About Us

Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church, a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, has been firmly planted in the Phillips Community since 1912. A Reconciling in Christ (RIC) congregation, we celebrate our diversity of age, race, gender identities, sexual orientations, culture and citizenship.

Welcome, Visitors!

Welcome to all visitors and guests. If you live here, we hope you’ll consider joining. If you are here for a short time, we hope you’ll feel at home. Please pick up a copy of our newsletter, The Sentinel, from the entry table.

Children are welcome to participate fully in worship. We feel strongly that children’s spirituality develops through experience. In our community, children lead as ushers, musicians, readers and communion servers. We offer kid’s worship folders. We expect that children will behave as children—giggles, wiggles and all. Kids (and their parents) sometimes need a break. In our reading corner in the Hospitality Center we offer books, a few toys and more. Kids and parents are invited to go in and out of the sanctuary as needed.

Safe Church. For the safety of all our children, we ask that children be attended at all times. Please accompany your child to the bathroom and reading corner. Copies of our Safe Church Policy are available from the church office.

Transportation and Parking

Parking. Handicap access is available in the small lot at the back of the church, accessed from the alley. Sunday morning we may use the Hope Academy lot (across Chicago Ave). The Phillips Eye Institute ramp on 24th Street (1/2 block west of the church) is public; the fee is $4. Please note street parking is limited to residents only during certain hours.

Buses. Route 5 runs on Chicago Avenue right in front of the church. For more options, please check our website: oursavioursmpls.org, call Metro Transit at 612-373-3333 or visit metrobtransit.org.

- Hymns not printed in this worship folder are in the red Evangelical Lutheran Worship book which can be found either in front of you or under your seat.
- Hearing assistance devices and children’s worship folders are available from the ushers.
- An asterisk (*) indicates times in worship when the congregation is invited to stand.
On Ash Wednesday we begin our forty-day journey toward Easter with a day of fasting and repentance. Marking our foreheads with dust, we acknowledge that we die and return to the earth. At the same time, the dust traces the life-giving cross indelibly marked on our foreheads at baptism. While we journey through Lent to return to God, we have already been reconciled to God through Christ. We humbly pray for God to make our hearts clean while we rejoice that “now is the day of salvation.” Returning to our baptismal call, we more intentionally bear the fruits of mercy and justice in the world.

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Refrain

Now is the time of grace, now is the day of salvation. Turn now, and seek God’s face, now behold God’s invitation.

*May be sung in canon.

Greeting

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day
Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

Quiet reflection.

First Reading

Isaiah 58:1-12

Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet!
Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins.
Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways,
as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;
they ask of me righteous judgments, they delight to draw near to God.

“Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?”
Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day, and oppress all your workers.
Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist.
Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high.

Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself?
Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?
Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the LORD?

Is not this the fast that I choose:
to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke?
Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly;
your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of YAHWEH shall be your rear guard.
Then you shall call, and God will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.
If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,
if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,
then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday.
YAHWEH will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places,
and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden,
like a spring of water, whose waters never fail.
Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;
you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.
Second Reading

We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.
For our sake God made the one to be sin who knew no sin,
so that in that one we might become the righteousness of God.

As we work together with God, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain.
For God says, “At an acceptable time I have listened to you,
and on a day of salvation I have helped you.”
See, now is the acceptable time;
see, now is the day of salvation!

We are putting no obstacle in anyone’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry,
but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way:
through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments,
riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness,
holiness of spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God;
with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left;
in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute.
We are treated as impostors, and yet are true;
as unknown, and yet are well known;
as dying, and see—we are alive;
as punished, and yet not killed;
as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing;
as poor, yet making many rich;
as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.
Gospel Acclamation

The holy gospel according to Matthew, the 6th chapter.

Glory to you, O God.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Jesus said:
“Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them;
for then you have no reward from your Abba in heaven.
So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you,
as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others.
Truly I tell you, they have received their reward.
But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing,
so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Abba who sees in secret will reward you.

“And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites;
for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners,
so that they may be seen by others.
Truly I tell you, they have received their reward.
But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Abba who is in secret;
and your Abba who sees in secret will reward you.

“And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites,
for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting.
Truly I tell you, they have received their reward.
But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face,
so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Abba who is in secret;
and your Abba who sees in secret will reward you.

“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume
and where thieves break in and steal;
but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven,
where neither moth nor rust consumes
and where thieves do not break in and steal.
For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

This is the Good News.

Praise to you, O Christ.
Invitation to Lent

Confession of Sin
Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Most holy and merciful God,
we confess to you and to one another,
and before the whole company of heaven,
that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done and by what we have left undone.

… we confess to you.
Have mercy on us, O God.

*In conclusion:*  
Restore us, O God, and let our hunger be for you.
Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.

Imposition of Ashes
You may come forward to receive the mark of the cross with ashes on your forehead. The ashes are accompanied by the words, “You are dust, and to dust you shall return.” The ancient tradition is meant to symbolize our humanity, and our ultimate reliance on the radical grace of God in Christ, given in Baptism. The 40-day Lenten journey is a time for fasting, prayer, and learning about the nature of the Christian life that begins in Baptism. The mortal and penitential nature of Ash Wednesday is contrasted with the strong word of absolution and the call to a life of service on Maundy Thursday, on the other side of Lent.

*During the imposition of ashes we sing:*
Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation, that we may show forth your glory in the world.

By the cross and Passion of your Son, our Savior, bring us with all your saints to the joy of Christ’s resurrection.

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Savior Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

Amen.

*Prayers of the People*

Each petition will conclude with, “we pray” and the congregation responds in song, “God of mercy, hear our prayer; God of mercy, hear our prayer.”

**Meal**

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

*Peace*

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

(The people greet each other: “Peace be with you.”)

**Gathering Our Gifts**

All present, even those who contribute through automatic payments, are invited to lay hands upon the collection plate symbolizing their contributions.

*Offertory*  

“Create In Me a Clean Heart”  #185

*Offering Prayer*

Let us pray.

Holy and generous host, you set a table where we feast as friends.

Prepare us to witness to your goodness with every gift you have given us to share, that all people may know your peace, through Jesus Christ, now and forever. Amen.

*The Great Thanksgiving*

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 indeed right....
..... join their unending hymn

*Sanctus

[Music notation]

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might:
Heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Bless-ed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

*Eucharistic Proclamation and Prayer

... as we proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

... now and forever.
Amen.

*Lord’s Prayer

Joining with the people of God throughout the ages, let us pray with confidence.

Our Father, our Mother in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

Invitation to Communion
Distribution

All are welcome at the table. After you have received the bread, you may dip it into one of the cups: the dark liquid is wine, the light liquid is grape juice. Or, you may eat the bread and then drink from the last cup which is a common cup of wine. A gluten free wafer is also available. Those who do not yet commune may come forward for a blessing.

“Christ, Have Mercy On Us All”

“Softly and Tenderly” #608

“Eat This Bread” #472

*Blessing

*Prayer

*Post Communion Song
Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

*Blessing

*Sending Song

“Jesus Is a Rock in a Weary Land” #333

*Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve.
Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Today’s Worship

Ministers: The people of Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church
Presiding: Laurie Eaton
Preaching: Martha Schwehn Bardwell
Assisting: Michael Troutman
Reading: Dan Swenson-Klatt
Accompanist: Catherine Preus
Cantor: Mary Preus
Altar Guild: Glenda Elder, Rachel Ackland and Lucy Selander
Hospitality February: Sarah Lindley and Lee Johnson-Scheie

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<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ministers</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pastors</td>
<td>Laurie A. Eaton</td>
<td>612-871-2967 opt 3</td>
<td><a href="mailto:laurieeaton@oursavioursmpls.org">laurieeaton@oursavioursmpls.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Martha Schwehn Bardwell</td>
<td>612-871-2967 opt 4</td>
<td><a href="mailto:martha@oursavioursmpls.org">martha@oursavioursmpls.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music Director</td>
<td>Mary Preus</td>
<td>612-871-2967 opt 6</td>
<td><a href="mailto:marypreus@oursavioursmpls.org">marypreus@oursavioursmpls.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursery Faith Formation Lead</td>
<td>Anjali Chadwick</td>
<td>612-871-2967</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bookkeeper</td>
<td>Diane Palmer</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:diane@oursavioursmpls.org">diane@oursavioursmpls.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Manager</td>
<td>Alexander Farino</td>
<td>612-871-2967 opt 7</td>
<td><a href="mailto:alex@oursavioursmpls.org">alex@oursavioursmpls.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Custodian</td>
<td>Matthew Bell</td>
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<td>(Please refer custodial issues to Pastor Laurie above.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Front Desk &amp; Office Volunteers</td>
<td>Jeanne Asp; Rachel Ackland;</td>
<td>612-871-2967</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mary Bargen; Elaine Degelau;</td>
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<td>Deacon (retired); Rico Morales;</td>
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<td>Nancy Nygaard Johnson;</td>
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<td>LaRue Unglaube</td>
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<tr>
<td>Our Saviour’s Community Services Executive Director</td>
<td>Sandra Aslaksen, Deacon</td>
<td>612-871-5900 opt 1</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sandy@oscs-mn.org">sandy@oscs-mn.org</a></td>
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