



# Our Saviour Lutheran Church

56 Cleveland Drive Croton-on-Hudson New York 10520  
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March 1, 2026

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## Second Sunday in Lent

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### 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, *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (ELW).

### We Gather

#### Centering Music

#### Ringing of *The Morningstar*

#### Prelude

#### 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.

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.**

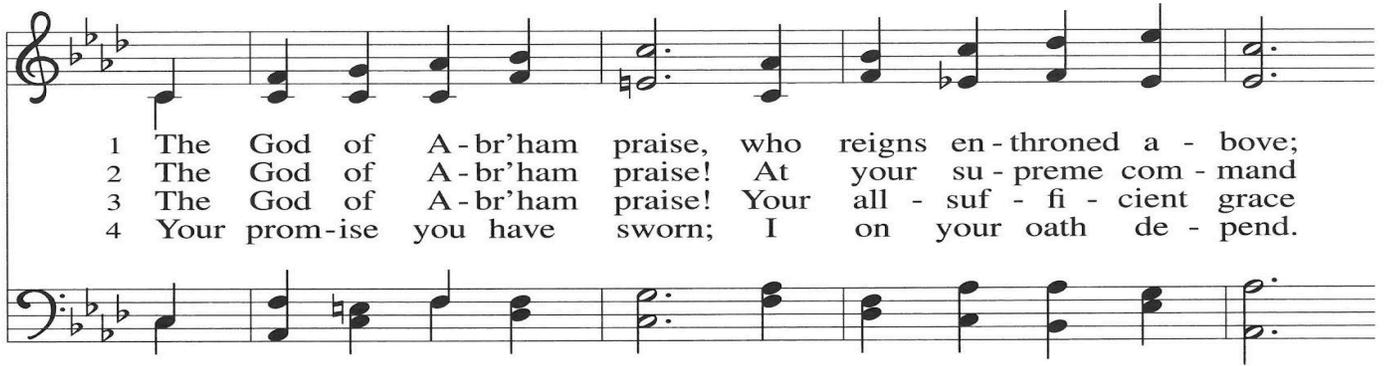
For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition,  
and for disdaining the living water Christ offers: Gracious God,  
**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

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.**

## Opening Hymn- ELW# The God of Abraham Praise 831



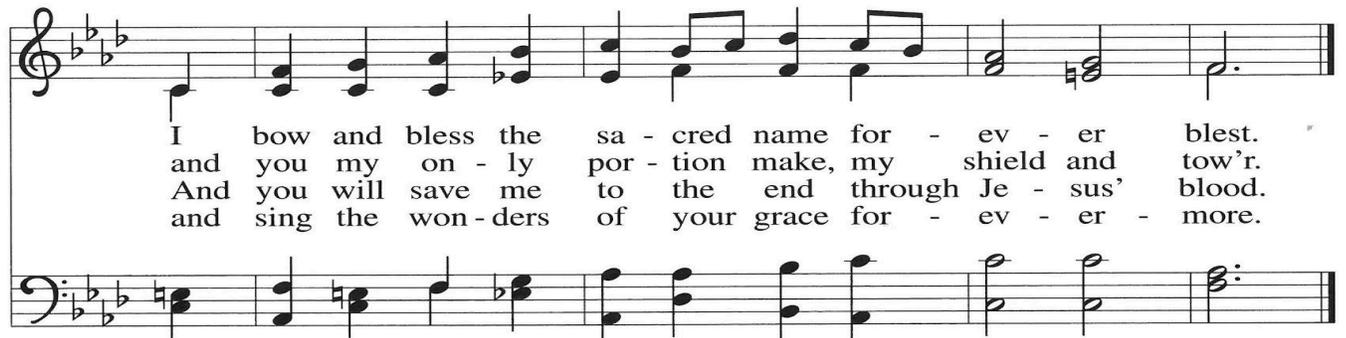
1 The God of A-br'ham praise, who reigns en-throned a - bove;  
2 The God of A-br'ham praise! At your su-preme com-mand  
3 The God of A-br'ham praise! Your all - suf - fi - cient grace  
4 Your prom-ise you have sworn; I on your oath de - pend.



An - cient of ev - er - last - ing days, and God of love—  
from earth I rise and seek the joys at your right hand.  
shall guide me all my pil - grim days in all my ways.  
I shall, on ea - gle wings up - borne, to heav'n as - cend.



"I Am the One I Am"— by earth and heav'n con - fessed;  
I all on earth for - sake— its wis - dom, fame, and pow'r—  
You deign to call me friend; you call your - self my God!  
I shall be - hold your face; I shall your pow'r a - dore,



I bow and bless the sa - cred name for - ev - er blest.  
and you my on - ly por - tion make, my shield and tow'r.  
And you will save me to the end through Je - sus' blood.  
and sing the won - ders of your grace for - ev - er - more.

### Greeting

Grace and peace to you from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**Amen**

## Kyrie



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: Lord, have mer - cy.  
Lord, . . . . have mer - cy:



Chri - ste e - le - i - son: Christ, have mer - cy.  
Christ, . . . . have mer - cy:



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: Lord, have mer - cy.  
Lord, . . . . have mer - cy:

## Prayer of the Day

**O God, our leader and guide, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## Liturgy of the Word

### First Reading:

**Genesis 12:1-4a**

The LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him.

The Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

### Psalm:

**Psalm 121**

- 1 I lift up my eyes to the hills;  
from where is my help to come?
- 2 **My help comes from the LORD,  
the maker of heaven and earth.**
- 3 The LORD will not let your | foot be moved  
nor will the one who watches over you | fall asleep.
- 4 **Behold, the keeper of Israel  
will neither slumber nor sleep;**
- 5 the LORD watches over you;  
the LORD is your shade at your right hand;

**6 the sun will not strike you by day,  
nor the moon by night.**

**7 The LORD will preserve you from all evil  
and will keep your life.**

**8 The LORD will watch over your going out and your coming in,  
from this time forth forevermore.**

**Second Reading:**

**Romans 4:1-5, 13-17**

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who does not work but trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law, neither is there transgression.

For this reason the promise depends on faith, in order that it may rest on grace, so that it may be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (who is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations"), in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

The Word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God**

## The Holy Gospel

## Gospel: John 3:1-17



The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the third chapter.

### **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person.” Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?”

“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

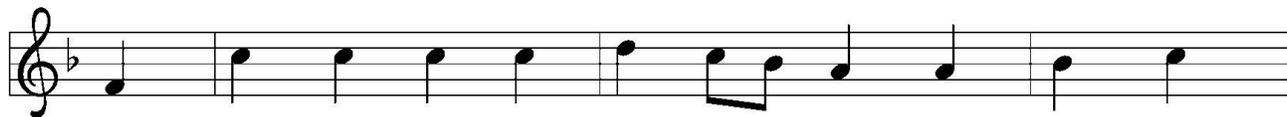
“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

### **Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **Sermon**



1 O Christ, our hope, our hearts' de - sire, cre - a - tion's  
 2 How vast your mer - cy to ac - cept the bur - den  
 3 But now the bonds of death are burst, the ran - som  
 4 Oh, let your might - y love pre - vail to purge us  
 5 All praise to you, as - cend - ed Lord; all glo - ry



might-y Lord, re - deem - er of the fall - en world, by  
 of our sin, and bow your head in cru - el death to  
 has been paid; you reign a - bove at God's right hand, in  
 of our pride, that we may stand be - fore your throne by  
 ev - er be to Fa - ther, Son, and Spir - it blest through



ho - ly love out - poured, by ho - ly love out - poured:  
 make us clean with - in, to make us clean with - in.  
 robes of light ar - rayed, in robes of light ar - rayed.  
 mer - cy pu - ri - fied, by mer - cy pu - ri - fied.  
 all e - ter - ni - ty, through all e - ter - ni - ty!

### Apostle's Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
 creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
 and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He 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,  
 and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again 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**

## **Prayers of the People**

Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

*A brief silence.*

Faithful One, you renew us by grace. As you have inspired faith through the work of church artists and hymnwriters throughout the ages (like George Herbert whom the church remembers today), give your church the means to praise your beauty today. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Living One, you delight in this world. The sun and moon, the wind and the water declare your goodness. Preserve this earth, and protect conservationists, scientists, and all who labor in service to creation. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Ruling One, you bless us to be a blessing. Open the hearts of all leaders to seek the flourishing of every person and lend your help to all who wait for justice, deliverance, and peace. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Compassionate One, you send your Son to save. Declare your word of acceptance to any who feel condemned and lift up any brought low by hatred and exclusion. Tend to all who are struggling with illness or loss (especially). Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Guiding One, you watch over our going out and coming in. Bless newcomers and new members in this assembly (especially) and accompany those who have recently left this community to journey elsewhere (especially). Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Eternal One, you neither slumber nor sleep. Be our keeper in life and in death. Thank you for our beloved who have died, and for your promise which saves this whole world by your love. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.

**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

*Financial offerings are received. Please stand as the gifts are brought 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

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.**

## **Eucharistic Prayer**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to God.**

Let us give thanks to our God.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

God of all, mighty and merciful,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

We thank you and praise you  
for you have satisfied the hunger of your people in every age:  
from the beginning you drew up food from the earth  
and humankind from the soil,  
filling our nostrils full of your Breath.  
You ate the fatted calf with Abraham and Sarah,  
and answered their deep longing for a child;  
you sustained your chosen people with manna  
as you led them toward the promised land;  
you sent prophets to answer the cry for bread and for justice;  
and in the fullness of time,  
you sent your own Son, Jesus Christ, the Bread of Heaven;

Who, in the night in which he was handed over,  
took bread, and 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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,  
we await his coming in glory  
to share with us the great and promised feast.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,  
And stir in us a hunger for justice and thirst for compassion.  
Open wide your hand  
and satisfy our deep desire—  
feed us with the Bread that is you.  
All honor and glory to you, almighty God, 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.**

### **The Distribution**

*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.*

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**

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.**

## **We are Sent**

### **Blessing**

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.**

**Hymn-**

**ELW #631**

**Love Divine**

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to  
 2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - 'ry  
 3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy  
 4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less

earth come down! Fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy  
 trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us  
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -  
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -

faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,  
 find thy prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;  
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,  
 ly re - stored in thee! Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with  
 Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as  
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee  
 till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our

## Dismissal

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

## Postlude

Congregation adjourns to engage in loving service in the world.

## Thank You to Those Serving Today

Lector  
Hospitality  
Altar Guild  
Offering Teller

Angela and Todd Hugo  
Sue Orts  
Larry



No flowers  
during Lent

## Announcements

We celebrate International Women's Day next week as Rev Lena Warren will be presiding on March 8th, as Pastor Justin will be off. Croton Caring will host coffee hour.

## Weekly Devotional Readings and Next Sunday's Readings

**Monday, March 02, 2026:** Psalm 128; Numbers 21:4-9; Hebrews 3:1-6;

**Tuesday, March 03, 2026:** Psalm 128; Isaiah 65:17-25; Romans 4:6-13;

**Wednesday, March 04, 2026:** Psalm 128; Ezekiel 36:22-32; John 7:53-8:11;

**Thursday, March 05, 2026:** Psalm 95; Exodus 16:1-8; Colossians 1:15-23;

**Friday, March 06, 2026:** Psalm 95; Exodus 16:9-21; Ephesians 2:11-22;

**Saturday, March 07, 2026:** Psalm 95; Exodus 16:27-35; John 4:1-6;

### Third Sunday in Lent- March 8:

Exodus 17:1-7, Psalm 95, Romans 5:1-11, John 4:5-42

### Prayer List

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

### Serving in Armed Forces

Michael Gabrielsen  
Jack O'Brien

### Other Concerns of Our Community

Bishop Katrina Foster and her 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

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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 a 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.

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**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

## *Welcome to Our Saviour Lutheran Church*

Rev. Dr. Justin Johnson, Pastor  
Phill Greenland, Music Director  
Lee Ann McCarthy, Deacon

**Sunday Worship Service 10:00 am**

**Pastor's Office Hours:** Mon & Tues: 9:30 am – 11:30  
Wed, Sat & Sun: by appointment; Thurs & Fri: Pastor is off

**Church Office Phone:** 914-271-4632    **Pastor's Phone:** 914-863-1601

<http://www.oursaviourcroton.org>

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