

March 16, 2025 Second Sunday in Lent



Presider: The Reverend Paul A. Miller

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Welcome to Church of the Savior – Lutheran:

We are a community of believers, seekers, and doubters. We affirm all of God's people just as they are. We are a welcoming and inclusive community that does not require you to change in any way to worship with us.

We strive to make love grow both in our congregational life and in our nursery school. We recognize all the love we have is given to us from the Holy Spirit, we are but reflections of God's love. One of the ways we make love grow is by being accepting and existing the way Jesus taught us; living in harmony together no matter one's race, nationality, or gender. We strive to create and ensure the safest and most loving environment for everyone. We look forward to growing in faith with you.

With Regard to Holy Communion:

We celebrate Holy Communion nearly every week at Church of the Savior. Holy Communion is a sacred meal in which Christ comes to us in bread and wine. "This is my body given for you... This is my blood shed for you." We believe those words to be true. Christ is truly present in Holy Communion. When we receive the bread and wine of this meal, we receive his body and blood "in, with, and under the forms" of the consecrated bread and wine. All of God's beautiful children are welcome to our Lord's table — it's our Lord's table, after all, and all are invited. Let's be clear — it is not "my" table, or "our" table or a "Lutheran" table. It is our Lord's table, and he sends out the invitations — to everyone under the sun. This includes you to come forward just as are.

For the bread we provide two types of host, with gluten and without. If you would like gluten free let Pastor Paul know when you come forward. We offer both red wine and white grape juice.

To the Parents of Children:

Relax! God put the wiggle in children; don't feel you have to suppress it in God's house. All are welcome! Sit toward the front where it is easier for children to see and hear what is going on. Little one's tire of seeing the back of others' heads.

Explain the parts of the service and actions of the pastor, ushers, choir, and the people who make worship happen. Sing the hymns, pray, and voice the responses. Children learn liturgical behavior by copying you.

If you have to leave the service with your child, feel free to, but please come back. As Jesus said, "Let the children come to me."

The way we welcome children in church directly affects the way they respond to The Church, to God and to one another. Let them know, and let us show them, that they are at home in their house of worship. The presence of your child is a gift to Church of the Savior. We are blessed to welcome and worship with our children. We know that is took a lot of work to get to this pew today; you are doing a really good job!

PRELUDE: Solo: Lorica of St. Patrick

I arise today through the strength of heaven, light of sun, radiance of moon, splendor of fire, speed of lightning, swiftness of wind, depth of the sea, stability of earth, firmness of rock. I arise today through God's strength to pilot me, God's eye to look before me, God's wisdom to guide me, God's way to lie before me, God's shield to protect me, from all who shall wish me ill afar and anear, alone and in a multitude. Against every cruel merciless power that may oppose my body and soul. Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ beneath, Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ on my right, Christ on my left, Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit down, Christ when I arise, Christ to shield me, Christ in the heart of every man who thinks of me, Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me. I arise today.



CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, \pm 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.

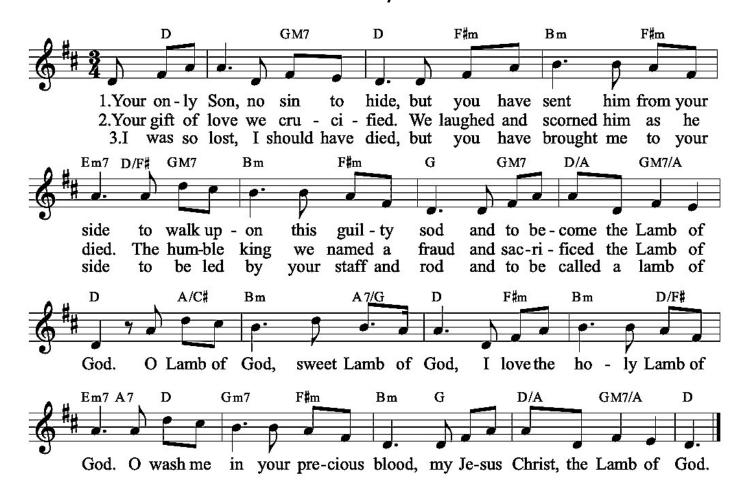
Compassionate One,

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.**



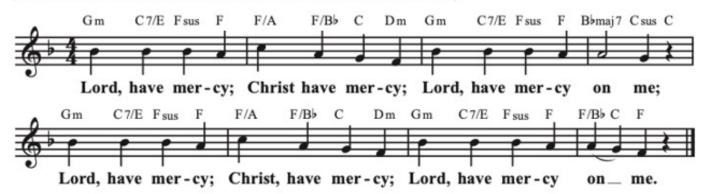
GREETING

Pastor: The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

People: And also with you.

THE KYRIE

(CONGREGATION SINGS THIS AFTER WORSHIP BAND SINGS EACH VERSE)



PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.



FIRST READING: Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

¹ After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." ² But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" ³ And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." ⁴ But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." ⁵ He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." ⁶ And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

⁷ Then he said to him, "I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." ⁸ But he said, "O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" ⁹ He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." ¹⁰ He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. ¹¹ And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

¹² As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

¹⁷ When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. ¹⁸ On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates."

Lector: Word of God, Word of Life

People: Thanks Be to God

PSALM: Psalm 27

¹ The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

² When evildoers close in against me to devour my flesh, they, my foes and my enemies, will stumble and fall.

³ Though an army encamp against me, my heart will not fear. Though war rise up against me, my trust will not be shaken.

⁴ One thing I ask of the LORD; one thing I seek; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life; to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek God in the temple.

⁵ For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter, hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high upon a rock. ⁶ Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who surround me.

Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing;

I will sing and make music to the LORD.

⁷ Hear my voice, O LORD, when I call; have mercy on me and answer me.

⁸ My heart speaks your message— "Seek my face." Your face, O LORD, I will seek.

⁹ Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger. Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of my salvation.

¹⁰ Though my father and my mother forsake me, the LORD will take me in.

¹¹ Teach me your way, O LORD; lead me on a level path, because of my oppressors.

¹² **Subject me not to the will of my foes,**

for they rise up against me, false witnesses breathing violence.

¹³ This I believe—that I will see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living!

¹⁴ Wait for the LORD and be strong. Take heart and wait for the LORD!



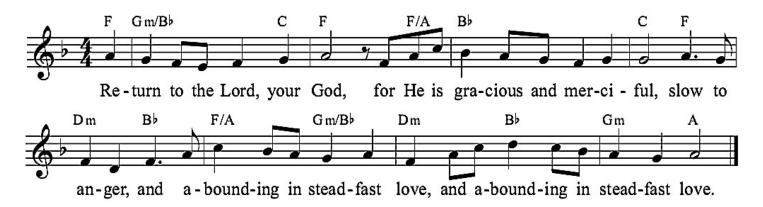
SOND READING: Philippians 3:17—4:1

¹⁷ Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. ¹⁸ For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. ¹⁹ Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. ²⁰ But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. ²¹ He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. ^{4:1} Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

Lector: Word of God, Word of Life

People: Thanks Be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION





THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 13:31-35 People: Glory to you, O Lord.

At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus,] "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." ³² He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. ³³ Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.' ³⁴ Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! ³⁵ See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

HOMILY: Pastor Paul

HYMN OF THE DAY: How Deep the Father's Love (Townend)



CONFESSION OF FAITH - APOSTLES' CREED

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 THE CHURCH: Response: Receive our prayer.

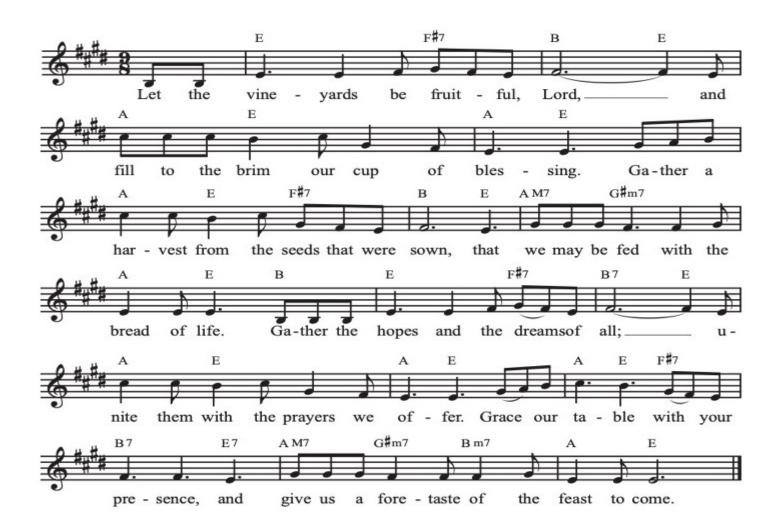
SHARING OF THE PEACE:

SPECIAL MUSIC: Brenda Moderacki: At the Foot of the Cross (Kathryn Scott)

OFFERING

Please mail your offering to: Church of the Savior 643 Forest Avenue - Paramus, NJ 07652 OR Use the QR code on right for your offertory giving.





ALL: 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.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

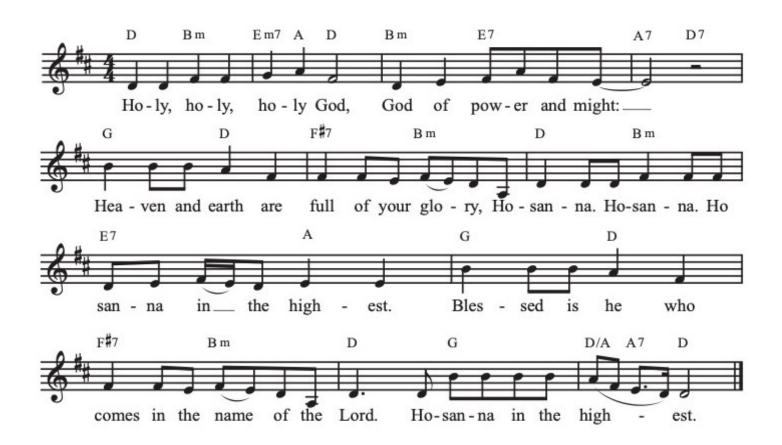
People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE FOR THE SEASON

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places....we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

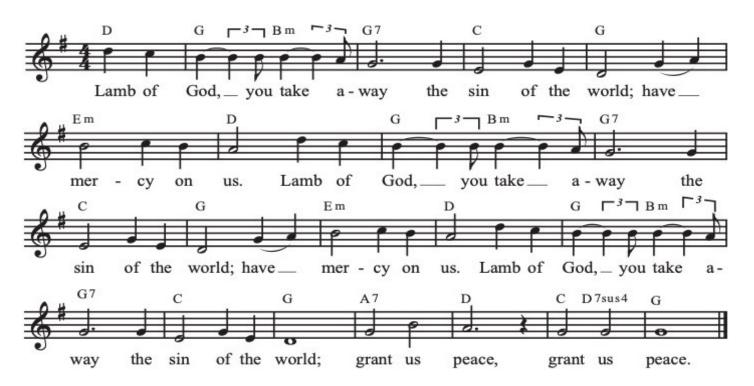
....proclaim the Lord's death until he comes:

People: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

At conclusion of Eucharistic Prayer

People: Amen

THE LORD'S PRAYER

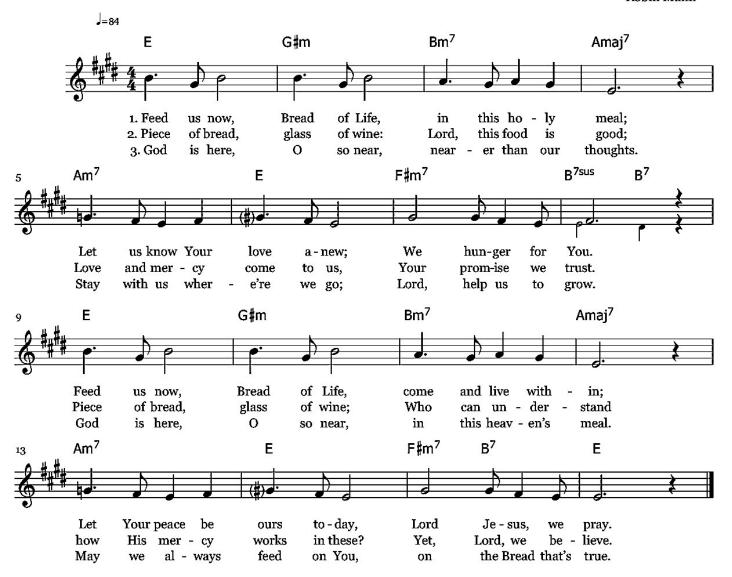




DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION



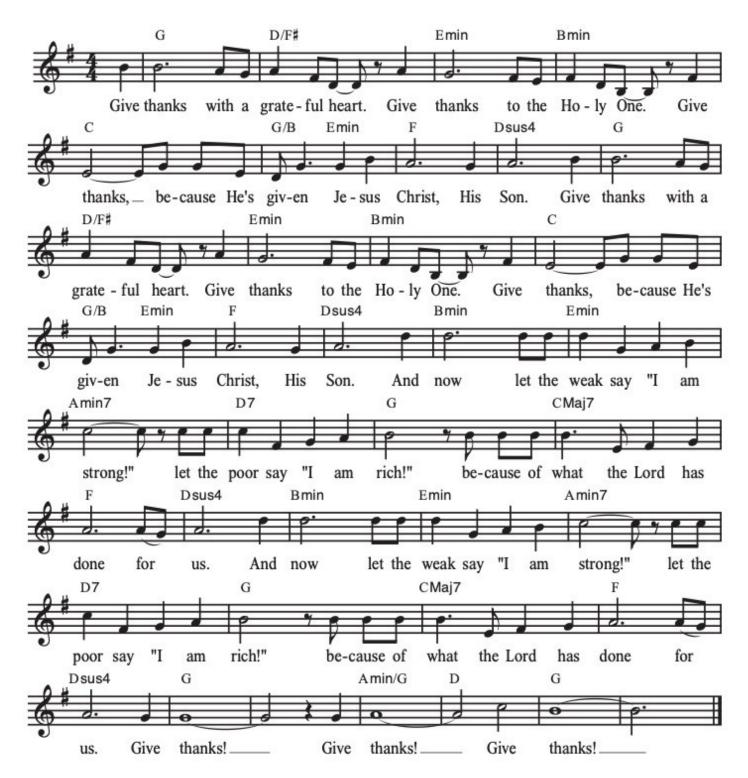
COMMUNION HYMN: Feed Us Now





COMMUNION BLESSING

Pastor: May the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His Grace! **Amen.**





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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

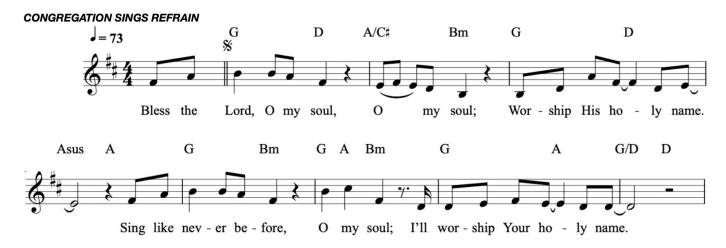
BENEDICTION

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



RECESSIONAL HYMN: 10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)

Words and Music by Jonas Myrin and Matt Redman





DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

Thanks be to God!





SERVING TODAY

DATE	LECTOR	WORSHIP ASST.	USHER
Mar 16	Michael Chomin	Rick Henly	Antoinette Walder
Mar 23	Ed Moderacki	Sally Leara	John Leara
Mar 30	Sally Leara	Susan Conrad	Ed Moderacki

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Mar 16	Sunday School
	Congregational Meeting
	Fish Fry: 12pm – 2pm
Mar 18	Council Meeting: 7:30pm
Mar 19	Lenten Service: 7pm
Mar 22	Music at Savior: 7pmMar 26 Lenten Service: 7pm
Mar 30	Wee Worship
Apr 2	Lenten Service: 7pm
Apr 5	Men's Breakfast
Apr 6	Sunday School & Coffee Hour
Apr 9	Lenten Service: 7pm
Apr 12	Easter Egg Hunt: 9:30am & 11am

MAILING LIST

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