

SUNDAY, October 4th, 2026

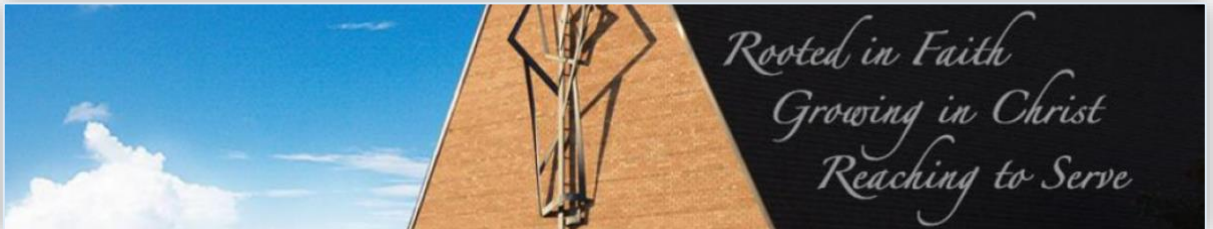
A Creation Service of Lessons and Carols



Our Savior's Lutheran Church

Virginia, MN

Pastor Liz Cheney



PRELUDE

Anna De Foe, Organist

OPENING DIALOGUE

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Let us bless God, who created heaven and earth.

Our Creator's name be praised.

God blessed them, and God said to them,

"Be fruitful and multiply

and fill the earth and subdue it

and have dominion over the fish of the sea

and over the birds of the air

and over every living thing that moves upon the earth."

(Genesis 1:28)

HYMN

Earth is Full of Wit and Wisdom

ACS# 1064



1 Earth is full of wit and wis - dom, sound-ing God's de - light - ed laugh,
2 Earth is full of wit and wis - dom, wo - ven in - to har - mo - ny.
3 Earth is full of wit and wis - dom: pen - guin, pla - ty - pus, and snail,



from the ti - ny ro - ly - po - ly to the tree - top - tall gi - raffe.
Ev - 'ry crea-ture has a pur - pose, ev - 'ry flow'r and bum - ble - bee.
cac - tus, sea slug, oak, and al - gae, from the mi - crobe to the whale.



All cre - a - tion sings in won - der; e - ven rocks and trees re - joice
Spi - der, hu - man, red - wood, geck - o, mon - key, chick - en, mouse, and snake
In this great and strange cre - a - tion, with a breath God gives us birth:



as they join the ring - ing cho - rus: ech - oes of our Mak - er's voice.
live with - in a sin - gle fab - ric: cloth that on - ly God could make.
born of soil to live as stew - ards, called to love and serve the earth.

PRAYER Holy Spirit, you move through all creation with sighs too deep for words. Open our hearts to listen to the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor. Speak through your church to rebuke the forces that seek to exploit your planet. Join our human prayers with the voices of all creation and move us to honor you by preserving the gifts of nature that reveal your glory. **Amen.**

(Creation, the Earth, ACS, p. 47)

DIALOGUE *Please respond with the bold print.*

But ask the animals, and they will teach you,

the birds of the air, and they will tell you;

ask the plants of the earth, and they will teach you,

and the fish of the sea will declare to you.

Who among all these does not know

that the hand of the LORD has done this?

In his hand is the life of every living thing

and the breath of every human being.

(Job 12:7-10)

HYMN

Praise and Thanksgiving

ELW# 689

PRAYER God, creator of all living things, you fashioned a world in which lands and waterways, plants and animals, together meet the needs of all that you made. We pray that such vitality may flourish around the globe. Bless those who work the soil and who manage animals. Uphold their towns and villages. Nurture bees and other pollinators. Protect farmlands and ranches from drought and flood. Free children from forced labor in the fields. Grant an economy that can sustain those families who treasure a rural life. Teach us how to share with everyone the benefits of each harvest, and accept our gratitude for all sustenance you provide, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

DIALOGUE

You visit the earth and water it abundantly;

you make it very plenteous; the river of God is full of water.

You prepare the grain, for so you provide for the earth.

You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges;

with heavy rain you soften the ground

and bless its increase.

You crown the year with your goodness,

and your paths overflow with plenty.

May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing,

and the hills be clothed with joy.

May the meadows cover themselves with flocks,

and the valleys cloak themselves with grain;

let them shout for joy and sing.

(Psalm 65:9-13, ELW)

HYMN

Touch the Earth Lightly

ELW# 739

PRAYER Holy God, we lift to you the animal inhabitants of the earth. For those seen and unseen creatures and living things that attest to your creative power, we ask your blessing. We pray for victims of animal cruelty. Bless all who care for injured and abused animals. Comfort those who mourn for their pets and for endangered and extinct species. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.** *(Creation, the Earth, ACS, p. 48)*

DIALOGUE

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life,

**bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and
of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city.**

On either side of the river is the tree of life

with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month,

and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. *(Revelation 22:1-2)*

BLESSING OF ANIMALS *At this time you're invited to come forward with your pet, or a photo for a blessing.*

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.

PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let me sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

and where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek

to be consoled as to console;

to be understood as to understand;

to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive;

it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;

and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.



1 Make me a chan - nel of your peace.
 2 Make me a chan - nel of your peace.
 4 Make me a chan - nel of your peace.



Where there is ha - tred, let me bring your love;
 Where there's de - spair in life, let me bring hope;
 It is in par - don - ing that we are par - doned,

Last time to coda ⊕



where there is in - ju - ry, your par - don, Lord;
 where there is dark - ness, on - ly light;
 in giv - ing of our - selves that we re



and where there's doubt, true faith in you.
 and where there's sad - ness, ev - er joy.



3 O Mas - ter, grant that I may nev - er seek so



much to be con - soled as to con - sole, to be



un - der - stood as to un - der - stand, to be

D.C. (stanza 4) al coda



loved as to love with all my soul.



4 ceive, and in dy - ing that we're born to e - ter - nal life.

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 – *Thank you*



CHOIR OFFERTORY:

For The Beauty of The Earth

Text: John Rutter, Hinshaw Music, Inc. 1980. One License #740848-A.

OFFERING PRAYER God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. 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

The gifts of creation for God's beloved creatures. Come and share. All are welcome.

A musical score for a communion invitation, consisting of four staves of music in G major (one sharp). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff contains the first line of the prayer. The second staff contains the second line. The third staff contains the third line. The fourth staff contains the fourth line, which ends with a double bar line. The lyrics are: "Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace."

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on

us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have

mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the

world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

***Come to the Table
I Come with Joy***

***ELW# 481
ELW# 482***

TABLE BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

DIALOGUE

Most high, most powerful, good Lord,

Praise, glory, honor and blessing are yours. . . .

Praise be to you, my Lord, with all your creatures,

Especially to my reverent Brother Sun . . .

Beautiful is he and radiant with splendor great;

singing of your significance.

Praised be my Lord, for Sister Moon and for the stars . . .

Praised be my Lord for Brother Wind . . .

Praised be my Lord for Sister Water . . .

Praised be my Lord for Brother Fire . . .

Praised be my Lord for our sister, Mother Earth,

Praised be my Lord for those who forgive others for your sake . . .

Praised be my Lord for our sister, Death . . .

Praise and bless my Lord, and give him thanks.

Excerpt from "Canticle of the Sun" by Francis of Assisi," trans. Paschal Robinson and slightly modernized by Creative Commons Prayer (www.creativecommonsprayer.com/occasion/st-francis-canticle-of-the-sun/). Used under creative commons license version 2.0.

PRAYER Stir up your power, O God, and save your good creation. The earth groans in travail. Forests fall, oceans rise, crops fail. The air is thick with so much burning. Free us from the powerful who destroy the air, water, and land. Frustrate their violence, expose their lies, overthrow their schemes. Pour out over the earth justice that rolls down like water to nourish the life of the world. Preserve the health of your beloved creation. Strengthen those who serve and protect the garden of this earth. Restore the choir of your creatures and let us sing for joy. Gather us at your river, under the tree of life. Send forth your Spirit and renew the face of the earth; in the name of the one who from a wounded tree birthed a new creation, Jesus our redeemer. **Amen.**

BLESSING

Creator God bless you and keep you.

Creating Christ shine through you with grace and mercy.

Creative Spirit nourish you and give you peace. **Amen.**

HYMN

Beautiful Savior

ELW# 838

DISMISSAL Go in peace. Flourish with creation. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Anna De Foe, Organist

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WE HOLD IN OUR PRAYERS

Please pray for people in need of comfort, hope, healing, safe transition, and for those serving away from home: Scooby, Pr. Dorothy, Butch, Tom, Gordy, Paul, Jean, Dan, Fred, Megan, Ellen, Steven, Gary, Chuck, Ron, Nadia, Mary, Ruth, Hudson, Wilson, Logan, Nel, Jim, Kyle, Cliff, Ryan, Alexandra W, Dan, Leslie, Shannon, Dale, Adeline, Sue, Jim, Wendy, Fred, Harry, Scooby, Larry, Caleb, Jake, Laurie, Mike, Tedd, Matthew, Rick & Betsy, Gordon, Ross, Anna, Archer, Sharon, Mary, Debbie, Leanne, Addy, Deb, Kyle, Gerilyn, Wally, Ralph, Sue.

***Call the church office or Pastor if you have a prayer need: we can send it to the prayer chain if you desire.
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 Office: 218-741-6207 Email: office@oslcmn.com
OSLC, 1111 8th St. South, Virginia, MN
Website: www.oslcmn.com www.facebook.com/oslcmn
YouTube Page "Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Virginia MN Office"

OFFICE ADMIN HOURS: CLOSED MONDAYS & HOLIDAYS. OPEN TUES.- FRIDAY, 9AM-5PM

PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS Pastor Liz is here Tues.-Thurs. & does visits etc., Mon. & Fri.
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: Mark Ongalo, Jen Fredrickson, Anna & Jim De Foe



<u>LECTORS FOR OCTOBER</u>	
4 OCT.	JOHN ELOFSON
11 OCT.	CHRIS CULBERT
18 OCT.	MARY TROUTWINE
25 OCT.	CONFIRMATION STUDENTS



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

Welcome to our Creation Service of
Lessons & Carols, and Blessing of the Animals



ANNOUNCEMENTS, SUNDAY OCT. 4TH 2026

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS Pastor will be blessing your pets & animals- present or at home- during worship. You're invited to bring up a picture of your pet from your phone if you didn't bring them today.

WELCA NEWS The area **WELCA Fall Gathering** is here this Thurs., Oct. 8th. Registration is **at 9am**, with a silent auction, lunch, Habitat for Humanity presentation, worship & communion. Auction proceeds go to the LSS Youth Foyer.

WELCA FALL FEST **New this year: If you create handmade crafts, you are invited to reserve a table at the Fall Fest to sell your items, register with Pastor Liz!** Also included will be the Quilter's Corner, Bake Shop, Coffee & Lunch by Youth. It will take place Saturday, **Oct. 24th 9am-2pm**.

LIFT ADULT STUDY This is an **open invitation to all** for the Adult Bible Study taking place during LIFT. Dinner is at 6pm, a short Worship to follow, then the Study (6:45). Gethsemane Lutheran will host for 9/30, 10/7, 10/21 and OSLC will host for 10/28, 11/4, 11/11, 11/18.

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM Reformation Sunday is Oct. 25th. Join us as we celebrate the completion of Confirmation and the youth affirm their baptisms through the rite of confirmation.

BOOK STUDY GROUP! We are currently studying a wonderful classic titled, *"Falling Upward."* Our next meeting is on **OCT. 15TH, @ 12pm** in the Fireside Room (then Oct. 29th).

BIBLE STUDY The WELCA Bible Study will be this **Tues., Oct. 6th & 20th @ 1pm** in the Fireside Room. Also, Fun-duh-mentals Bible Study takes place **Oct. 6th & 20th at 4pm** in the Fireside Room.

WORSHIP SPONSORSHIP Today's Livestream is sponsored by Tom Klabecek, in loving memory of wife Jarie. **Thank you for your support.** To sponsor Livestream & TV Broadcasts in honor of a person or special event (wedding annivers., birthday, graduation etc..) or in memory of a loved one, you may do so in any amount- It helps maintain our sound/camera equipment.

Choir is back !

PRACTICE WILL BE
WEDNESDAYS @ 3PM
FOR MORE DETAILS
PLEASE SEE JIM DE FOE



YOU'RE INVITED TO JOIN US!

UPCOMING: MON.OCT.5 10:30AM AA 2 PM ORGAN PR. 6PM SCOUTS 7PM NA	TUES. OCT.6 10:30AM AA 1PM WELCA BIBLE STUDY 2 PM ORGAN PR. 4PM FUN.DUH. MENTALS STUDY	WED. OCT.7 9AM QUILTING 10:30AM AA 11AM FINANCE 12-3PM C.CLOSET 3PM CHOIR 5:30PM ALANON 6PM LIFT@ GELC	THURS. OCT.8 9AM FALL GATHERING 10:30AM AA 2:30PM TOPS 7PM NA W.WING	FRI. OCT.9 10:30AM AA 7PM NA	SAT. OCT.10 10:30AM AA 9-11:30AM COMM.BREAKFAST & COMM.CLOSET	SUN.OCT.11 9:30AM WORSHIP & GRAND PIANO DEDICATION 1PM AA 3PM CUB SCOUTS 7PM NA
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OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Fall Festival

OCTOBER 24th 9am - 2pm

Quilter's Corner

quilts, aprons, tote bags, table runners, pot holders, and more!

Handmade craft vendors!

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN A BOOTH FOR YOUR HOMEMADE PRODUCTS CONTACT LIZ 218-780-8907

 **BAKE SALE**

 **GIFT BASKETS FOR RAFFLE**

 **COFFEE AND LUNCH**
(for purchase) to support our youth

Proceeds go to support local charities, the Community Closet and our Youth!

OSLC PIPE PROJECT FUNDRAISER

Sarma SALE

"LARGE CABBAGE ROLLS"

Order your sarmas now and they will be ready for pick up between October 21-23

3 for \$20 OR 6 for \$35 (8oz ea)

Orders can be placed by calling the church office at 218-741-6207 or using the order form in the Narthex at the church.

What's in a Sarma?

***Rice *Pork and Beef *Cabbage *Tomato sauce *Sauerkraut**

This is a fundraiser for the Pipe Project @ Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Viringia. All proceeds will be applied to the Pipe Project.



Sarmas will be ready to be picked up October 21-23

Fully cooked large Sarmas packaged in 3 or 6 - 8oz ea ready to eat or keep in fridge for up to five days or great to freeze and eat later!



L.I.F.T. resumes **Wednesday, September 23**
with dinner and mini golf for all!
Join us at Greens on Fourteenth
6-8pm

Nightly Schedule

6-6:30 Dinner

6:30-6:45 Worship

6:45-7:05 Small Groups for all

7:05-7:55 Learning Groups

Youth Group - Grades 3-6

Confirmation

Sr. High Youth Group - Confirmed - 12

Adult Bible Study



Please register before 9/23

<https://forms.gle/FXnd4QgJEyNKb3wh7>

Unit 1 @ Gethsemane 9/30, 10/7, 10/21
Unit 2 @ Our Savior's 10/28, 11/4, 11/11, 11/18
Unit 3
12/2 - Messiah
12/9 - Our Savior's
12/16 - Gethsemane

LIFT ADULT BIBLE STUDY

6 PM DINNER

6:30 WORSHIP

6:45 SMALL

GROUP

7-8 PM CLASS



WEDNESDAYS
DURING LIFT

You get a sneak peak at one of the passages for Sunday!
You model life-long learning for our youth!
You're a part of our churches collaborative work!

Trunk or Treat!

SUNDAY, OCT. 25TH 4-6PM
OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH PARKING LOT
SPONSORED BY AREA CHURCHES, BOY & CUB SCOUTS TROOP #4129

Let's Celebrate!

Pipe Project Completion

join us for a celebration meal

Sunday, November 1st.

5:00 Arrive

5:15 Presentation & Thank yous

5:45 Dinner

Pasta Bar: red sauce, alfredo sauce, chicken, meat balls, shrimp, Italian sausage, salad, bread sticks & Cheesecake for dessert

This meal is free and sponsored by a
Thrivent Action Team grant



COMMUNITY CLOSET PANTRY

Below are the following challenge items for the pantry.

You can buy what you desire & at the store that is most convenient for you; we just provide examples of most needed items for the week and give examples of spending \$10 or less.

We appreciate all donations!

1. CRYSTAL FARMS CHEESE @ SUPER ONE
\$1.99, 8OZ SHREDDED OR BLOCK VARIETY
2. CHEERIOS CEREAL @ SUPER ONE
\$2.99 PER 12-18OZ BOX
3. JOAN OF ARC BEANS @ SUPER ONE
4/\$5/15OZ CANS, NORTHERN, BLACK, CHILI, KIDNEY BEANS
4. MINUTE RICE @ SUPER ONE
\$2.49 PER 14OZ BOX, BROWN OR WHITE RICE
5. PRAIRIE FARMS MILK @ SUPER ONE
\$1.99 PER 64OZ CONTAINER, 1%, 2%, SKIM, WHOLE

THANK
YOU

FREE
COMMUNITY
BREAKFAST
OCTOBER 10TH
9AM-11:30AM



Community
Closet

WEDNESDAYS
12PM-3PM

AND 2ND SATURDAY
9AM-11:30AM

SUPPORTED BY AREA CHURCHES

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



Read Matthew 21:33-46 on biblegateway.com

³³"Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. ³⁴When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. ³⁵But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. ³⁷Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' ³⁸But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.' ³⁹So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" ⁴¹They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time." ⁴²Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures: 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes'? ⁴³Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. ⁴⁴The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls." ⁴⁵When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

Devotion As a kid, I loved a brand new box of crayons. The colors were so vivid, the ends so sharp. They were in the perfect rainbow color order, and they were all the same length. I didn't want to use them, knowing that all of that would quickly change. But the longer I kept my new crayons in the box, the fewer pictures and projects I created, and the less joy they brought me. My new crayons were meant to be used and even (gasp!) shared with others. As an adult, sometimes sharing is still hard. We tend to want to keep the good things for ourselves or for our families and friends. In this story from the Gospel of Matthew, the Jewish leaders wanted to keep God's teachings only for themselves and their fellow Jews. Jesus' teachings, however, were and are for everyone. The word of God and the teachings of Jesus are meant to be taken out of that "box" and shared, not hoarded. Blessing is always connected to generosity.

Prayer Father God, we thank you for sharing your word, your son, and his teachings with the world. We are grateful for your generosity, your grace, and your unconditional love for us. Amen.

Bethany Kurschner '92 M.A. Elementary Librarian, Wisconsin Rapids, WI