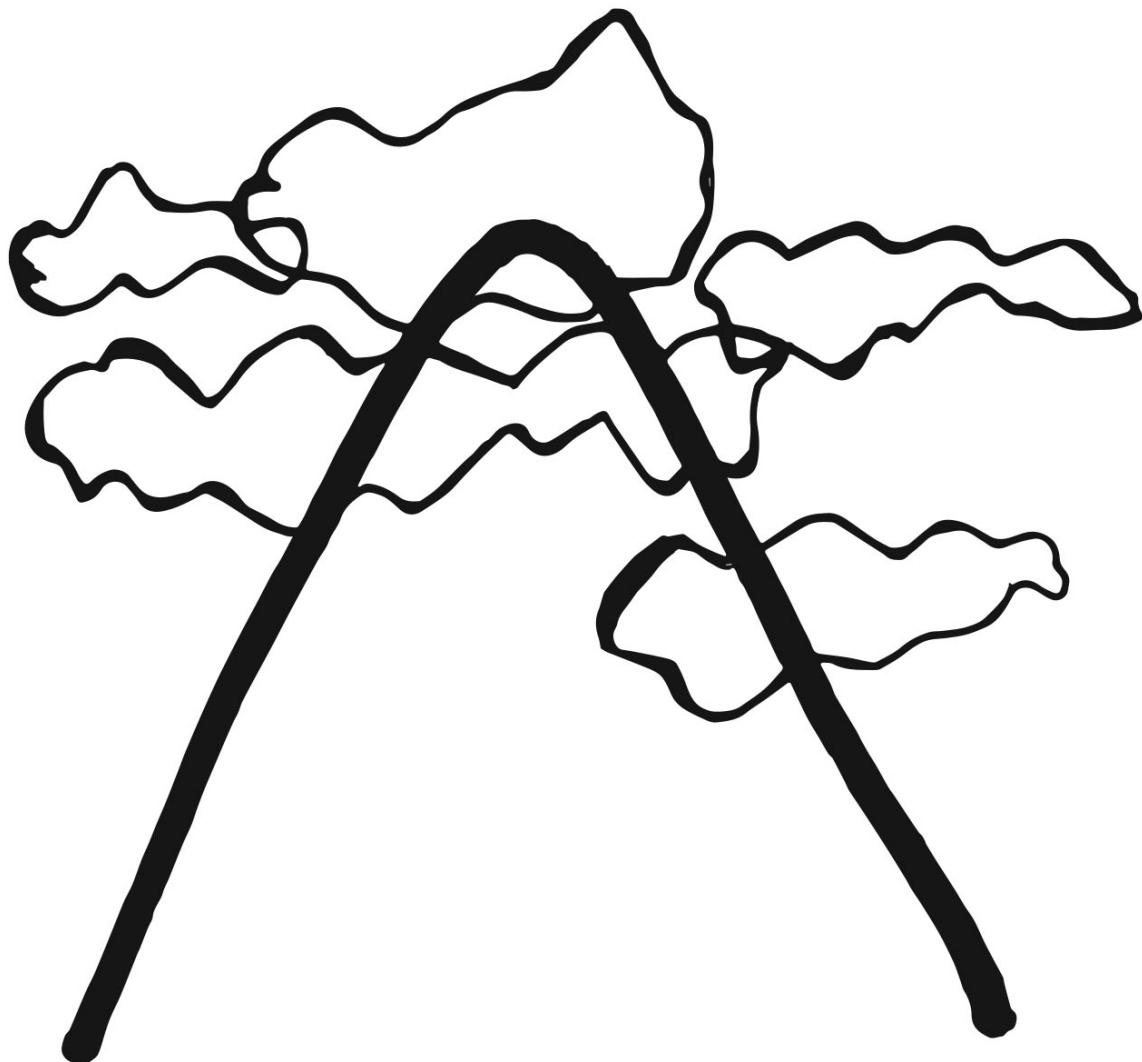


Fourth Sunday After Epiphany



February 1st, 2026
Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

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. **Need hearing assistance or larger print?** Please ask an usher.

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 expect that children will behave as children – giggles, wiggles, and all. We offer a playground in the Sanctuary with books and coloring supplies for kids to use during the service. There are bags that can be brought to your seats with supplies. We also have a reading corner in the Hospitality Center with books and toys. Kids and their parents are invited to go in and out of the Sanctuary as needed.

Safe Church. For the safety of all 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 - Parking is available in the parking lot off the alley behind church, on the local streets (follow signs as some parking is only residential or has hour restrictions) and at the Hope Academy Parking ramp at 24th St and Park Ave. The arms are up on Sunday mornings until 2pm. Parking there other days requires a code. Pick up a card at church with the ramp code. There are handicap parking spots available in the front and back of the church.

Bus - The D line runs every 10 minutes on Chicago Ave. For more options, visit metrotransit.org.

Mission of the month: Calvary Food Shelf

Calvary Food Shelf (CFS) is now operating in challenging times! It shows its resilience to get food to those who are food insecure. It is located at 39th and Chicago Avenue and currently has the job of getting food for families who are afraid to leave their homes. Volunteers are delivering food on Tuesdays and Thursdays that serve between 85-95 families twice a week. Your continued prayers, time and support to CFS will be greatly appreciated to bring more food and resources to vulnerable families.

Online giving - If you are interested in giving online to Our Saviour's for the Mission of the Month or general offering, use this QR Code:



Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Who are the blessed ones of God? For Micah, they are those who do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. For Paul, they are the ones who find wisdom in the weakness of the cross. For Jesus, they are the poor, the meek, the merciful, the pure in heart, the peacemakers, those who mourn, and those who hunger for righteousness. In baptism we find our blessed identity and calling in this countercultural way of living and serving.

Gathering

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

Prelude

Welcome

*Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, One God,
Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty Savior,
Prince of Peace. **Amen.**

Reconciling God,

we yearn for your presence to transform our grief, pain, and despair.

We confess that we have not always prepared room in our hearts for your love;
we have not always recognized your presence among us;
we have not always embraced your message of peace.

We cry out, weary with the burden of violence, oppression, and fear.

We confess our failure to make room for those seeking refuge;
our participation in violent systems that harm your innocent ones;
our reluctance to embody your good news. Be born in us today
and teach us to sing the joyful song of your salvation. Amen.

God's grace upon grace flows over you.

☩ Christ's presence redeems the whole creation.

Your sins are forgiven. Let the earth rejoice and be glad! **Amen.**

*Opening Hymn

Faith

Kirk Franklin

I can do the impossible. I can see the invisible
Because I got faith
(Repeat as indicated)

I believe...Because I got faith.

*=indicates God's children rise in body or spirit

*Greetings

The grace of our Savior Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

*Prayer of the Day

Word

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

First Reading

Micah 6:1-8

¹ Hear what God says:

Rise, plead your case before the mountains,
and let the hills hear your voice.

² Hear, you mountains, the controversy of God,
and you enduring foundations of the earth;
for God has a controversy with the chosen people,
and God will contend with Israel.

³ “O my people, what have I done to you?
In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

⁴ For I brought you up from the land of Egypt,
and redeemed you from the house of slavery;
and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam.

⁵ O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised,
what Balaam son of Beor answered him,
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,
that you may know the saving acts of God.”

⁶ “With what shall I come before God,
and bow myself before God on high?
Shall I come before God with burnt offerings, with calves a year old?

⁷ Will God be pleased with thousands of rams,
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”

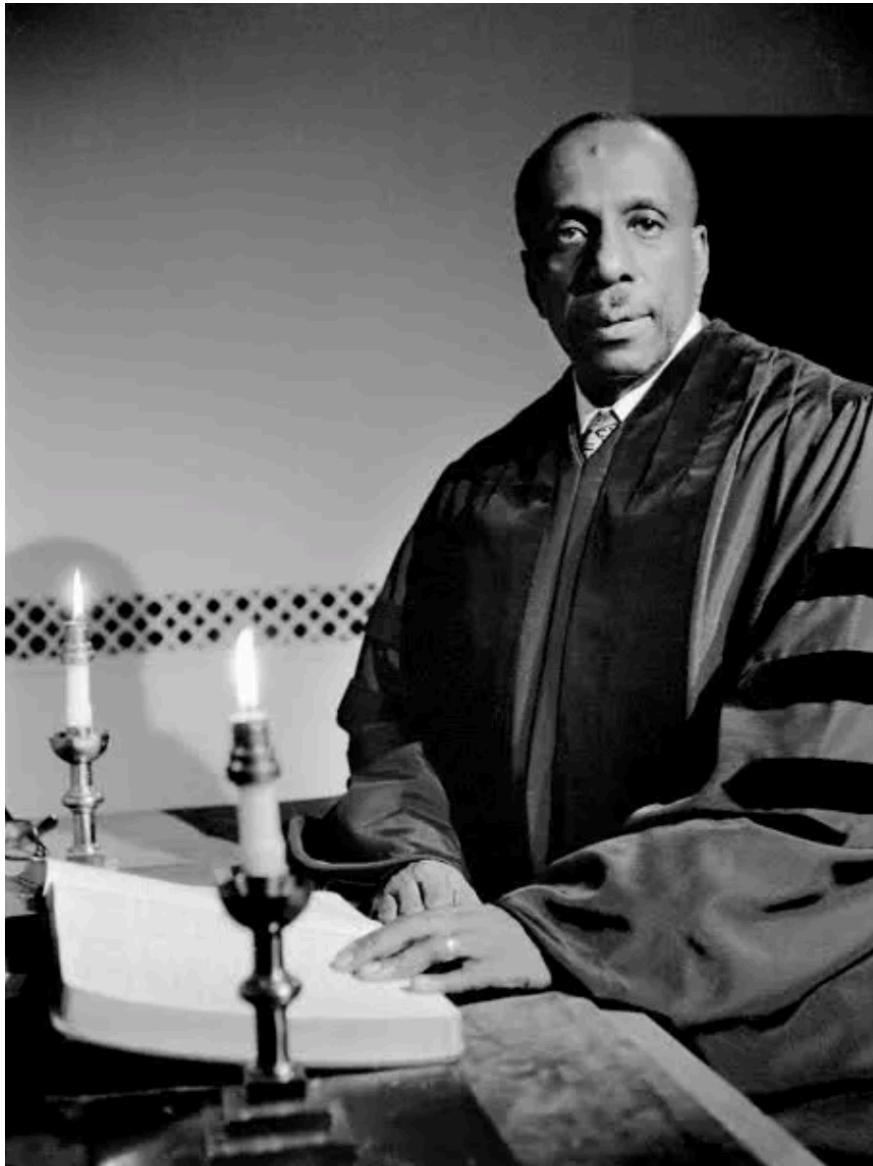
⁸ God has told you, O mortal, what is good;
and what does God require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God!**

Second Reading

Howard Thurman (1899-1981) was a theologian, mystic, and civil rights leader. He was the first Black Dean of Marsh Chapel at Boston University. This passage comes from his 1949 book, Jesus and the Disinherited. It is rumored that Dr. King often carried a copy of this book with him.

What, then, is the word of the religion of Jesus to those who stand with their backs against the wall? There must be the clearest possible understanding of the anatomy of the issues facing them. They must recognize fear, deception, hatred, each for what it is. Once having done this, they must learn how to destroy these or to render themselves immune to their domination. In so great an undertaking it will become increasingly clear that the contradictions of life are not ultimate. The disinherited will know for themselves that there is a Spirit at work in life and in the hearts of persons which is committed to overcoming the world. It is universal, knowing no age, no race, no culture, and no condition. For the privileged and underprivileged alike, if the individual puts at the disposal of the Spirit the needful dedication and discipline, they can live effectively in the chaos of the present the high destiny of a child of God.



Gospel Acclamation

We've Come This Far by Faith

TFF 151

Refrain - All

We've come this far by faith, lean-ing on our God;
 trust-ing in God's ho-ly word, God's nev-er failed us yet.
 Oh, We can't turn back, we've come this
 far by faith. We've come this far by faith.

*Gospel

Matthew 5:1-12 (Spark Bible p. 264)

The holy gospel according to Matthew, the 5th chapter.

Glory to you, O God.

¹ When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain and sat down; and his disciples came to him. ² Then Jesus began to speak, and taught them, saying:

³ “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the dominion of heaven.

⁴ Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵ Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

⁶ Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

⁷ Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

⁸ Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

⁹ Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰ Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the dominion of heaven.

¹¹ Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

This is the Good News,

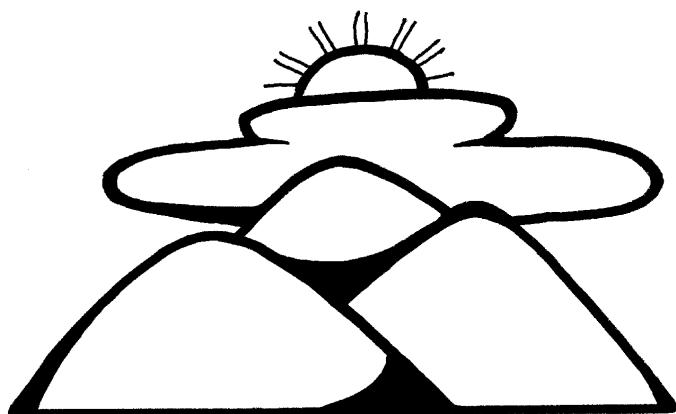
Praise to you, O Christ.

Children’s Sermon

After the children’s sermon, young children may go with the nursery minister for children’s church and be welcomed back during the sharing of the peace. They are also most welcome to stay in the sanctuary.

Sermon

There is space for sermon notes on the insert page.



*Hymn of the Day

There's Justice Work for Us to Do

1. O my neigh-bor, have you met our Moth-er, who will guide us to seek
2. Have you ev - er wit - nessed Moth-er's pow - er? She will help tired souls feel
3. Do you look a - round the world and won - der if good-will is o - ver -
4. As you go out look to Her for guid-ance; trust that She will see you

truth? Fol - low Her on peace-ful path-ways; there's jus-tice work for us to
new. She re - ju - ve - nates, re - vives us; there's jus-tice work for us to
due? We must care, and work re - pair - ing; there's jus-tice work for us to
through. Ev - ery day She shows us Her way; there's jus-tice work for us to

do. Oh, there's jus-tice work to do, my neigh-bor; there's jus - tice work for us to

do. Dreams of peace vi - tal - ize our la-bor; there's jus - tice work for us to do.

Chords: F, B^b/F, F, C7sus/F, F, F/A, B^b, F/C, C7, F, C7, F, B^b/F, F, B^b/D, F/C, B^b, F/C, C, C7, F, B^b/F, F

*Prayers of the People

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

*Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

Gathering our Gifts

Kent Goodroad

All present, even those who contribute through automatic payments, are invited to lay hands upon the collection plate symbolizing their contributions. Those worshipping online may contribute on our website: oursavioursmpls.org.

*Offertory

*To the melody of **Come All You People***

Come all you people

Come and thank the Spirit (3x)

Come now and worship our God

*Offertory Prayer

*The Great Thanksgiving

God be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts! **We lift them to our God.**

Let us give thanks to the Living God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Eucharistic Prayer

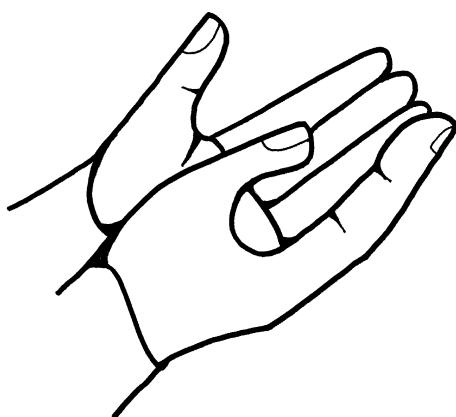
As part of the eucharistic prayer we confess the great mystery of faith to the tune of the Civil Rights Movement anthem, "We Shall Overcome." We learned this from Trinity Lutheran in Manhattan:

Jesus Christ has died, Jesus Christ is risen,

Jesus Christ will come again.

Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe

Jesus Christ will come again.



*The Prayer of Jesus

**Our Mother, our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kin-dom 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 kin-dom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

**As part of our commitment to using inclusive and expansive language for God, this season we are modifying the word 'kingdom' which connotes both maleness and a form of government unfamiliar to most of us. Instead, we will use 'kin-dom' which captures the way Jesus radically redefines family and invites everyone into a loving relationship with God and neighbor. Whether saying 'kin-dom' or 'kingdom,' we proclaim the subversive reign of God's love and justice.*

Healing Prayer at the Font

During communion distribution, you are invited to the font for individual prayers.

Distribution

All are welcome at Christ's table. Ushers will guide you. After receiving bread or a gluten-free wafer, hold out your glass for wine (dark) or juice (light). Following communion, deposit your compostable cup with a server. Those who do not commune may indicate a preference for a blessing.

Let Us Break Bread Together

ELW 471

Though the Earth Shall Change

ACS 1035



Though the earth shall change, though the moun-tains trem-ble,



though the wa - ters rage, you, God, are here.



Though the na - tions war, though the peo - ples bat - tle,



though the em - pire fal - ters, we will not fear.

Hold On

Hold on,
hold on,
my dear ones,
here comes the dawn.

***Blessing**

Sending

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

God Welcomes All

God welcomes all, strangers and friends;
God's love is strong and it never ends.

***Benediction**

This is a benediction song that we learned at Luther Crest Bible Camp this summer.

As you go on your way may Christ go with you
May Christ go before you to show you the way
May Christ go behind you to encourage you
Beside you to befriend you, above you to watch over
Within you to give you peace

***Dismissal**

Alleluia! Go in peace. Love and serve God! **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude

All are invited to the Hospitality Center for community announcements and hospitality.

Acknowledgments

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“Let Us Break Bread Together” Text: African American spiritual. Music: African American spiritual.

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“Hold On” The Singing Resistance.

“God Welcomes All” Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949. Music: AMEN THEMBA, South African traditional; transcr. and arr. John L. Bell. Text and transcription © 2008 WGRG, Iona Community, admin. GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

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Information about Our Saviour’s can be found on our website (www.oursavioursmpls.org) and on Facebook (www.facebook.com/groups/OurSavioursMPLS).

Today's Worship

Ministers:	You!
Presiding:	John Rohde Schwehn
Preaching:	Craig Simenson
Reader:	Steve Lindley
Prayers:	Kim Guessford
Special Music:	Kent Goodroad
Musicians:	Alyssa Schwitzer & Kent Goodroad
Sound:	Mike Libby
Livestream:	Jakob Johnson
Communion Recruiters:	5th & 6th graders
Window Blinds:	Remi Hanson

This week at OSLC:

Wednesday, February 4

8:30AM-9:30AM DIN

10:15AM Bible Study (HC/Zoom)

5:30PM Community Meal (HC)

6:15PM-7PM Community Craft Night

7PM-8PM Contemplative Prayer Service

Saturday, February 7

9AM-12PM Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, February 8

9AM Adult Forum: With so much unfolding in our city right now, we have decided to continue to keep forum time as 'open space' to process what is happening and how we can act and care for one another through it all.

11:30AM Annual Meeting

Interested in Membership at OSLC?

Wonderful! Please reach out to one of the pastors in person or via email to share your interest and questions. We will receive new members this Spring. We invite newcomers to be part of Wednesday night conversations that we call "Living Questions" - this is coming up in March. More information coming soon!

SERMON NOTES

Our Saviour's Staff

Pastor	Martha Schwehn Bardwell martha@oursavioursmpls.org	(612) 871-2967 opt 3
Pastor	Esther K. Sianipar esther@oursavioursmpls.org	(612) 871-2967 opt 2
Music Directors	Kent Goodroad kent@oursavioursmpls.org	(612) 871-2967 opt 4
	Alyssa Schwitzer alyssa@oursavioursmpls.org	(612) 871-2967 opt 4
Office Manager	Marcin Cienski marcin@oursavioursmpls.org	(612) 871-2967 opt 5
Front Dest & Office Volunteers	Jeanne Asp (Monday) Nancy Nygaard Johnson (Monday) Sheryll Mennicke (Tuesday)	(612) 871-2967
OSCS Executive Director	Mike Huffman mike@oscs-mn.org	(612) 871-5900 opt 1



OUR SAVIOUR'S
Lutheran Church

*Our Saviour's Lutheran Church is a dynamic community,
centered in Christ, called, nurtured and sent –
to celebrate, serve and do justice.*

(612) 871-2967 Office Hours: M-Th, 9-3
2315 Chicago Ave S, Minneapolis, MN 55404

www.oursavioursmpls.org
www.facebook.com/Our.Saviours.Lutheran.Church.Mpls