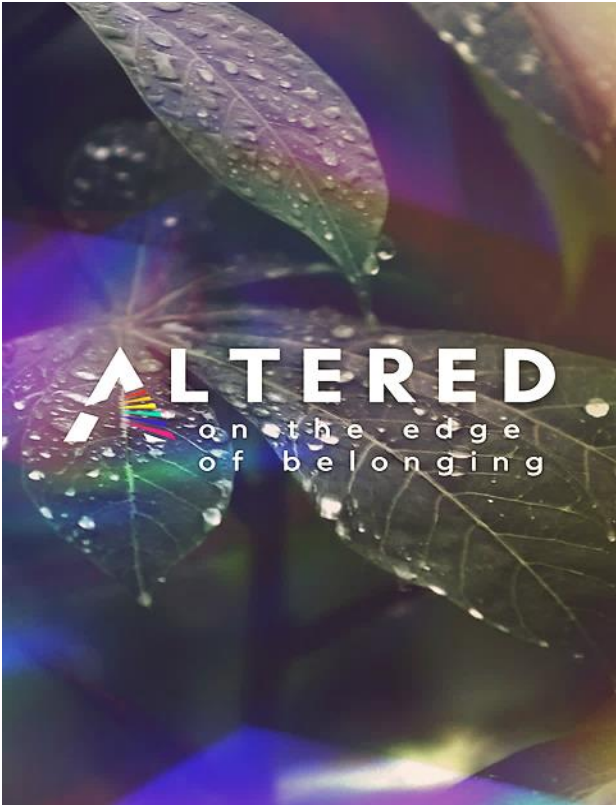


**First Sunday of Lent
February 18th, 2024**



Our Savior's Lutheran Church
Virginia, MN
Pastor Liz Cheney



PRELUDE

Kristen Weikum

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Children of God, you are enough. You are lovable as you are,
and God will love you as you change and grow.

Where there is fear, give us courage.

Where there is doubt, give us faith.

Children of God, your neighbors are enough. They are lovable as they are,
and God will love them as they change and grow.

Where there is fear, give us courage.

Where there is doubt, give us faith.

Children of God, your enemies are enough. They are lovable as they are,
and God will love them as they change and grow.

Where there is fear, give us courage.

Where there is doubt, give us faith.

Children of God, the Creator has been, and will be. There is no test to pass,
no score to keep, no border to cross; you have already arrived, and you can rest here.

Amen.

KYRIE



1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.

2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.

3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.

Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.

Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Holy God, We confess that we have rejected the refuge you offer.

**We try to hide behind self-sufficiency and pride,
but you see us, and love us still.**

We confess that we have chosen strife over peace;
we want to be right more than we want to be in right relationship.

**Forgive us for the ways we have rebelled against you
and harmed our neighbors in action, thought, or indifference.**

We confess that we have settled for convenient comforts,
for palm-sized imitations of mercy and justice.

**Your mighty hands break the bow and topple the throne,
yet also gather and shelter us like a mother hen.**

We confess that you know what we need and gladly provide it.

Grant us the courage, patience, and trust to receive and share your love. Amen.

Hear this, beloved children of God:

God rejoices when you turn and return.

Search, that you may find.

Find, that you may be found.

Loosen your grip, that you may be more tightly held,
more warmly comforted, and more tenderly nourished.

Your stony heart will soften like the river's frozen mouth.

Your stiff neck will relax as you accept God's love,
allowing you to see more of the world around you.

God forgives your sins and remembers them no more.

In the name of the Creator, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
receive this divine peace.

Amen.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

In the Holy Trinity, you show us belonging and inclusion in perfect balance. Made in your image, we long for community, yet we retreat into rigid categories and binary thinking, as if excluding others could protect us from being left out. In you, there is no inside or outside; in you, there is no us or them. Embolden and equip us to work towards this expansive kinship, which is only possible through the love of your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING: Genesis 9:8-17

⁸God said to Noah and to his sons with him, ⁹“As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, ¹⁰and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. ¹¹I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.” ¹²God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: ¹³I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. ¹⁴When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, ¹⁵I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. ¹⁶When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” ¹⁷God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSLAM: Psalm 25:1-10

¹To you, O LORD,

I lift up my soul.

**²My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

³Let none who look to you be put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

**⁴Show me your ways, O LORD,
and teach me your paths.**

⁵Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

**⁶Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love,
for they are from everlasting.**

⁷Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.

**⁸You are gracious and upright, O LORD;
therefore you teach sinners in your way.**

⁹You lead the lowly in justice
and teach the lowly your way.

**¹⁰All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast love and faithfulness
to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.**

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 3:18-22

¹⁸Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. ²¹And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

GOSPEL: MARK 1:9-15

The Holy gospel according to Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased." ¹²And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him. ¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

CHILDREN'S TIME

SERMON

Pastor Liz Cheney

APOSTLES CREED

pg. 105

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and 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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

There will be three prayer petitions: each petition will end with "I want Jesus to walk with me" and we will respond with Vs. 1 of ELW #325 *I Want Jesus To Walk With Me*.

***I want Jesus to walk with me; I want Jesus to walk with me;
all along my pilgrim journey, Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.***

SHARING THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

Please share a sign of God's peace with one another.

OFFERING**OFFERING PRAYER**

Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION**LORD'S PRAYER**

pg. 191

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Bread for the journey. A feast for hungry hearts. Come! All are welcome.



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
 2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
 3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
 you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
 e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

COMMUNION HYMNS

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

ELW 324

TABLE BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Generous God,

at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life. Amen.

BENEDICTION

People of God, May you be disrupted ... altered.... and transformed,
 as you pursue the Holy Spirit out ahead of you.

May the power of the Holy Trinity + bless you this day and every day. **Amen.**

(Written by: Rev. Tessa Moon Leiseth Bishop, Eastern North Dakota Synod, ELCA)

SENDING SONG

A Mighty Fortress is Our God

ELW 504

DISMISSAL

Altered by the Spirit, we go in peace. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Kris Weikum

*The pieces of worship that have a * by them are part of a Lent in Box series by Church ANEW and have been written by Andy and Rev. Elise Pokel. This series has been purchased for church use and is being used with permission.*

WE HOLD IN OUR PRAYERS

Please pray for people in need of comfort, hope, healing, or safe transition: Archer, Deb L., Bob, Carol, Steve, Gary, Jeannie, Cliff, Dale, Roya, Larry, Mickey (community), Phyllis S., JoAnne, Tom, Mark, Jess, Kate, Joe, Matthew, Russ, Carolyn B., Dan, Adeline, Jesse, Tedd, Ed & Karen, Ralph, Diane, Chuck, Sue, Mike, Kate, Matt, Ken, Ruth T., Hermine, Matt, Ross-(needs transplant of kidneys & pancreas), Brandon, Jessica, Breanna, Jeremy, Richard, Shari, Rodney, Lee, Kathy, Mary, Wally C., Marlene, Victoria. Call Janet Heglund prayer leader for this month, at 218-749-6143, for prayer needs. Please keep Shannon Preckel and her family in prayer at the passing of her sister, Barbara.

If you are in need of any pastoral care or if you or someone you know would like a visit, please call Pastor Liz Cheney at 218-780-8907 or the church office at 218-741-6207.

CONTACT US

OSLC, 1111 8th St. South, Virginia, MN Church Office: 218-741-6207

Email: office@oslcmn.com

Online: www.oslcmn.com

www.facebook.com/oslcmn

YouTube Page "Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Virginia MN Office"

OFFICE HOURS

Office Admin hours are Tuesday - Friday 9am - 5pm

PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS

Pastor Liz will be here Mon. - Thurs. & off Fridays.

Call @ 218-780-8907

or email at lizcheney44@gmail.com

STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Liz Cheney

Secretary: Colleen Brown Jacobson

Bookkeeper: Carole Rutka

Custodian: Steve Gagnon

Musicians: Kristen Weikum, Mark Ongalo, and Ginny Ahrlin



Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America
God's work. Our hands.



ANNOUNCEMENTS FEBRUARY 18th, 2024

WELCA LOVE OFFERING Love Offering envelopes are in a basket in the narthex under the tv monitor. You can use the envelope to make a donation to WELCA for the many ministries they contribute to. **Thank you for considering!**

CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPE BOXES are in the narthex (unnumbered) if you use them - they are by the tv/monitor.

CLOTHING SALE It will be held **Friday, Apr. 19th & Sat., Apr. 20th**. *Times will be posted soon.* You may bring donated clothing and leave them bagged on a back table, left side of the Fellowship Hall – we need more donated clothes! If you have **gently used household items, kitchen gadgets & cookware, even tools**, bring them as well – we will have a table or two set up for used-a-bit items. *Thank you! If you can help with the sale, let Marcia Aluni or Gloria Gagnon know!*

NEWSLETTER Deadline for March to include your information is **THIS FRIDAY, Feb. 23rd**! Please call the office or email your information to be included.

CONCORDIA CHOIR @ Rock Ridge High School Sat., Feb. 24th 7pm, \$15 adults, free for students, go to www.TheConcordiaChoir.org to purchase in advance.

RIC MEETING Sunday, Feb. 25th @ 2pm there will be a second conversation for Reconciling in Christ at Trinity Lutheran in Cook.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY ANNUAL DINNER- This is a fundraiser/auction for North St. Louis. Doors open at 5pm, and dinner is served at 6pm, by RSVP, at the Mt. Iron Community Center, Thurs., Feb. 29th. Go to www.nslchfh.org to reserve your spot.

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS We are in need of people to sign up to help **serve communion, be a lector, usher, greet**, etc...in order for worship on Sunday mornings to run smoothly. The sign-up sheets are located on the kiosk in the narthex. This work belongs to all of us, the ministers of the congregation. Please prayerfully consider how you might be able to sign up to help. Not sure how to do something, just ask!

LITTLE PANTRY Heart Health focus this month: peanut butter, tuna fish & salmon in peelpacks/cans, nuts, sunflower seeds, oatmeal & hot cereals, dry beans, brown rice, multigrain bread, applesauce & fruit cups (no added sugar).

TECH TEAM FORMATION It's exciting to see what we will be able to do in the very near future! Shortly, Our Savior's will have the equipment and ability to live stream our worship services, funerals, weddings, concerts, etc... LIVE! People will be able to tune in at 9:30 on Sunday mornings and watch our worship in the moment on both our FB page & YouTube. This is very exciting! Pastor is looking to put together a *Tech Team* that would be able to help on Sunday mornings get mics on, camera on, radio on, easy tasks. Please talk with Pastor Liz if you are interested in helping out in this way.

RADIO SPONSORSHIP Thank you, **Karen McCue**, for sponsoring today's worship in loving memory of **Tedd McCue**. If you are interested in sponsoring a Sunday Worship in honor of someone or a special event (wedding anniversary, birth of children, baptism date) or in memory of a loved one who has passed, and/or the tech equipment, you may do so in full for \$90 or shared/partial at \$45. Just call the church office, **and/or sign up on the sheet provided on the bulletin board by the fountain**.

EVENTS & MEETINGS:

- 2/19 Council Meeting 11am
- 2/20 WELCA Bible Study 1pm
- 2/21 Quilting, 9am – 2-3pm
- 2/21 Supper served @ 5:00pm, Worship @ 6pm



E-GIVING TO OSCL MINISTRIES WITH OUR QR CODE MAKES IT A SIMPLE TASK. SCAN IT WITH YOUR PHONE'S CAMERA TO LEARN MORE!

TOPIC FOR WEDNESDAY
FEB. 21ST



ALTERED
through god's
creativity

WEDNESDAYS LENTEN SEASON
5PM SUPPER & 6PM WORSHIP
FEB. 21ST & 28TH - MAR. 6TH, 13TH & 20TH
WE WILL BEGIN WITH A MEAL TOGETHER,
THEN WORSHIP. THE THEME IS



ALTERED BY THE SPIRIT
JOIN US ON THIS JOURNEY
OF REFLECTION & DISCOVERY.

Holy Week

OUR LAST WEDNESDAY LENT SUPPER & WORSHIP
WILL TAKE PLACE MARCH 20TH
PALM SUNDAY IS MARCH 24TH
MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP, 6PM, MAR. 28TH
GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE, 6PM, MAR. 29TH
EASTER SUNDAY WORSHIP, MAR. 31 AT 9:30AM

**RECONCILING IN CHRIST (RIC)
SYNOD - Second
Conversation**



The Welcome and Reconciling team announces the second quarterly gatherings in each of the five conferences of our synod. These gatherings will include discussion, education, and resourcing around the topic of biblical interpretations and RIC. For more info [Becoming RIC Synod Fall 2023 Info Sessions](#)

Second Conversation — Lenses for Interpreting the Bible

Sunday, February 25, 2 PM
Trinity LC, Cook

Go to www.nemnsynod.org for more information about RIC