

Second Sunday of Lent
February 25th, 2024



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



PRELUDE
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kristen Weikum

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

People of God, where does your help come from?

**We look to the star over Bethlehem,
and to the eastern sky in the morning.**

Hidden or visible, near or far,
we trust that the Lord will come.

People of God, who is the storyteller?

We listen for the Word, which was with God before the dawning of Creation.

Spoken or silent, gentle or commanding, **we trust that the Lord will speak.**

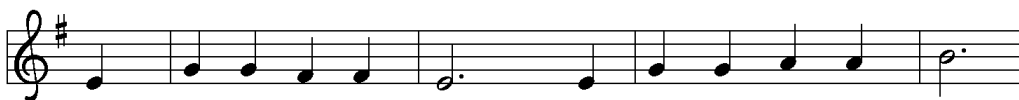
People of God, to whom do you pray?

We pray to God the Promise-keeper, who shows up again and again in our lives.

Though God's time is not like our own, **we trust that the Lord will listen.**

United by hopeful expectation, let us watch, listen, and pray, that we may discern and follow God's will as the body of Christ. **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**

Dear God, we live in the age of information overload, and yet, no amount of data can diminish the power of our emotions. A truth that challenges our worldview can feel disappointing, and a lie that supports our biases can feel quite tempting. Through prayer and discernment, Jesus followed your will and spoke words of liberation to the oppressed and words of challenge to the powerful. As we pursue your truth, O God, grant us curious minds and compassionate hearts, like 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 17:1-7, 15-16

¹When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. ²And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." ³Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, ⁴"As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁵No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁶I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. ⁷I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you."

¹⁵God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. ¹⁶I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

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

PSLAM: Psalm 22:23-31

²³You who fear the LORD, give praise! All you of Jacob's line, give glory.

Stand in awe of the LORD, all you offspring of Israel.

²⁴**For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is the LORD's face hidden from them; but when they cry out, the LORD hears them.**

²⁵From you comes my praise in the great assembly;

I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

²⁶**The poor shall eat and be satisfied,**

Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live forever!

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;

all the families of nations shall bow before God.

²⁸**For dominion belongs to the LORD, who rules over the nations.**

²⁹Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship;

all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the LORD.

³⁰**Their descendants shall serve the LORD, whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.**

³¹They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying to them, "The LORD has acted!"

SECOND READING: Romans 4:13-25

¹³The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

¹⁶For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, ¹⁷as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations")—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. ¹⁸Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." ¹⁹He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. ²⁰No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²²Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." ²³Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, ²⁴but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, ²⁵who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

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 8:31-38

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

³¹[Jesus] began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

³⁴He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of

the gospel, will save it. ³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S TIME

SERMON

Pastor Ellen Taube

HYMN OF THE DAY

Alas! And did My Savior Bleed

ELW 337

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.

LAMB OF GOD

pg. 208



- 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

Around You, O Lord Jesus

ELW 468

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

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

ELW 803

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, Laurie, Amy, Colton, Wally C., Deb L., Bob, Tom, Carol, Steve, Gary, Jeannie, Cliff, Dale, Roya, Larry, Mickey, Phyllis S., Tom, Mark, Jess, Kate, Joe, Matthew, Russ, Carolyn B., Dan, Adeline, Jesse, Tedd, Ed & Karen, Ralph, Diane, Chuck, Sue, Mike, Kate, Matt, Ken, Hermine, Matt, Ross-(needs transplant of kidneys & pancreas) Marlene K. 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 55792

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

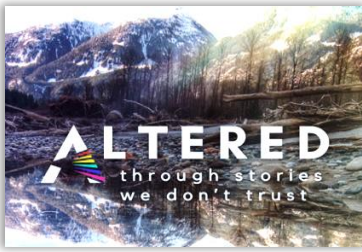
Bookkeeper: Carole Rutka

Custodian: Steve Gagnon

Musicians: Kristen Weikum, Mark Ongalo, and Ginny Ahrlin



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



ANNOUNCEMENTS FEBRUARY 25th, 2024

***THE BASEMENT WORK IS COMPLETED.** DBS asks that you let the cement set completely before walking on it or touching it. You are free to carefully walk down there later this week and take a look. *Thank you* for supporting this endeavor: it will now be ready to house the new furnace system.

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!**

RESURRECTION EASTER EGGS They're back! And you can find them **under the monitor in the narthex.** Inside each egg is a symbol that represents a part of the story of Jesus's death and resurrection. Look for the neon-colored egg cartons on the display case in the Narthex.

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, at the Mt. Iron Community Center, Thurs., Feb. 29th. Call 218-749-8910 with reservation inquiries.

SPECIAL ADULT FORUM Join us Sunday, March 3rd as Joy Hensel, the Synod Minister for Mental Health and Wellness discusses resources and her work within the synod to educate, empower and equip people facing mental health challenges at home, work and in the community.

COMMUNITY BREAKFAST More and more people from our community are taking part in **this Free Community Breakfast!** Join us **Saturday, March 9th from 9am – 12pm.** Egg bakes and side items will be served. Invite people you know who partake in Senior Dining, have a need, or would like to feel more connected in our community.

ESCAPE ROOM! This event is for all ages and all people - individuals, couples, children and the OSLC Youth Group! Together we will have fun looking for clues, solving riddles, and completing puzzles centered on the *Parables of Jesus*. Let's hope we complete the mission & uncover the mysteries within the stories! Join us Sunday, March 10th 5pm – 7pm, food & refreshments included.

CLOTHING SALE Friday, Apr. 19th & Sat., Apr. 20th. You may bring donated clothing & leave them bagged on a back table, left side of the Fellowship Hall. We need donated clothes! If you have **gently used household items, kitchen gadgets & cookware, even tools,** bring them as well – *Thank you!*

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! 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.

RADIO SPONSORSHIP Thank you, Karen McCue, for sponsoring last week'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:

2/27 FunDuhMentals Bible Study, 5:30pm in the Fireside Room

2/28 Quilting, 9am – 2/3pm

2/28 Lent, 5pm Soup Supper and 6pm Worship



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



Free Community-wide
Breakfast
Saturday, March 9th
9am – 12pm
@ OSLC

WEDNESDAYS LENTEN SEASON
5PM SUPPER & 6PM WORSHIP
FEB. 28TH, MAR. 6TH, 13TH & 20TH
JOIN US ON THIS JOURNEY
OF REFLECTION & DISCOVERY.




WEDNESDAY LENT
FEB 28th TOPIC:
ALTERED
on the edge
of belonging



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



#FunForEveryone
**Parables
of Jesus
Escape
Room**



Sunday, March 10, 2024
5:00 - 7:00 PM