

Our Saviour Lutheran Church

56 Cleveland Drive Croton on Hudson New York 10520

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March 16, 2025

SECOND 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 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,
 2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,
 3 "When through fi - 'ry tri - als your path - way shall lie,
 4 "Through - out all their life - time my peo - ple shall prove

is laid for your faith in Christ Je - sus, the Word!
 for I am your God and will still give you aid;
 my grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply.
 my sov - 'reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;

What more can he say than to you he has said
 I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
 The flames shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign
 and then, when gray hairs shall their tem - ples a - dorn,

who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?
 up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand."
 your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine."
 like lambs they shall still in my bo - som be borne."

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.

Incandescent Christ, signs of your presence fill the world with brightness, but we are weighed down with sleep. Guide our waking and guard our sleeping, so that we may rest soundly in dreams of the world you envision, and wake to refract your glory in all that we do. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Lesson

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."

The Word of the Lord

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!**

Second 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.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

The Holy Gospel

Gospel Reading

Luke 13:31-35

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 13th chapter.



31 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.’”

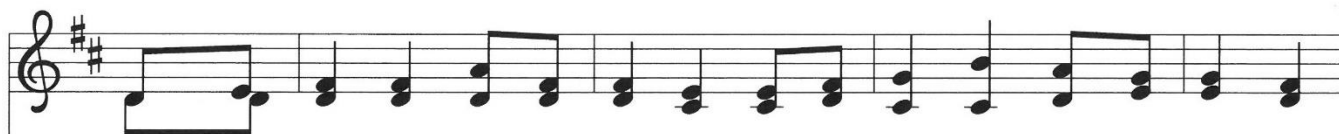
The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn

Children of the Heavenly Father

ELW#781



Tryg - ga - re kan ing - en va - ra än Guds lil - la bar - na - ska - ra,
 1 Chil - dren of the heav'n-ly Fa - ther safe - ly in his bo - som gath - er;
 2 God his own doth tend and nour-ish, in his ho - ly courts they flour-ish.
 3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er from the Lord his chil - dren sev - er;
 4 Though he giv - eth or he tak - eth, God his chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth;



stjär - nan ej på him - la - fäs - tet, få - geln ej i kän - da näs - tet.
 nest - ling bird nor star in heav - en such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.
 From all e - vil things he spares them, in his might - y arms he bears them.
 un - to them his grace he show - eth, and their sor - rows all he know - eth.
 his the lov - ing pur - pose sole - ly to pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.



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.

Holy God, you long to gather your church under your wings. Bless the churches of Jerusalem, and all persecuted churches, that your people may take heart and stand firm as they witness and minister in your name. God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

Holy God, you give shelter to living things as numerous as the stars. Strengthen the voice of prophets who call humanity to faithful care for the planet, that they would not be silenced but heeded as your messengers. God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

Holy God, you raised up leaders like Abram, Sarai, and Paul to show your people what it means to rely on your promises. Guide today's leaders to work for justice and safeguard the world for future generations. God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

Holy God, you are the stronghold of our life. Care tenderly for those who are ill in body or mind, and for people living in fear or need. May all know they are not alone. God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

Holy God, you offer us citizenship in heaven. Unite communities of faith who are divided over earthly things, that following the way of your Son, they may set aside grudges and serve their neighbors with generosity and love. God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

Holy God, you are our light and our salvation. We give thanks for the saints who have gone before us. Help us to trust in you as they did and to live according to 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

Musical notation for the Offertory Canticle, consisting of three staves of music in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat. The lyrics are: "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." The music is written in a single treble clef line.

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



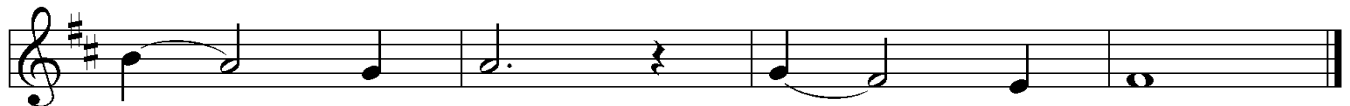
☐ Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



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 gifted us the Sabbath,
who slept during the storm at sea,
who guards our sleep and shepherds our rest,
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.. **Amen.**

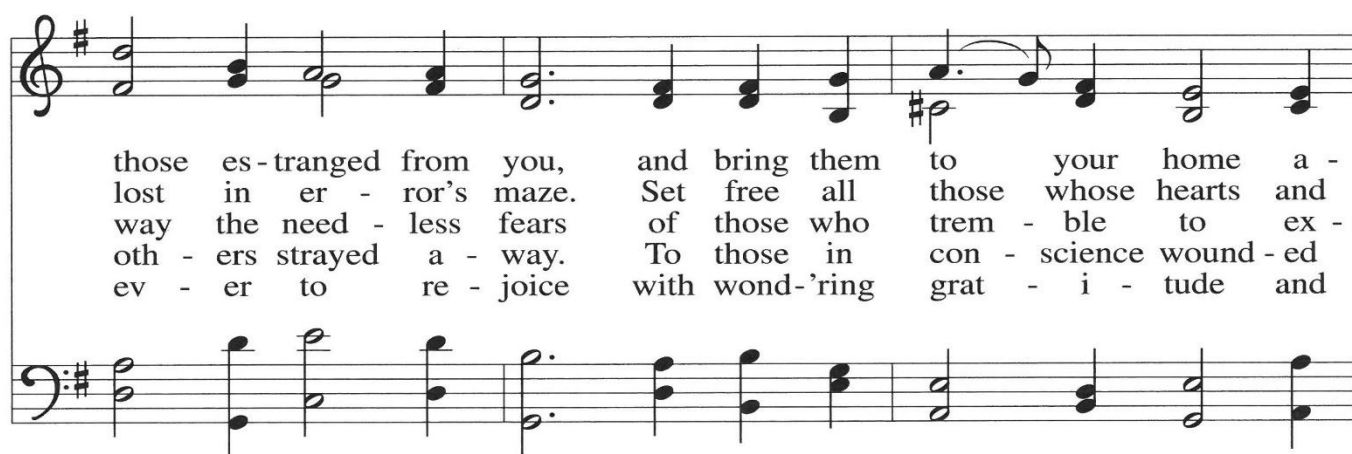
Hymn

O Christ, Our Light, O Radiance True

ELW#675



1 O Christ, our light, O Ra - diance true, shine forth on
2 Fill with the ra - diance of your grace the wan - d'ers
3 Lord, o - pen all re - luc - tant ears and take a -
4 Lord, let your mer - cy's gen - tle ray shine down on
5 Make theirs with ours a sin - gle voice up - lift - ed,



those es - tranged from you, and bring them to your home a -
lost in er - ror's maze. Set free all those whose hearts and
way the need - less fears of those who trem - ble to ex -
oth - ers strayed a - way. To those in con - science wound - ed
ev - er to re - joice with wond - ring grat - i - tude and



gain, where their de - light shall nev - er end.
minds some deep de - lu - sion haunts and binds.
press the faith their in - most hearts con - fess.
sore show heav - en's wait - ing, o - pen door.
praise to you, O Lord, for bound - less grace.

Charge

Go in peace. Live in hope.

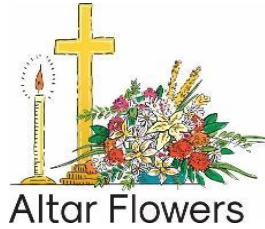
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Congregation adjourns to engage in loving service in the World

Worship Service Today

Greeters/UshersTBD
Lector.....John Magerlein
Worship Assistant..... Deacon LeeAnn McCarthy
Hospitality..... Deacon LeeAnn McCarthy
Altar Guild..... Deacon LeeAnn McCarthy
Offering TellerLarry Moy



**No
Altar Flowers
Donations**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Croton Blood Drive is Saturday March 29 from 10am-4pm at the Croton Library.

Join us in adorning our Easter Altar this year. Easter Flower Order Forms can be found in this morning's bulletin and link tables. You can take your flowers home following our Easter Service.

Monday: Psalm 105:1-15, 42; Exodus 33:1-6; Romans 4:1-12.

Tuesday: Psalm 105:1-42; Numbers 14:10b-24; 1 Corinthians 10:1-13.

Wednesday: Matthew 1:16, 18-21, 24a; Psalm 89:1-29; 2 Samuel 7:4, 8-16; Romans 4:13-18.

Thursday: Psalm 63:1-8; Daniel 3:19-30; Revelation 2:8-11.

Friday: Psalm 63:1-8; Daniel 12:1-4; Revelation 3:1-6.

Saturday: Psalm 63:1-8; Isaiah 5:1-7; Luke 6:43-45.

Third Sunday in Lent – March 23, 2025:

**Isaiah 55:1-9; Psalm 63:1-8; 1 Corinthians 10:1-13;
Luke 13:1-9.**

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

