

Fifth Sunday of Lent
March 17th, 2024



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



PRELUDE

Kristen Weikum

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

O God of action and intention, help us to consider our influence on the world.

The sword and the ploughshare are not so different--- no matter the name, a sharp blade can hurt or harvest, and a single word can alienate or welcome.

Only your love can heal and make whole.

O God of justice and mercy, help us to consider our relationships with your children.

The friend and the foe are not so different--- both can surprise us with a change of heart, and we have done the same.

Only your love can heal and make whole.

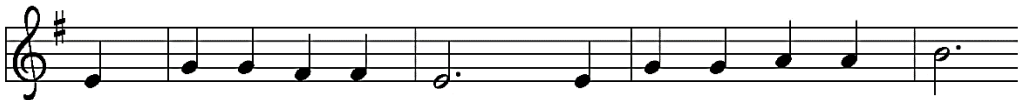
O God of patience and grace, help us to consider our limited perspective.

Success and failure are not so different--- we can neither win nor lose your love, and we can neither give nor take salvation.

Only your love can heal and make whole.

People of God, lay down all tools of change, that you might be changed; lay down all judgment, that you might be forgiven; lay down all fear of loss, that you might experience Christ's victory over death. **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

O Holy One, we are quick to diagnose the flaws of our neighbors and eager to prescribe the changes that would make them easier to love. In doing so, we reduce others to mere problems in need of a solution. How fortunate we are, O God, that you do not treat us this way. You heal us out of a desire for wholeness and abundance. Renew and reform us alongside our enemies, through the persistent love of your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

BAPTISM of Finn Charles Gustafson, son of Bradley and Kimberly Gustafson.

Congregation is invited to follow along on page 227, front pages of the ELW

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:31-34

³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

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

PSLAM: Psalm 51:1-12

¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

²**Wash me through and through from my wickedness,
and cleanse me from my sin.**

³For I know my offenses,
and my sin is ever before me.

⁴**Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight;
so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.**

⁵Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness,
a sinner from my mother’s womb.

⁶**Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me,
and would have me know wisdom deep within.**

⁷Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.

⁸**Let me hear joy and gladness;
that the body you have broken may rejoice.**

⁹Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all my wickedness.

¹⁰**Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.**

¹¹Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

¹²**Restore to me the joy of your salvation
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.**

SECOND READING: Hebrews 5:5-10

⁵Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

“You are my Son, today I have begotten you”;

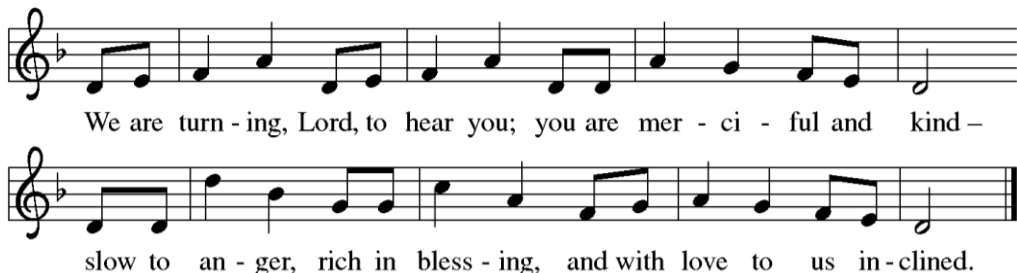
⁶as he says also in another place,

“You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek.”

⁷In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. ⁸Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; ⁹and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, ¹⁰having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

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 JOHN 12:20-33

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

²⁰Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. ²¹They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” ²²Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

²⁷“Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” ²⁹The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” ³⁰Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. ³¹Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” ³³He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

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 "Jesus, walk with us" 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



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

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

ELW 338

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

Were You There

ELW 353

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: Pastor Erika, Phyllis S., Archer, Roya, Ave, Laurie, Amy, Colton, Wally C., Deb L., Bob, Tom, Carol, Steve, Gary, Jeannie, Cliff, Dale, Larry, Mickey, Tom, Mark, Jess, Kate, Joe, Matthew, Russ, 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.

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 MARCH 17, 2024

LIVE STREAMING SERVICES We will be livestreaming services Sunday mornings now! You can watch on facebook or Youtube (Our Savior's Lutheran Church Virginia MN). **Turn the page over to see how to access the Live video on Youtube** ~

HOLY WEEK Join us for the upcoming worship services leading to Easter Sunday:

Palm Sunday, Mar. 24th

Maundy Thursday, Mar. 28th

Good Friday, Mar. 29th.

Easter Sunday Worship, Mar. 31st at 9:30am.

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.

**We will be setting up tables on Monday, Apr. 15th, if you would like to help let Marcia know.*

OLD KEYS If you have an old key for the main doors of the church, please bring them by the office. Please see Pastor Liz about a new key if you are involved in ministry and need one. There will be a new key policy, etc., made for the new keys.

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 Linda & Lauren Jallen are sponsoring today's broadcast in honor of their family & friends – Thank you! 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:

3/19 WELCA BIBLE STUDY 1PM

3/20 QUILTING 9AM – 2/PM

3/20 LENT SOUP SUPPER 5:15, WORSHIP @ 6PM

3/24 PALM SUNDAY WORSHIP

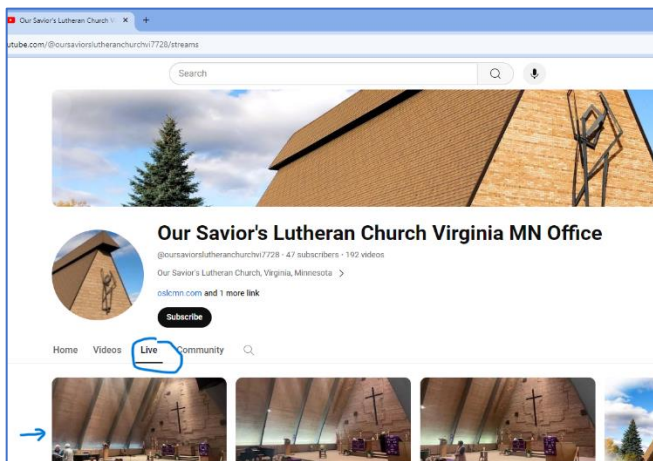
3/26 FUN-DUH-MENTAL BIBLE STUDY

FIRESIDE RM @ 5:30PM

3/28 MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE @ 6PM

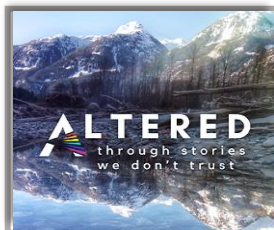
3/29 GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE @ 6PM

3/31 EASTER SUNDAY WORSHIP @ 9:30AM



LIVESTREAM VIDEO

1. Go to YouTube, type "Our Savior's Lutheran Church Virginia, MN" in the search bar.
2. Click on the circle emblem of our church. *It takes you to our page.*
3. Now click the word "Live." * *See the picture to the left and the word "Live" circled in blue.*
4. The first video starting from the left should be the newest video that is/has Live Streamed. Click on the video to watch!



WEDNESDAYS LENTEN SEASON
5PM SUPPER & 6PM WORSHIP
MAR. 20TH

*Topic: Altered through stories
we don't trust*



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



↑ THERE ARE NEW CARDS IN YOUR PEWS
THAT LOOK LIKE THE IMAGE ABOVE WITH OUR
QR CODE ON IT. ↑

IF YOU GIVE ELECTRONICALLY, PLACE ONE OF THESE
CARDS INTO THE OFFERING PLATE.
THIS HELPS BUILD AWARENESS OF E-GIVING AND
PROVIDES A WAY FOR YOU TO PARTICIPATE WITH
OFFERING DURING THE WORSHIP SERVICE.