaping evil against you and devising a plan against you. Turn now, all of you, from your evil way, and amend your ways and your doings.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Sermon - The Potter’s Wheel Keeps Turning

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 cling to old forms and old ways, instead of seeing what possibilities await in endings. 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 – *Change My Heart, O God*

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

I Danced In The Morning
v. 1,3,5 #302 Presbyterian Hymnal

Benediction

Song of Sending

Precious Lord, Take My Hand
v.1 #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**

September 7, 2025 Worship Team	
Liturgist	Barbara Hopkins
Musicians	Caroline Sells
Sound Room	Lily Oldenburg
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

Copyright Information:

- For use solely with the SongSelect Terms of Use
- All rights reserved, www.ccli.com BI
- CCLI License 1958492
- Reprinted from Celebration Hymnal, copyright 1997 by Word/Integrity La
- Reprinted from Presbyterian Hymnal, copyright 1990, Westminster/John Knox Pres

**Tabitha Circle
September 15th
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
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**

**Community Dinner
September 24th
5-6pm**

**Church Fall Rummage Sale
Thursday, September 11th - 4:00 to 7:00pm
Friday, September 12th - 7:00am to 4:00pm
Saturday, September 13th - 8:00am to 12:00pm**

**Items can be dropped off
through Today.**

In order to be ready for Thursday, we are not able to take items after today. Furniture is only accepted by appointment, and we are unable to accept any electronics or appliances. Please call Sharon at 608-797-1732 or Sara at 608-304-9926 if you want to schedule a drop off time. This is an important mission for PW. We are in NEED of volunteers for the week of and during the sale. PLEASE let Sharon or Sara know if you are able to help. Any time you give is of great help! Thank you!

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

**Sunday Schools will resume on
September 21st at 9 am**

**All women are cordially invited to the
JOHN KNOX PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN
FALL WORKSHOP
Saturday, September 20, 2025, 9:30 a.m.
at First Presbyterian Church
121 W. Florence Street, Cambria, WI
For the Love of Orphans
See attached NEWS SPAN in PCOWS
weekly email for more information**

**Apple Pies for Sale
\$10 per pie
You can purchase them after church today or
Call Diana Engel at (608) 786-1560
or 1 (608) 386-0860
to purchase them during the week**