

Our Saviour Lutheran Church

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March 9, 2025

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

Order of Worship

The order of worship is set out in this bulletin. The congregation responds in parts marked in bold. Hymns are taken from our hymnal, the *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (ELW).

WE GATHER

Centering Music

The ringing of *the Morningstar*

Prelude

Prayer of Confession

We admit our sins

Our forty-day journey through Lent recalls Jesus' temptation in the wilderness. Three times, the devil coaxed Jesus to rely on himself instead of on God. Three times, Jesus resisted, trusting God to give him all he needed.

Friends, we are not Jesus. We don't recognize relying on ourselves instead of God as a temptation; we even extol self-reliance as a virtue. Join me in confessing this to God, and asking for compassion.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God, I confess

that I struggle to confess.

I want to delight you by doing all the right things.

I don't want to admit that I can't.

To receive your forgiveness,

I must confront my failure.

God, I confess

that I struggle to confess:

**I'm afraid of being a burden to others.
I don't want to need them too much,
so I try not to need them at all.**

God, I confess
**that I struggle to confess:
just like I turn away from my own vulnerability
I turn away from the vulnerable.
I have rejected my weakness
and avoided those who are weak.
I have denied my frailty
and looked down on those who are frail.
I have resisted my dependence
and thought less of those who depend on others.**

God, forgive us,
**because we struggle to forgive ourselves.
We build a wall of self-reliance
that separates us from your love.**

Assurance of Forgiveness

Jesus once said,
"Those who are well have no need of a physician."
Jesus didn't come for those who didn't need him:
he came for me and for you
and for everyone who has fallen short.
Feel how Jesus' power is made perfect in our weakness.
In Christ's name, I tell you that you are completely and entirely forgiven.
You are imperfect,
and you are forgiven,
and you are entirely loved.

Let that forgiven-ness rest in your bones
not as a sign of our failure to win the fight against sin,
but as the realization that God already has.
Let us shout with the psalmist:
**My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust!
Amen.**

1 I want Je - sus to walk with me;
 2 In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me; walk with
 3 When I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

me; I want Je - sus to walk with me;
 in my tri - als, Lord, walk with me; walk with
 when I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

me; all a - long my pil - grim jour - ney,
 when my heart is al - most break - ing,
 when my head is bowed in sor - row,

Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
 Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me. walk with me.
 Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.

Apostolic Greeting

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.

Kyrie



Lord - have mer - cy, Lord - have mer - cy, Lord - have mer - c
Christ - have mer - cy, Christ - have mer - cy, Christ - have mer - c
Lord - have mer - cy, Lord - have mer - cy, Lord - have mer - c

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Tender God, you emptied yourself of power in order to take on flesh in Jesus Christ. Open us to embrace our own vulnerability, so that we may discover how your strength is made perfect in weakness. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Lesson

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

1 When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, 2 you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. 3 You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us." 4 When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, 5 you shall make this response before the Lord your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. 6 When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, 7 we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. 8 The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; 9 and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. 10 So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me." You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God. 11 Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm

Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

- 1 You who dwell in the shelter of the Most High,
who abide in the shadow of the Almighty—
**2 you will say to the Lord, “My refuge and my stronghold,
my God in whom I put my trust.”**
- 9 Because you have made the Lord your refuge,
and the Most High your habitation,
**10 no evil will befall you,
nor shall affliction come near your dwelling.**
- 11 For God will give the angels charge over you,
to guard you in all your ways.
**12 Upon their hands they will bear you up,
lest you strike your foot against a stone.**
- 13 You will tread upon the lion cub and viper;
you will trample down the lion and the serpent.
**14 I will deliver those who cling to me;
I will uphold them, because they know my name.**
- 15 They will call me, and I will answer them;
I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue and honor them.
**16 With long life will I satisfy them,
and show them my salvation.**

Second Reading

Romans 10:8b-13

- 8b “The word is near you,
on your lips and in your heart”
(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); 9 because if you confess with your lips
that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead,
you will be saved. 10 For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one
confesses with the mouth and so is saved. 11 The scripture says, “No one who
believes in him will be put to shame.” 12 For there is no distinction between Jew
and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him.
13 For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

The Holy Gospel

Gospel Reading

Luke 4:1-13

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 4th chapter.



1 Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, 2 where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. 3 The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.” 4 Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone.’”

5 Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. 6 And the devil said to him, “To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. 7 If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.” 8 Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’”

9 Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, 10 for it is written,

‘He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,’

11 and

‘On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’”

12 Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’”

13 When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn

Jesus Still Lead On

ELW#624

1 Je - sus, still lead on, till our rest be won; and, al-though the
2 If the way be drear, if the foe be near, let no faith - less
3 When we seek re - lief from a long-felt grief, when temp-ta - tions
4 Je - sus, still lead on, till our rest be won; heav'n-ly lead - er,

way be cheer - less, we will fol - low, calm and fear - less;
fears o'er - take us, let not faith and hope for - sake us;
come al - lur - ing make us pa - tient and en - dur - ing;
still di - rect us, still sup - port, con - sole, pro - tect us,

guide us by your hand to the prom - ised land.
safe - ly past the foe to our home we go.
show us that bright shore where we weep no more.
till we safe - ly stand in the prom - ised land.

Prayers of the People

Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

Gracious God, speak your word anew among your church. Strengthen it to withstand the temptation to turn inward in fear or complacency. Embolden church institutions to turn from self-preservation toward the self-giving love of Jesus. God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

Mothering God, speak the word of life into wilderness places and fertile fields. Grant wisdom to your people, that we may quell the urge to strip lands of their resources and instead preserve first fruits for future generations. God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

Almighty God, speak a word of wisdom to people in positions of power: mayors, councils, and tribal leaders, legislators, judges and juries, presidents, and monarchs. Help them discern your voice and follow your guidance, resisting the temptations of the evil one. God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

Steadfast God, speak words of courage to your people in the wilderness. Protect migrants and refugees on perilous journeys, that they find safe refuge and a portion in the bounty you have given humanity to share. God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

Loving God, speak gently to all who are alone. Bless lay ministers, home communion teams, and others who attend to those who are overlooked, vulnerable, or lonely, that all find belonging in your love. We pray for all who are ill. God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

Living God, we give thanks for all the faithful who have crossed the threshold from death to life. Guide us who are living to learn from their wisdom and follow their example. God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.

Amen.

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you

And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Please be seated.

Offering Prayer

As we prepare to make an offering, we pray:

God, you gave us what we needed to love you today.

Now we offer you a portion of these gifts, a harvest of the love you planted.

Offering

Financial offerings are received in the plates. Please stand as the gifts come forward.

*This QR code links
to our PayPal account
and may be used to make
a one-time gift.*



Musical Offering

Please Stand

Offertory Canticle

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill our cup of bless - ing. Gath - er har - vest from the
seeds we've sown, that we may now be fed. Gath - er hopes, dreams, and prayers for the
world you de - sire, and fill our tab - le with your pre - sence with the feast to come.

Prayer of Dedication

God, we have supplied the gifts, and you have supplied the purpose.

Now bless our gifts and use them in your service. Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord!

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.


It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is not only right, but even needful for us to thank you, God,
for the cosmos overflows with your goodness.

You open your hand to satisfy the needs of everything that you have made,
and all of creation sings its thankful praise.

And so we join the echoing song:

Sanctus



Ho-ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might: Heav'n and Earth are full - of your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san na - in the high - est.

Thanksgiving at the Table

Heaven and earth are full of your glory, O God,
brimming with your extravagant love.

In the beginning you created, not because you needed to
but because it delighted you:

**you made the textures of feathers and fur, the fragrance of pine and
saltwater, glinting minerals and sparkling stars, humankind in gorgeous
diversity.**

But we reached for more than what you freely gave.

**We sought to meet our own needs rather than to trust in your abundant
provision.**

Though you sent prophets to teach us compassion, calling us to share our bread
with the hungry and our means with the poor,

we learned to fear scarcity and to seek safety in self-interest.

Still, your faithfulness to us is inexhaustible.

You became like us in Jesus Christ,

whose life magnified the abundance of your grace and the lavishness of your love.

**He saw the richness of a widow's pennies
and the surpassing fineness of a lily's petals
and the towering greatness of a mustard seed
and fed thousands with five loaves and two fish.**

On the night of his arrest,
he gathered his friends for a simple meal and set a feast of love.
He took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples,
saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup
is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people
for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

And so we remember: **the command to love as he has loved.**
We remember: **the life of God poured out for us like wine.**
We remember: **the resurrection that shattered the power of death.**
We remember: **Christ's ascension into heaven and promise to come again.**

Extravagant God, pour out your Spirit on us
and on this bread and cup.
Let the fragrance of your love fill this house.
Come, Holy Spirit.

Let it fill our noses with the sweetness of grapes
and the earthiness of wheat.
Come, Holy Spirit.

Let it fill our hearts as lavish compassion
for the little, the lost, and the least.
Come, Holy Spirit.

Let this bread and cup magnify your prodigal love,
mirroring the heavenly feast that has no end.
Bring us at last to the infinite table
where you have gathered all your holy ones
in the new creation where every tear is wiped away,
and every need has been met in you.
All honor and glory is yours, O God,
who is both Giver and Gift,
with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church,
now and forever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

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

Agnus Dei



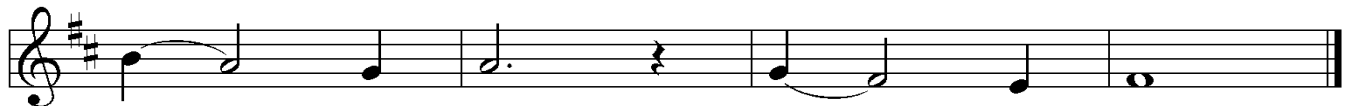
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



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.

Please Sit

The Distribution

There is a place for you at the banquet.
Come and feast at Jesus' table.

All are invited to come forward to receive the holy gifts. Those not receiving may come forward for a blessing or remain in the pews in prayer.

Taste and see that the Lord is good.
The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
Amen

Post-Communion Sentence

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray.
O Jesus, you have fed us
with the bread that has no price,
the precious gift of your own self.
Now send us out like Mary with her perfume,
prepared to give the best we have
to dignify the world you so loved.
Amen.

WE ARE SENT

Blessing

Now may God,
who risks loving an imperfect people,
who forges weakness into divine strength,
who never leaves us or forsakes us,
bless you and sustain you.
Today God has answered your need,
and now the Spirit sends you out
to answer the world's need. **Amen.**

Hymn

On Eagles Wings

ELW#787



1 You who dwell in the shel-ter of the Lord, who a-bide in this shad-ow for life,



say to the Lord: "My ref - uge, my rock in whom I trust!"

Refrain

All



And he will raise you up on ea-gle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,



make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.

Leader or All



2 The snare of the fowl-er will nev-er cap-ture you, and fam-ine will bring you no



fear; un - der God's wings your ref-uge, with faith-ful-ness your shield.

Leader or All



3 You need not fear the ter-ror of the night, nor the ar-row that flies by



day; though thou-sands fall a - bout you, near you it shall not come.

Leader or All
3

4 For to the an-gels God's giv - en a com-mand to

guard you in all of your ways; up - on their hands they will

bear you up, lest you dash your foot a - gainst a stone.

Final refrain
All

And he will raise you up on ea - gle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,

make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.

And hold you, hold you in the palm of his hand.

Charge

Go in peace. Live in hope.

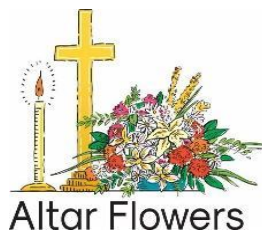
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Congregation adjourns to engage in loving service in the World

Worship Service Today

Greeters/UshersTBD
Lector.....TBD
Worship Assistant..... Deacon LeeAnn McCarthy
Hospitality.....Thrivent
Altar Guild.....Karen Magerlein
Offering TellerDianne Carroll



**No
Altar Flowers
Donations**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cooper DeGregorio from Thrivent will be joining us and will host this morning's coffee hour. One of his partners is hosting an Estate planning webinar at the end of March. This webinar will be educating viewers about estate planning for the next generation. Flyer about the estate planning workshop can be found on the narthex table, this presentation is an educational event.

Monday: Psalm 17; 1 Chronicles 21:1-17; 1 John 2:1-6; Psalm 17.

Tuesday: Psalm 17; 2 Peter 2:4-21; Zechariah 3:1-10.

Wednesday: Job 1:1-22; Psalm 17; Luke 21:34-22:6.

Thursday: Psalm 27; Genesis 13:1-7; Philippians 3:2-12.

Friday: Psalm 27; Genesis 14:17-24; Philippians 3:17-20.

Saturday: Psalm 118:26-29; Psalm 27; Matthew 23:37-39.

Second Sunday in Lent – March 16, 2025:

**Genesis 15:1-12, 17-8; Psalm 27; Philippians 3:17-4:1;
Luke 13:31-35.**

Those With Special Needs & Concerns

Other Concerns of Our Community

PRAYER LIST

John Nurmi
 Arlita Hoyt
 Christine Olszanski
 Kolbe Olszanski
 Deanna Platt
 Bob Riekert
 Catherine Biel
 Jim Murtha
 Jim Befanis

SERVING IN ARMED FORCES

Michael Gabrielsen
 Jack O'Brien
 John Picucci



Bishop Paul Egensteiner and his staff.

For those who would dare to bring peace.

For the President and his administration.

Communities of Faith in & around Croton.

For refugees suffering in camps around the world.

For food to feed all those who hunger.

Welcome to Our Saviour

Do you want to live life to its fullest? Do you want to have resources to cope with the challenges of life? Since his disciples first followed him, Jesus' teachings and example have been providing enduring answers for life's most troubling questions. Jesus' life was given for us. His life remains a gift to be received and God's Word through him waits to be heard. Come and see! The Lord is good!

Our Saviour is a safe, friendly, welcoming place for you and your family to hear Good News and find warm, caring community. We welcome people of all races, ethnicities, political affiliations, sexual orientations and gender identities or expressions. We invite you to join us in any or all of the activities. Please ask any member for further details.

You will find the Order of Worship set out in this bulletin. You will also find a schedule of devotional readings and next Sunday's scripture set out inside the back cover.

HOLY COMMUNION: All are invited to the Lord's Table, as Jesus welcomed all without condition, to commune with Him. You need not be Lutheran or a church member. Young children may receive at their parents' discretion.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Welcome to Our Saviour Evangelical Lutheran Church

Rev. Dr. Justin Johnson, Pastor

Phill Greenland, Music Minister

LeeAnn McCarthy, Deacon

Sunday School **9:00 am**
Sunday Worship Service **10:00 am**

Pastor's Office Hours: Mon & Tues: 9:00 am – 12:00 noon;
Wed, Sat & Sun: by appointment; Thurs & Friday: Pastor's Days Off.

Church Secretary's Office Hours: Mon, Tues & Fri: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm
Church Office Phone: 914-271-4632 **Pastor's Phone:** 914 863-1601

<http://www.oursaviourcroton.org>

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Our Saviour Your Saviour Our Saviour

