



GOOD NEWS
LUTHERAN CHURCH

GETTING



One day in time. God with us forever.

Service Focus:

From the start; to the finish

Good News Lutheran Church | Mount Horeb, Wisconsin
First Sunday in Advent | November 30, 2025



GOOD NEWS

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Welcome!

We are grateful to have you with us for our service today. You have joined us for the most important time we spend together. Each time we gather as a family of faith, we make the gospel (or good news) of Jesus our central focus. We do so relying on Jesus' promise that, wherever two or three come together in his name, he is present among them to deliver his gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation.

For Your Convenience

- » **The order of service** is printed in this folder. Large print copies are available from an usher. If a song is not printed in this service folder, it can be found in the blue hymnal located near your seat.
- » **Restrooms** are located in the hallway to the north of the atrium.
- » **Children** who are with us during the service are a source of joy and encouragement to us all. Children's activity bags are available in the atrium. If your child needs a moment, a nursery is available to the left out of the sanctuary doors. Let us know if we can offer a hand with your little ones.
- » **Hearing assistance** devices are available from an usher in the atrium.

Should you have questions or need assistance, please ask an usher.

Service Leaders

Pastor of Good News: Jonathan Bauer

Vicar of Good News: Calvin Arstein

Pianist: Amy Hansel

Vocalist: Erin Biank

Instrumentalists: Brock Havens, Lois Stecklein, Jonathan Bauer

Time of Year: Advent

The word “Advent” comes from a Latin word meaning “coming.” As we begin a new Church Year, we see how our God does not keep us at arm’s length but came in the flesh at Christmas, comes to us today in Word and Sacrament, and will come in glory on the last day. The liturgical color of Advent is blue, symbolizing the hope we have as we wait for Jesus’ return.



Current Series: Getting Close

Christmas is getting close. Depending on how much work there is to do, that can be good news or bad news. But here’s some news that’s only good: Christmas is God getting close. Jesus is Immanuel—God with us. This one day on the calendar means God is with us forever.

November 30	Advent 1	From the start; to the finish
December 7	Advent 2	Through his messengers; to judge
December 14	Advent 3	Festival of Scripture and Song
December 21	Advent 4	Of a virgin; as promised

Service Focus

This week, we see how getting close always has been and always will be God’s way of doing things. This first Sunday of the Church year sets the tone and establishes the basis for our weekly gatherings from the first Sunday to the last. In his Word and Sacraments, the Lord is near to his people. As a result, joy and peace replace worry and fear within the family of God and gentleness replaces hostility in our interactions with the world around us.

Prayer before the Service

Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Protect us by your strength, and save us from the threatening dangers of our sins; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The Service



Hymn

302 Prepare the Royal Highway

Stand

Both the invocation and sign of the cross are reminders of our baptism.

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

When Jesus first commanded his church to baptize in God's triune name and proclaim all he had taught, he promised he would always be with them. Though he is no longer with us visibly, he continues to fulfill what had been foretold through the prophet Isaiah:

Matthew 1:23

They will call him Immanuel (which means "God with us").

We gather today following Jesus' command and trusting his promise to be with us as we do.

Psalms 24:7

Lift up your heads, you gates; be lifted up, you ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.

The congregation sings:





Confession

Jesus is with us, not to condemn or destroy but to pardon and save. Therefore, we hear and heed his call: Repent, for the kingdom of God has come near.

Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.

Matthew 3:2-3

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Absolution

Philippians 2:6-8;

Matthew 18:20

In order to pardon and save, Jesus came in our flesh and took the form a servant. He humbled himself and become obedient to death on a cross. Though he now sits at God's right hand in unapproachable majesty and might, Jesus continues to dwell with us here and now in humble form. He continues to be Immanuel—God with us—in the words he sends his messengers to speak: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The congregation sings:

2 He came, not clothed in maj - es - ty nor pow'r that
3 This done, he soared to God's right hand, yet or - phaned
suits his de - i - ty. In low - ly state he
not his cho - sen band, for he, not bound in
walked till he in dy - ing set us cap - tives free.
grace and pow'r, at - tends his own each day and hour.

Advent Prayer

Jesus is also with us to deliver all we need as we wait for his return. Therefore, we pray:

Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest.

Philippians 4:4-7

For joy that is constant regardless of circumstances; for peace that transcends all understanding and calms anxious minds:

Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest.

Romans 15:5-6

For endurance and hope as we bear life's trials; for hearts that embrace one another in love and unite with each other in praise:

Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest.

James 5:7-9

For patience to wait, like the farmer, until the trust we place in you yields an abundant, eternal harvest:

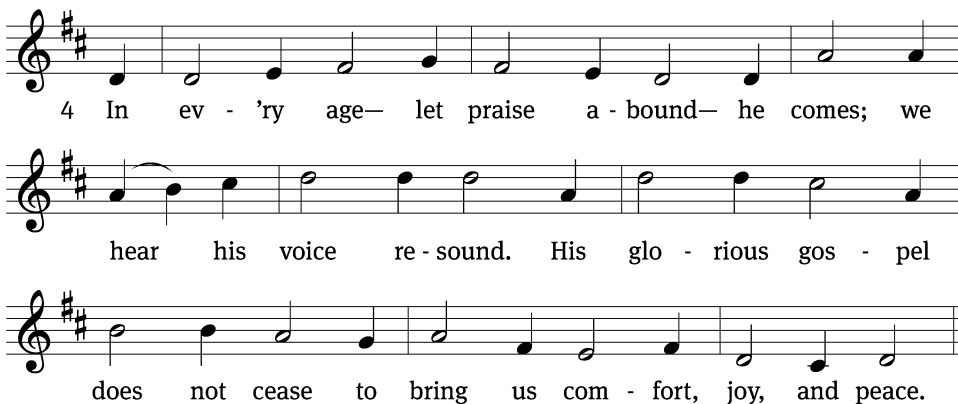
Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest.

*Romans 5:13;
Philippians 4:4-5*

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him. The Lord is near.

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!

The Advent wreath is lit as the congregation sings:



The Word

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.



Prayer of the Day

Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Protect us by your strength, and save us from the threatening dangers of our sins; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

Isaiah 2:1–5

When Christ's kingdom is established, the world is transformed by it and nations are drawn to it.

¹This is what Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem:

²In the last days

the mountain of the LORD's temple will be established
as the highest of the mountains;
it will be exalted above the hills,
and all nations will stream to it.

³Many peoples will come and say,
 “Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
 to the temple of the God of Jacob.
 He will teach us his ways,
 so that we may walk in his paths.”
 The law will go out from Zion,
 the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.
⁴He will judge between the nations
 and will settle disputes for many peoples.
 They will beat their swords into plowshares
 and their spears into pruning hooks.
 Nation will not take up sword against nation,
 nor will they train for war anymore.
⁵Come, descendants of Jacob,
 let us walk in the light of the LORD.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

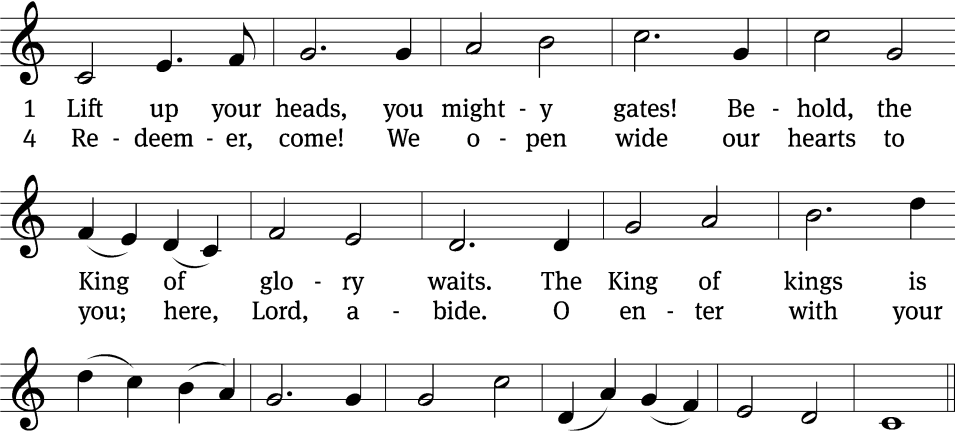
*Psalms have been
 used by God's
 people in worship
 since the Old
 Testament.*

*The Church sings
 Psalm 24 in
 services on the
 first Sunday in
 Advent and Palm
 Sunday, both
 anticipating the
 arrival of Christ the
 Lord.*

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 24

Stanza 1 is sung before the verses of the psalm and stanza 4 after.



1 Lift up your heads, you might - y gates! Be - hold, the
 4 Re - deem - er, come! We o - pen wide our hearts to
 King of glo - ry waits. The King of kings is
 you; here, Lord, a - bide. O en - ter with your
 draw - ing near; the Sav - ior of the world is here.
 grace di - vine and cause your face on us to shine.

The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it,
the world, and all who live in it;

for he founded it on the seas
and established it on the waters.

Who may ascend the mountain of the LORD?
Who may stand in his holy place?

The one who has clean hands and a pure heart,
they will receive blessing from God their Savior.

Lift up your heads, you gates; be lifted up, you ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.

Who is this King of glory?
The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen. Stanza 4**

Second Reading

Philippians 4:4–7

*Because the Lord
is near, joy and
peace rule in our
hearts and
gentleness is
evident in our
lives.*

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! ⁵Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Stand

By standing and
singing “Alleluia”
(Praise the Lord)
as we prepare to
hear the gospel,
Christ’s people
express their trust
in his promise to
be present among
them through his
word.

Gospel Acclamation

Philippians 2:10

Refrain



At the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth. *Refrain*

Jesus comes as
king in a way that
was unexpected
and is often
unrecognized.

Gospel

Matthew 21:1–11

¹As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ²saying to them, “Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. ³If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away.”

⁴This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet:

⁵“Say to Daughter Zion,
‘See, your king comes to you,
gentle and riding on a donkey,
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.’ ”

⁶The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. ⁷They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on. ⁸A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted,

“Hosanna to the Son of David!”

“Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”

“Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

¹⁰When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, “Who is this?”

¹¹The crowds answered, “This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Hymn of the Day

301 Savior of the Nations, Come

Sermon

Philippians 4:4–7

Stand

Nicene Creed *Credo*

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

We believe in the Holy Spirit,

**the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Be seated

Prayer of the Church

Gracious Lord, you sent your Son into our world to destroy the power of Satan and restore our race as your children and heirs. Work in us during this Advent season so that we may rejoice in the coming of our Savior and long for his coming again.
Make us eager to receive the King who comes to save us.

As we live with Christ and trust in him, move us to turn away from sin day after day with the strength your Holy Spirit provides. When we fall, forgive us and renew us to love and serve you and all people.

Empower us and guide us to walk with Christ by faith.

Protect us from the distractions that come at this time of the year. Even in gift-giving and celebrating, keep our hearts focused on Christ and his forgiving love.

Give us joy at his coming at Christmas, his coming in the gospel, and his coming again.

Move us to share with others the most important gift of this season, the truth about Jesus. Even in busy times lead us to pray for those whose joy is diminished because of sickness, pain, or loss. [*Epecially bless...*] Give us opportunities to provide help to those in need.

May others see the love of Christ in our words and actions.

Loving Lord, work in us during this Advent season so that our joy may be genuine and may rest in the promises of the King who comes to save.

Come, Lord Jesus. Amen.

Offering

Thank you for joining us in worship today! Please visit GoodNewsLC.org/connect (or scan the QR code on the back of the service folder) to let us know you were here. To support our ministry with an offering, visit GoodNewsLC.org/give.

The Sacrament

Holy Communion is a gift from Jesus intended to strengthen Christians' unity with God and express their unity with each other. If you are not a member of Good News, we would love to speak with you about the process for receiving Holy Communion with us in the future.



Stand

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.

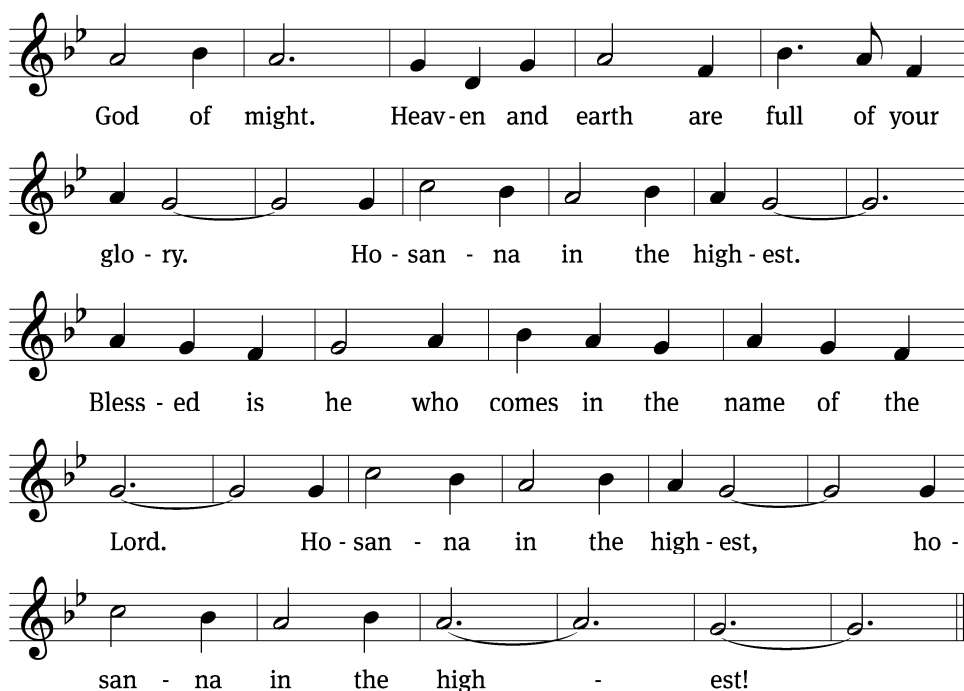
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared when he called people to repentance and pointed to Jesus as the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy *Sanctus*



In the presence of the Triune God, angels sing, "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty." (Isaiah 6:4). The Church sings the same song in preparation for Holy Communion, firmly confessing the Lord's presence in the Sacrament.



Prayer of Thanksgiving

We give thanks to you, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace. Through him you made all things; in him you are well pleased. He is the incarnate Word, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. To fulfill your promises, he stretched out his hands on the cross and released from eternal death all who believe in you.

As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, we glorify and honor you, O God our Father, with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

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.

Words of Institution

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
Amen.

Jesus, Lamb of God *Agnus Dei*



John the Baptist saw Jesus and said, "Look, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world" (John 1:29).

sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.

Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the

sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.

Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the

sin of the world; grant us your peace.

Be seated

Distribution

Those communing may come forward at the direction of the usher.

Distribution Hymn

303 O Bride of Christ, Rejoice
313 Hark the Glad Sound! The Savior Comes

Stand

Psalm 118:1

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his mercy endures forever.

1 Corinthians 11:26

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving-kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen.

Be seated

Hymn

324 O Lord, How Shall I Meet You

+ + +

Acknowledgments

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*Known as the
Aaronic Blessing,
these words have
been spoken to
God's people for
3,500 years.
Wherever God's
name is
proclaimed, God
promises to be
present with his
blessing (Numbers
6:22–27).*

Serving You Today

Communion Set-Up: Erin Biank

Greeter(s):

Ushers: Matt Ganser, Cody Gorski

Fellowship Snacks: Meyers, Vierck

Audio-Video: Gary Pepin

Church Cleaning: Johnson, Gibney

Counters: Tom Hansel, Dan Behringer

Youth Assistants: Evelyn Vierck, Amelia Vierck, Avery Allen

Nursery Care: Sadie Sutter, Addison Bauer

The News @ Good News

November 30, 2025

Sign Up



Christmas Prospect Invitation

On Saturday, December 13, we will be visiting families on our prospect list to deliver a Christmas gift and pass out Christmas invitations. We'll meet at Good News at 9:30am, and visit prospects from approximately 10:00-11:00am. We'll need about twenty visitation teams to go out in pairs in order to make these visits. You can sign up online or in the atrium.

Donate



MARC Stocking Stuffers

This season, we have a wonderful opportunity to share Christ's love in a simple but meaningful way. The MARC Center in Mount Horeb is preparing for their annual Christmas party—an event that, for many of the people they serve, is their main celebration of the season. To make the day special, MARC is in need of stocking stuffers, and our church family has been invited to help. If you are interested, please check our Sign-Up Genius to see which items are requested, sign up to donate, and then drop those items off at the church by December 14th.

Holiday Season Services and Events

Saturday, 12/13, 9:30 a.m.: Prospect gift delivery

Sunday, 12/14, 9:00 a.m.: Festival of Scripture and Song

Friday, 12/19, 10:00 a.m. and Sunday, 12/21, 10:30 a.m.: Christmas Caroling

Monday, 12/22, 6:00 p.m.: Celtic Christmas Concert @ Martinson Hall

Wednesday, 12/24, 4:30 & 6:00 p.m.: Christmas Eve Candlelight Services

Thursday, 12/25, 9:00 a.m.: Christmas Day Festival Service

Christmas Caroling

Join us as we spread the good news of Jesus birth with some Christmas caroling! This year there are two opportunities: Friday, December 19, at 10:00 a.m. at Mt. Horeb's MARC and Sunday, December 21 at 10:30 a.m. (at Ingleside and Beehive). On both dates we'll be delivering some gifts and singing a handful of Christmas songs to those in attendance. All are welcome! You can sign up for one or both opportunities in the atrium at church or online.

Sign Up



Thursday Night Service – Starting January 8th

In the new year, we will be starting a weekly Thursday night service. This weekly service will have the same Scripture readings, hymns, and sermons as the Sunday that follows it. Our hope for this service is that it will allow people who can't make it on Sunday morning due to work, travel, activities, etc., can still attend church. The service will be at 6:30 p.m. The first service is on Thursday, January 8.



About Us

Our Mission

Good News Lutheran Church was established in 2013 as a mission effort of Resurrection Lutheran Church in Verona. Our mission is to help people find relief from life's distressing noise by preaching, teaching, and sharing the Bible's good news.

Our Contact Information

Physical Address: 9975 Pepper Drive
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 407
Mount Horeb, WI 53572
(608) 437-4646
GoodNewsLC.org

Give Online



Our Ministry

Sunday Worship: 9:00 a.m.
Sunday Online Broadcast: 9:00 a.m. on our website, Facebook, and YouTube
Bible Classes and Sunday School: Sundays at 10:15 a.m.

Our Pastor

Pastor Jonathan Bauer
Pastor@GoodNewsLC.org
(608) 772-7500

Let us know you were here!



Our Church Body

Good News Lutheran Church proclaims the truth about Jesus throughout the world as a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS). We are united in faith and teaching with the other churches of the Wisconsin Synod as well as the churches of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS).

