



Church of the Savior

L U T H E R A N

March 15, 2026

Fourth Sunday in Lent

FOURTH SUNDAY IN
LENT

Presider: The Reverend Paul A. Miller
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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: 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 minister begins.

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

Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt and blots out all offenses.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you:

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word:

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For failing to recognize your coming reign, and for hindering the work of the Spirit: Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition, and for disdaining the living water Christ offers: Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For disregarding voices from the margin, and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world:

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent, and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life: Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound. Through faith, the free gift of God, you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead dwells in you, pours God's love into your hearts, and gives you life and peace. **Amen.**

PROCESSIONAL HYMN: Lamb of God

LAMB OF GOD YOUR ONLY SON

Twila Paris

1. Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, but you have sent him from your
2. Your gift of love we cru - ci - fied. We laughed and scorned him as he
3. I was so lost, I should have died, but you have brought me to your

side to walk up - on this guil - ty sod and to be - come the Lamb of
died. The hum - ble king we named a fraud and sac - ri - ficed the Lamb of
side to be led by your staff and rod and to be called a lamb of

God. O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the ho - ly Lamb of

God. O wash me in your pre - cious blood, my Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

Chords: D, GM7, D, F#m, Bm, F#m, Em7, D/F#, GM7, Bm, F#m, G, GM7, D/A, GM7/A, D, A/C#, Bm, A7/G, D, F#m, Bm, D/F#, Em7, A7, D, Gm7, F#m, Bm, G, D/A, GM7/A, D

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)

Lord, have mer - cy; Christ have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy on me;

Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy on me.

Chords: Gm, C7/E, Fsus, F, F/A, F/Bb, C, Dm, Gm, C7/E, Fsus, F, Bbmaj7, Csus, C, Gm, C7/E, Fsus, F, F/A, F/Bb, C, F

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.



FIRST READING: 1 Samuel 16:1-13

¹ The LORD said to Samuel, “How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.” ² Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.” And the LORD said, “Take a heifer with you and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.’” ³ Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do, and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.” ⁴ Samuel did what the LORD commanded and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling and said, “Do you come peaceably?” ⁵ He said, “Peaceably. I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.” And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

⁶ When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely his anointed is now before the LORD.” ⁷ But the LORD said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him, for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart.” ⁸ Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass before Samuel. He said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.” ⁹ Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.” ¹⁰ Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, “The LORD has not chosen any of these.” ¹¹ Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and bring him, for we will not sit down until he comes here.” ¹² He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. The LORD said, “Rise and anoint him, for this is the one.” ¹³ Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

Lector: Word of God, Word of Life

People: Thanks Be to God

PSALM: 23

¹ The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

² **The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.**

³ You restore my soul, O LORD, and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

⁴ **Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

⁶ **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

SECOND READING: Ephesians 5:8-14

⁸ Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Walk as children of light, ⁹ for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. ¹⁰ Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹ Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness; rather, expose them. ¹² For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly, ¹³ but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, ¹⁴ for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, "Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

Lector: Word of God, Word of Life

People: **Thanks Be to God**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for He is gra - cious and mer - ci - ful, slow to
an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

GOSPEL: John 9:1-41

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. ² His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" ³ Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. ⁴ We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵ As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." ⁶ When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, ⁷ saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. ⁸ The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" ⁹ Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am he." ¹⁰ But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" ¹¹ He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." ¹² They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

¹³ They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴ Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵ Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." ¹⁶ Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the Sabbath." Others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. ¹⁷ So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet."

¹⁸ The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight ¹⁹ and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" ²⁰ His parents answered, "We know that this is our son and that he was born blind, ²¹ but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." ²² His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. ²³ Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

²⁴ So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." ²⁵ He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." ²⁶ They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" ²⁷ He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" ²⁸ Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹ We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." ³⁰ The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes."

³¹ We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. ³² Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. ³³ If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” ³⁴ They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out.

³⁵ Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” ³⁶ He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.” ³⁷ Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” ³⁸ He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him. ³⁹ Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not see may see and those who do see may become blind.” ⁴⁰ Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?” ⁴¹ Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.”

People: Praise to you, O Christ.



HOMILY: Pastor Paul

HYMN OF THE DAY: At the Foot of the Cross

Congregation sings chorus each time:

Trade these ash-es in-to beau-ty, and wear for-give-ness like a crown; —
Coming to kiss the feet of Mer-cy, I lay eve-ry bur-den down at the foot of the cross, —

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: Your mercy is great.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

SPECIAL MUSIC: Brenda Moderacki: My Shepherd, You Supply My Need Lyrics by Isaac Watts to Southern Harmony.

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.



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and
fill to the brim our cup of bles - sing. Ga - ther a
har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the
bread of life. Ga - ther the hopes and the dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your
pre - sence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

ALL: O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name. 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:

D Bm Em7 A D Bm E7 A7 D7
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly God, God of pow - er and might: —

G D F#7 Bm D Bm
Hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry, Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na. Ho

E7 A G D
san - na in — the high - est. Bles - sed is he who

F#7 Bm D G D/A A7 D
comes in the name of the Lord. 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

D G $\overset{\frown}{3}$ Bm $\overset{\frown}{3}$ G7 C G

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

Em D G $\overset{\frown}{3}$ Bm $\overset{\frown}{3}$ G7

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

C G Em D G $\overset{\frown}{3}$ Bm $\overset{\frown}{3}$

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

G7 C G A7 D C D7sus4 G

way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMN: Feed Us Now

Words and Music by
Robin Mann

$\text{♩} = 84$

E G#m Bm⁷ Amaj⁷

1. Feed us now, Bread of Life, in this ho - ly meal;
2. Piece of bread, glass of wine; Lord, this food is good;
3. God is here, O so near, near - er than our thoughts.

5 Am⁷ E F#m⁷ B⁷sus B⁷

Let us know Your love a - new; We hun - ger for You.
Love and mer - cy come to us, Your prom - ise we trust.
Stay with us wher - e're we go; Lord, help us to grow.

9 E G#m Bm⁷ Amaj⁷

Feed us now, Bread of Life, come and live with - in;
Piece of bread, glass of wine; Who can un - der - stand
God is here, O so near, in this heav - en's meal.

13 Am⁷ E F#m⁷ B⁷ E

Let Your peace be ours to - day, Lord Je - sus, we pray.
how His mer - cy works in these? Yet, Lord, we be - lieve.
May we al - ways feed on You, on the Bread that's true.

COMMUNION BLESSING

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



G D/F# Emin Bmin
 Give thanks with a grate-ful heart. Give thanks to the Ho-ly One. Give
 C G/B Emin F Dsus4 G
 thanks, — be-cause He's giv-en Je-sus Christ, His Son. Give thanks with a
 D/F# Emin Bmin C
 grate-ful heart. Give thanks to the Ho-ly One. Give thanks, be-cause He's
 G/B Emin F Dsus4 Bmin Emin
 giv-en Je-sus Christ, His Son. And now let the weak say "I am
 Amin7 D7 G CMaj7
 strong!" let the poor say "I am rich!" be-cause of what the Lord has
 F Dsus4 Bmin Emin Amin7
 done for us. And now let the weak say "I am strong!" let the
 D7 G CMaj7 F
 poor say "I am rich!" be-cause of what the Lord has done for
 Dsus4 G Amin/G D G
 us. Give thanks! _____ Give thanks! _____ Give thanks! _____

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity: God, who calls all things into existence, Jesus Christ, who redeems us, and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation, ✠ bless you now and always. Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Believe the good news.
Thanks be to God.

RECESSIONAL HYMN: Go Ahead, Lord

Go Ahead, Lord

words & music by Phil Cross

CHORUS:

Go a-head, Lord, I will fol-low. Right be-hind You, I will stay, In Your
glo - ry, in Your sha-dow. Go a - head, Lord, lead the way.

 *Go Now*
in Peace




Church of the Savior L U T H E R A N

SERVING TODAY

DATE	LECTOR	WORSHIP ASST.	USHER
Mar 15	Susan Conrad	Vicki Coyle	Antoinette Walder
Mar 22	Vicki Coyle	Brenda Heydt	John Leara
Mar 29	Wendy McFarland	Laurie Feingold	Ed Moderacki



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Mar 15	Sunday School Congregational Meeting
Mar 16	Council Meeting: 7pm Room 5
Mar 18	Lenten Service: 7pm
Mar 24	Lenten Service: 7pm
Mar 28	Easter Egg Hunt: 9:30am & 11am
Mar 29	Palm Sunday
Apr 1	Lenten Service: 7pm
Apr 2	Maundy Thursday: 7pm Worship Prayer Vigil: 8pm-12am
Apr 3	Stations of the Cross: 12pm Prayer Vigil: 2am-6pm Good Friday: Tenebrae Service: 7pm Worship Church Office Closed

MAILING LIST

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