



# Church of the Savior

L U T H E R A N

**March 23, 2025**

**Third Sunday in Lent**



Presider:

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**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.



### **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 it took a lot of work to get to this pew today; you are doing a really good job!

## PRELUDE: Cindy Day: Beautiful One



### 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, † 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.**

PROCESSIONAL HYMN: Shall We Gather at the River



1 Shall we gath - er at the riv - er, where bright an - gel feet have trod,  
2 On the mar - gin of the riv - er, wash - ing up its sil - ver spray,  
3 Ere we reach the shin - ing riv - er, lay we ev - 'ry bur - den down;  
4 Soon we'll reach the shin - ing riv - er, soon our pil - grim - age will cease;



with its crys - tal tide for - ev - er flow - ing by the throne of God?  
we will walk and wor - ship ev - er, all the hap - py gold - en day.  
grace our spir - its will de - liv - er, and pro - vide a robe and crown.  
soon our hap - py hearts will quiv - er with the mel - o - dy of peace.



*Refrain*  
Yes, we'll gath - er at the riv - er, the beau - ti - ful, the beau - ti - ful riv - er;



gath - er with the saints at the riv - er that flows by the throne of God.



## 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

Chord symbols: Cm, Eb/G, Fm, G, Eb, Gm, Ab, Eb, Gm, Bb, D, G

Lyrics: Lord, have mer - cy u - pon us. Christ, have mer - cy u - pon us. Lord, have mer - cy u - pon us.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it, and bring your saving love to fruition in our lives, 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: Isaiah 55:1-9

<sup>1</sup> Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.

<sup>2</sup> Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food.

<sup>3</sup> Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David.

<sup>4</sup> See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples.

<sup>5</sup> See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

<sup>6</sup> Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near;

<sup>7</sup> let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

<sup>8</sup> For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.

<sup>9</sup> For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Lector: Word of God, Word of Life

People: **Thanks Be to God**

**PSALM: Psalm 63:1-8**

<sup>1</sup> O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you,  
my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

<sup>2</sup> **Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place,  
that I might behold your power and your glory.**

<sup>3</sup> For your steadfast love is better than life itself; my lips shall give you praise.

<sup>4</sup> **So will I bless you as long as I live and lift up my hands in your name.**

<sup>5</sup> My spirit is content, as with the richest of foods,  
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,

<sup>6</sup> **when I remember you upon my bed, and meditate on you in the night watches.**

<sup>7</sup> For you have been my helper, and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.

<sup>8</sup> **My whole being clings to you; your right hand holds me fast.**



**SOND READING: 1 Corinthians 10:1-13**

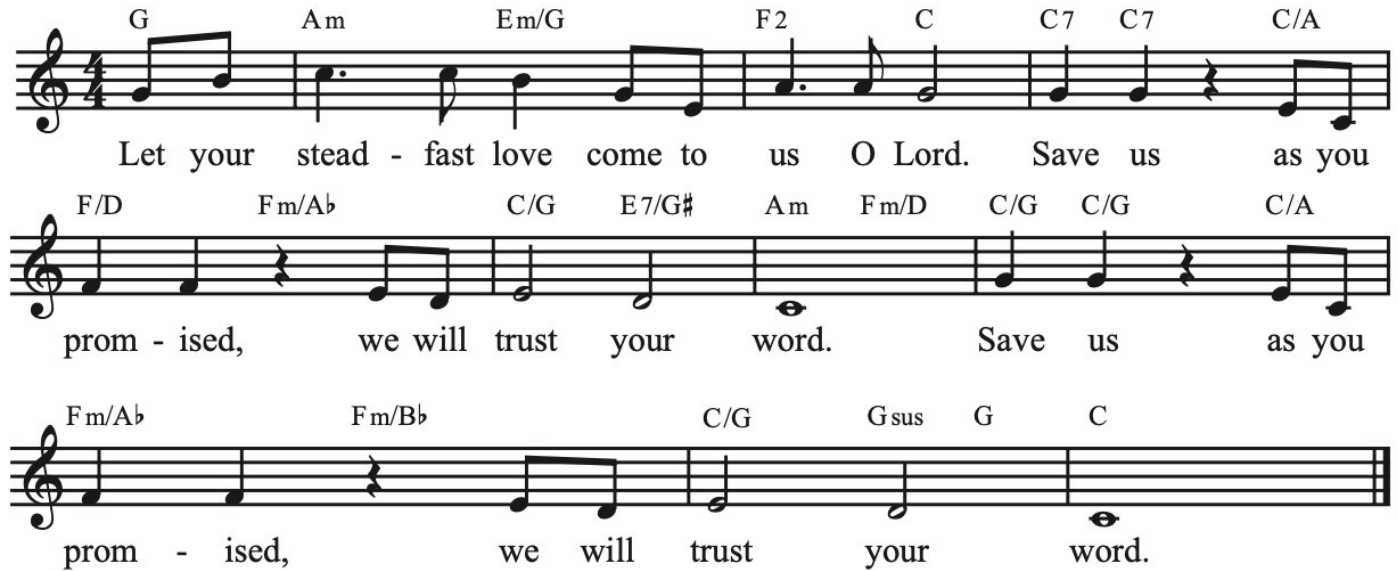
<sup>1</sup> I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, <sup>2</sup> and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, <sup>3</sup> and all ate the same spiritual food, <sup>4</sup> and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. <sup>5</sup> Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

<sup>6</sup> Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. <sup>7</sup> Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." <sup>8</sup> We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. <sup>9</sup> We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. <sup>10</sup> And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. <sup>11</sup> These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. <sup>12</sup> So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. <sup>13</sup> No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

Lector: Word of God, Word of Life

**People: Thanks Be to God**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Musical score for Gospel Acclamation, featuring three staves of music in 4/4 time. The lyrics are: "Let your steady love come to us O Lord. Save us as you promised, we will trust your word. Save us as you promised, we will trust your word." The score includes various chords and rests.

Chords: G, Am, Em/G, F2, C, C7, C7, C/A, F/D, Fm/Ab, C/G, E7/G#, Am, Fm/D, C/G, C/G, C/A, Fm/Ab, Fm/Bb, C/G, Gsus, G, C.



### THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 13:1-9

**People: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices.<sup>2</sup> [Jesus] asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans?"<sup>3</sup> No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. <sup>4</sup> Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem?"<sup>5</sup> No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."

<sup>6</sup> Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. <sup>7</sup> So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' <sup>8</sup> He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. <sup>9</sup> If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

**People: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**HOMILY: Pastor Paul**



## HYMN OF THE DAY: Come to the Water of Life

1 All who are thirst - y for mer - cy, all who are thirst - y for  
 2 All who are thirst - y for heal - ing, all who are thirst - y for  
 3 All who are thirst - y for beau - ty, all who are thirst - y for  
 4 All who are thirst - y for jus - tice, all who are thirst - y for

love; all who are thirst - y for love, for mer - cy,  
 touch; all who are thirst - y for touch, for heal - ing,  
 truth; all who are thirst - y for truth, for beau - ty,  
 peace; all who are thirst - y for peace, for jus - tice,

come: come to the Wa - ter of life.  
 come: come to the Wa - ter of life.  
 come: come to the Wa - ter of life.  
 come: come to the Wa - ter of life.



## 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: Choir: Amazing Grace (Dottie Rambo)**

**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.



Chord progression: Eb Cm Ab Bb Eb Eb Cm F7

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right spir-it with-

Chord progression: Bbsus Bb Fm/Bb Bb Fm Bb Gmaj Am G/B

in me. Cast me not a - way from Your pre - sence, and take not Your

Chord progression: Cm F7 Bb2 Bb Fm/Bb Eb/Bb Bb Eb/Bb

Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store un-to me the joy of Your sal-

Chord progression: Ab Bb Eb7 Ab Fm Bb Ebsus Eb Ab Eb

va - tion; and up - hold me with Your free Spir-it. A - men.

**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:

C C Em Em C7 C7 F2 F Em Em Am D Gsus  
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,  
G Am Em F C F C Dm E  
hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
Am C/G D/F# D7 G  
Ho-san - na! Ho-san - na! Ho-san-na in the high-est!  
Am Em F C F C/E Dm Dm/F Esus E  
Bles - sed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Am C/G D/F# D7 G  
Ho-san - na! Ho-san - na! Ho-san-na in the high-est!

## EUCCHARISTIC 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

C C/E Bb/F C Am Em C7 F2 F

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

C C/E Bb/F C Am Em C7 F2 F

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

C C/E Bb/F C D7 G

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

## DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION



## COMMUNION HYMN: Fill My Cup, Lord

G Am D

Fill my cup, Lord. I lift it up, Lord. Come and

D D7 G G7

quench this thirst-ing of my soul. Bread of heaa-ven, feed me till I

C Am D D7 G

want no more. Fill my cup, fill it up and make me whole.

## COMMUNION BLESSING

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

Now Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace. Your word has  
been ful - filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre -  
pared in the sight of eve - ry peo - ple: a light to re -  
veal you to the na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo - ple  
Is - ra - el. Now Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace.



## 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, ✠ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

## RECESSIONAL HYMN: Rock of Ages



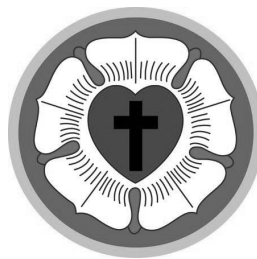
1 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee;  
2 Not the la - bors of my hands can ful - fill thy law's de - mands;  
3 Noth - ing in my hand I bring; sim - ply to thy cross I cling.  
4 While I draw this fleet - ing breath, when mine eye - lids close in death,



let the wa - ter and the blood, from thy riv - en side which flowed,  
could my zeal no res - pite know, could my tears for - ev - er flow,  
Na - ked, come to thee for dress; help - less, look to thee for grace;  
when I soar to worlds un - known, see thee on thy judg - ment throne,



be of sin the dou - ble cure; cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.  
all for sin could not a - tone; thou must save, and thou a - lone.  
foul, I to the foun - tain fly; wash me, Sav - ior, or I die.  
Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee.



## DISMISSAL

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

**Thanks be to God!**

 *Go Now*  
*in Peace*  




# Church of the Savior

L U T H E R A N



## SERVING TODAY

DATE	LECTOR	WORSHIP ASST.	USHER
Mar 23	Ed Moderacki	Maggie Harrer	John Leara
Mar 30	Sally Leara	Susan Conrad	Ed Moderacki
Apr 6	Wendy McFarland	Brenda Heydt	Ed Moderacki

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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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