

**Sunday, March 30th, 2025**

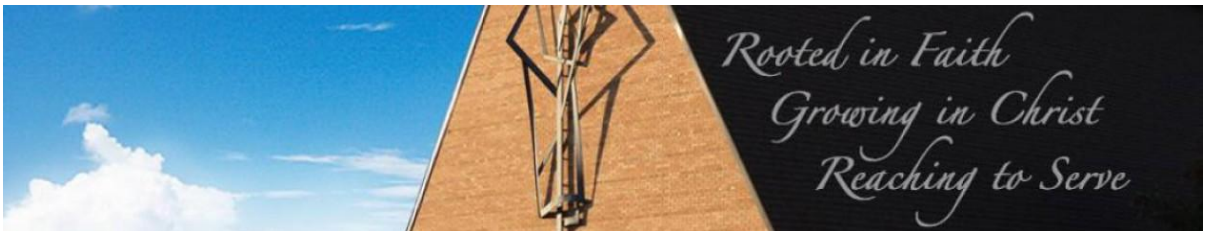
*Fourth Sunday in Lent*



**Our Savior's Lutheran Church**

Virginia, MN

Pastor Liz Cheney



**PRELUDE**

*Jennifer Fredrickson, Piano*

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**GATHERING HYMN**

*Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

**ELW 807**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
who forgives all our sin,  
whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God’s abiding love.  
*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Compassionate One,  
**you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love,  
but our lives do not always reflect you  
and your love for the world.**

**We do not show others the tender compassion  
you have shown to us.**

**We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality  
you grant to all people.**

**We oppress others,  
even though you have set us free again and again.**

**We squander the abundant gifts of the earth.**

**Transform our lives  
and guide us again in the way of the cross. Amen.**

Beloved in Christ,  
God’s arms are always stretched open wide  
to welcome the wandering ones home.

In † Christ your sins are forgiven.  
You have a place in God’s house forever. **Amen.**

**HYMN OF PRAISE**

*As the Winter Days Grow Longer*

**ACS 924**



1 As the win - ter days grow long - er, draw - ing short the hours of night;  
2 As the vines burst in - to blos - som, fra - grant in the morn - ing air,  
3 As we jour - ney through this sea - son, pil - grims through a thirst - y land,



as our ea - ger ex - pec - ta - tion waits for Eas - ter’s dawn - ing light—  
lift - ing spir - its with their sweet - ness, lur - ing hearts to thank - ful prayer—  
quench us with your liv - ing pres - ence; guide us with your lov - ing hand.



yearn - ing peo-ple, here we gath-er, turn - ing watch-ful eyes to you:  
Lent - en peo-ple, here we gath-er, seek - ing lives re-freshed from sin.  
Wan-d'ring peo-ple, here we gath-er, called to rest a - long our way.



God who bless-es earth with spring-time, shine with-in our world a - new!  
God who bless-es earth with spring-time, bloom with-in our hearts a - gain!  
God who bless-es earth with spring-time, grant us sab-bath joy this day!

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953  
Music: SUO GÂN, Welsh melody  
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**PRAYER OF THE DAY** God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**FIRST READING: Joshua 5:9-12**

<sup>9</sup>The LORD said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

<sup>10</sup>While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. <sup>11</sup>On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. <sup>12</sup>The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

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

**PSALM: Psalm 32**

<sup>1</sup>Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven,  
and whose sin is put away!

<sup>2</sup>**Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt,  
and in whose spirit there is no guile!**

<sup>3</sup>While I held my tongue, my bones withered away,  
because of my groaning all day long.

<sup>4</sup>**For your hand was heavy upon me day and night;  
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.**

<sup>5</sup>Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt.

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

<sup>6</sup>**Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble;  
when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.**

<sup>7</sup>You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble;  
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

<sup>8</sup> **"I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go;  
I will guide you with my eye.**

<sup>9</sup> Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding;  
who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you."

<sup>10</sup> **Great are the tribulations of the wicked;  
but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.**

<sup>11</sup> Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD;  
shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

**SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21**

<sup>16</sup> From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. <sup>17</sup> So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! <sup>18</sup> All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; <sup>19</sup> that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. <sup>20</sup> So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup> For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

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

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*I Want Jesus To Walk With Me*

**ELW 325**

**VS. 1** *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*

**GOSPEL: John 1:1-14.** The Holy Gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being <sup>4</sup>in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. <sup>9</sup>The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

<sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup>He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. <sup>12</sup>But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, <sup>13</sup>who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

<sup>14</sup>And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

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

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

*God's Word Comes Near*

*Bjorn Anderson, VLM*

HYMN OF THE DAY

*This Little Light of Mine*

ELW 677

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 INTERCESSION** Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need. We begin this time of prayer as we sing *O Lord Hear my Prayer* followed by petitions and the spoken response (*God, in your mercy, receive our prayer*) and we will end our time of prayer by singing *O Lord Hear my Prayer*. Let us pray and sing together:

*O Lord, Hear My Prayer*

ELW 751

*O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer; when I call, answer me.*

*O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer; come and listen to 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** Thank you for your continued financial support of OSLC! Whether you join us in person or online, the ministry & missions of Our Savior's depend on faithful giving. You can give the following ways:

+ online links can be found by accessing our website at <https://www.oslcmn.com/>

+ Using the QR code found here:

+ Contacting the church office to set up regular automatic giving

+ Dropping off or mailing in your offering



**OFFERING PRAYER** Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

**LORD'S PRAYER** Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

pg. 191

**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

All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread. All are welcome.

## COMMUNION HYMNS

*Come to the Table*

*Build a Longer Table*

ELW 481

ACS 1062



1 Build a long - er ta - ble, not a high - er wall,  
2 Build a saf - er ref - uge, not a larg - er jail;  
3 Build a broad - er door - way, not a long - er fence.  
4 When we lived as ex - iles, ref - u - gees a - broad,



feed - ing those who hun - ger, mak - ing room for all.  
where the weak find shel - ter, mer - cy will not fail.  
Love pro - tects all peo - ple, spar - ing no ex - pense.  
Christ be - came our door - way to the reign of God.



Feast - ing to - geth - er, strang - er turns to friend,  
For an - y place where jus - tice is de - nied,  
When we em - brace com - pas - sion more than fear,  
So must our ta - bles wel - come those who roam.



Christ breaks walls to piec - es; false di - vi - sions end.  
Christ will breach the jail wall, free - ing all in - side.  
Christ tears down our fenc - es: all are wel - come here.  
None can be ex - clud - ed; all must find a home.

## TABLE BLESSING

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION** Generous Host, you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**BLESSING** God our tender parent, God the crucified one,  
God the reconciling Spirit, ✠ bless you now and forever. Amen.

## SENDING HYMN

*My Life Flows On in Endless Song*

ELW 763

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you. **Thanks be to God!**

## POSTLUDE

*Jennifer Fredrickson*

## **WE HOLD IN OUR PRAYERS**

Please pray for people in need of comfort, hope, healing, or safe transition: Jeannette, Aubie (needs kidney transplant), Archer, Sharon, Mary (lung & bone cancer), Diane V. (bad fall w/injuries), Debbie (community, cancer), Leanne, Addy, Sharon P., Ross-(needs transplant of kidneys & pancreas), Deb, Cliff, Lorraine M., Eric, Kyle, Pr. Art, Bob D, Mark O., Janet, John W., Joy T., Shannon P., Luddy, Gerilyn, Archer, Jarie, Phyllis, Wally, Tedd, Ed & Karen, Ralph, Chuck, Sue. *Please pray for the family of Diane Vandervort at her passing. Call Janet Heglund @ 218-749-6143 for prayer needs- the prayer chain leader January through June.*

***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 8<sup>th</sup> St. South, Virginia, MN Church Office: 218-741-6207

Email: [office@oslcmn.com](mailto:office@oslcmn.com)

Online: [www.oslcmn.com](http://www.oslcmn.com)

[www.facebook.com/oslcmn](http://www.facebook.com/oslcmn)

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

### **OFFICE HOURS**

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

There will be times we're away from the office doing errands, for this reason, please call ahead if you plan on coming to the church or need assistance!

### **PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS**

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

Call @ 218-780-8907

or email at [lizcheney44@gmail.com](mailto: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

## *Fourth Sunday of Lent*

### March 30th, 2025



**CAMP SUNDAY** TODAY! Join us for pancakes after Worship in the Fellowship Hall. Any donations will benefit our "Campership" fund to assist families in sending their children to VLM this summer!

**ECO FAITH SUMMIT** Continuing our teaching from March's Adult Forum about EcoFaith, the Summit will be **Sat., Apr., 5<sup>th</sup> at First Lutheran in Duluth.** If you're interested in attending & carpooling, call the church office. If you desire to go in your own vehicle, the Summit is from 9:30am-5pm, registration from 8:30 on. Stay as long as you like, hear different speakers and how you can be a part of caring for God's Creation.

**LENT** Lent Soup Suppers & Worship dates: **Wed., APR. 2<sup>ND</sup>, APR. 9<sup>TH</sup>.** Supper is at 5:15, Worship is at 6. The sign-up sheet to bring soup/serve is on the kiosk in the narthex. **LENTEN WORSHIP EXPERIENCE:** We're centering on our five senses as a way of exploring the significance of Christ's incarnation throughout our Lenten journey. We all are made in the image of God, who chose to share our humanity by joining in our embodied experience. God's image in us is beautifully diverse. *Join us for Worship after our meal, all ages are welcome.*

**EASTER BASKET DONATION SIGN-UP:** Sign-up sheets to donate food for the baskets (as we do at Thanksgiving & Christmas) are on the glass cabinet in the narthex. Please have your items here **NO LATER THAN SUN., APR., 13<sup>TH</sup>!** Also, we need volunteer drivers to drop them off Tues., Apr. 15<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for being a part of this important outreach.

**RANGE OF VOICES CONCERT:** "Come Fly with Me" is the spring theme for the concerts, held Friday, Apr. 11<sup>th</sup>, 7pm at Chisolm Baptist Church, and Sunday, **April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2pm, at Gethsemane Lutheran Church.** Admission is \$10/Adults and \$5/Youth, kids 5& under are free or \$25/Family. Coffee An' Served after concerts.

**CHORALAIRES SPRING CONCERT:** You can attend this Spring concert Fri., Apr. 25<sup>th</sup> 7pm at GELC, or **at Our Savior's Sun., Apr. 27<sup>th</sup> at 2pm.**

**CLOTHING SALE** We're collecting clothes & gently used household items for our Clothing Sale **April 25<sup>th</sup> (8:30am – 2:30pm) & April 26<sup>th</sup> (8:30am – 12pm).** Please bring items to the back of the Fellowship Hall and leave them on a table on the left. ***Important: label your donated items for the "Clothing Sale" or "Community Closet," or leave your donated Community Closet items on a pew by the office instead. We need volunteers!***

**WORSHIP SPONSORSHIP** If you're 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, you may do so any amount you choose from \$25 - \$100. The funds will be used to keep our new sound system and electronic equipment up to date and functioning. **THE SIGN-UP SHEET WILL NOW BE LOCATED ON THE KIOSK.**

#### **THIS WEEK @ OSLC:**

4/01 1PM WELCA BIBLE STUDY

4/02 9AM-2PM QUILTING

4/02 11AM FINANCE MEETING

4/02 12PM-3PM COMMUNITY CLOSET

4/02 4PM-5PM FIRST COMMUNION CLASS

4/02 5:15 SOUP SUPPER, 6PM LENT WORSHIP

4/06 ADULT FORUM AFTER WORSHIP



Easter  
Basket  
Sign-up  
Sheets



If you would like to donate food for the Easter Baskets, the sign-up sheets are on the glass cabinet under the monitor in the Narthex. Please bring by Apr. 13<sup>th</sup>!



## LENTEN WORSHIP & HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

### SOUP SUPPER & LENT WORSHIP

Supper starts at 5:15pm  
Worship begins at 6pm

Wednesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Wednesday, April 9<sup>th</sup>

### SPECIAL WORSHIP SERVICES

Palm Sunday, Apr. 13<sup>th</sup>, 9:30am

Maundy Thursday Worship, Apr. 17<sup>th</sup>, 6pm,  
with First Communion Class

Good Friday Service, Apr. 18<sup>th</sup>, 12pm

Easter Sunday Worship, April 20<sup>th</sup> at  
9:30am. \*Breakfast served 8am - 9:30am



Sunday, April 20<sup>th</sup>

Join us for a special

## *Easter Breakfast*

starting at 8am

serving until Worship begins at 9:30

### First Communion Classes

#### DATES & TIME - 4-5PM:

WED. APRIL 2      WED. APRIL 9

WED. APRIL 16      THURS. APRIL 17 6:00 PM

*TAKING OUR FIRST COMMUNION IN WORSHIP APR. 17*

#### PASTOR LIZ'S CONTACT INFO:

Lizcheney44@gmail.com    218-780-8907



## *Today is Camp Sunday*

Join us for a  
**Pancake Breakfast**  
after worship  
to benefit OSLC's  
**Campership Fund!**



### *April Lectors*

- Apr. 6<sup>th</sup> – Chris Culbert
- Apr. 13<sup>th</sup> – John Eloffson – Palm Sunday
- Apr. 17<sup>th</sup> – Maundy Thursday, Need a reader
- Apr. 18<sup>th</sup> – Good Friday – Need a reader
- Apr. 20<sup>th</sup> – Nina Kampf – Easter Sunday
- Apr. 27<sup>th</sup> – Jen Fredrickson



## *Community CLOSET*

OUR SAVIOR'S  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
1111 8TH ST. S. VIRGINIA

WEDNESDAYS  
12PM - 3PM

AND 2ND SATURDAY  
EVERY MONTH  
9AM - 12PM

*clothing for all ages  
food pantry items  
limited household  
goods*



### FOR APRIL WE ARE COLLECTING:

- Dry Cereal
- Wash Cloths & Hand Towels
- Jelly
- Body Wash (adult & kids)
- Peanut Butter
- Shampoo (adult & kids)

\*Leave items on the pews outside the church office!