

First Sunday of Lent



February 22nd, 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:



First Sunday in Lent

We begin our journey through Lent with the story of the triumphal procession of Jesus into Jerusalem – a story we usually reserve for Palm Sunday. Each week we will continue follow his journey all the way to the cross. These gospel texts lift up the stark contrasts between Jesus' embodiment of the reign of God and the systems of this world that are powered by contempt and injustice. May our faith be renewed in this season so we may continue to see in Jesus Christ the One who truly saves, heals, and liberates us.

Gathering

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

Prelude

Welcome

*Confession and Forgiveness

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

Lead Me, Guide Me

ELW 768

*Greeting

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.

Psalm 32



You are a hid-ing place, where we have been em-braced.



Sur-round us with your grace, and keep us ev-er close to you.

First Reading

A Letter from Epiphany Lutheran Church in Winnipeg, MB

In this Lenten season, we will be reading letters written to Our Saviour's that we received during the ICE occupation in Minnesota. Just as early Christian communities received letters from the apostle Paul that we still read today, we receive these letters as gospel encouragement for our lives of faith. This letter was sent to us by Pastor Paul Sartison and the council, members, and friends of Epiphany Lutheran Church, Winnipeg. You may find the full letter on the Prayer Wall or with the QR code below.

Dear friends in Christ,

For the last year and more we in Winnipeg have watched events unfolding in your country with a growing sense of unease and disbelief. In these past few weeks we have seen and heard the news from your city and have found that sadness and anger have taken the place of that unease and disbelief.

We want to let you know that we are with you, and that you and your neighbours in the Twin Cities and beyond are not alone or forgotten during this troubled time. You are on our minds, in our hearts, and in our prayers. Minneapolis and Winnipeg are

sister cities; our connections are not only with our Lutheran family there, but with the city and its people as a whole...

We would also like you to know that you and your neighbours are an inspiration to us. While we at a distance might be lulled into some kind of onlooker's despair, instead we see you gathering together - resisting, singing, praying silently, waving signs, insisting that community and joy will remain strong - and in all of that you remind us that there is so much beauty and strength in the simple act of people standing up for and with each other. You are showing us the very best of bearing one another's burdens and sharing one another's struggles and joys. Thank you for that. Grace and peace be with you for all that the days will bring.

For these saints in Winnipeg, we say together: **Thanks be to God.**

***Gospel Acclamation**



Come, let us re - turn to our Source.



You who are torn, God will heal you; you who are



crushed, God will bind you up.

***Gospel**

Luke 19: 28-40 (spark bible p. 454)

The holy gospel according to Luke, the 19th chapter. **Glory to you, O God.**

²⁸ After Jesus had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. ²⁹ When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, ³⁰ saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here.

³¹ If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.' "

³² So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. ³³ As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" ³⁴ They said, "The Lord needs it." ³⁵ Then they brought it to Jesus, and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. ³⁶ As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. ³⁷ Now as he was approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, ³⁸ saying,

“Blessed is the One
who comes in the name of God!
Peace in heaven,
and glory in the highest heaven!”

³⁹ Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, order your disciples to stop.” ⁴⁰ He answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.”

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 Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song ELW 808**

***Prayers of the People**

Each petition ends: God of grace...hear our prayer.

Meal

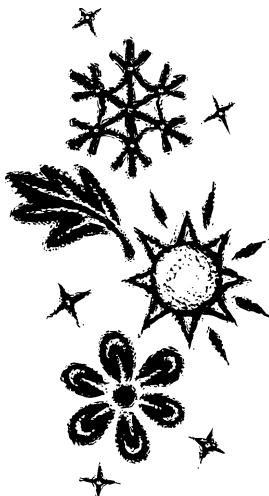
God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

***Peace**

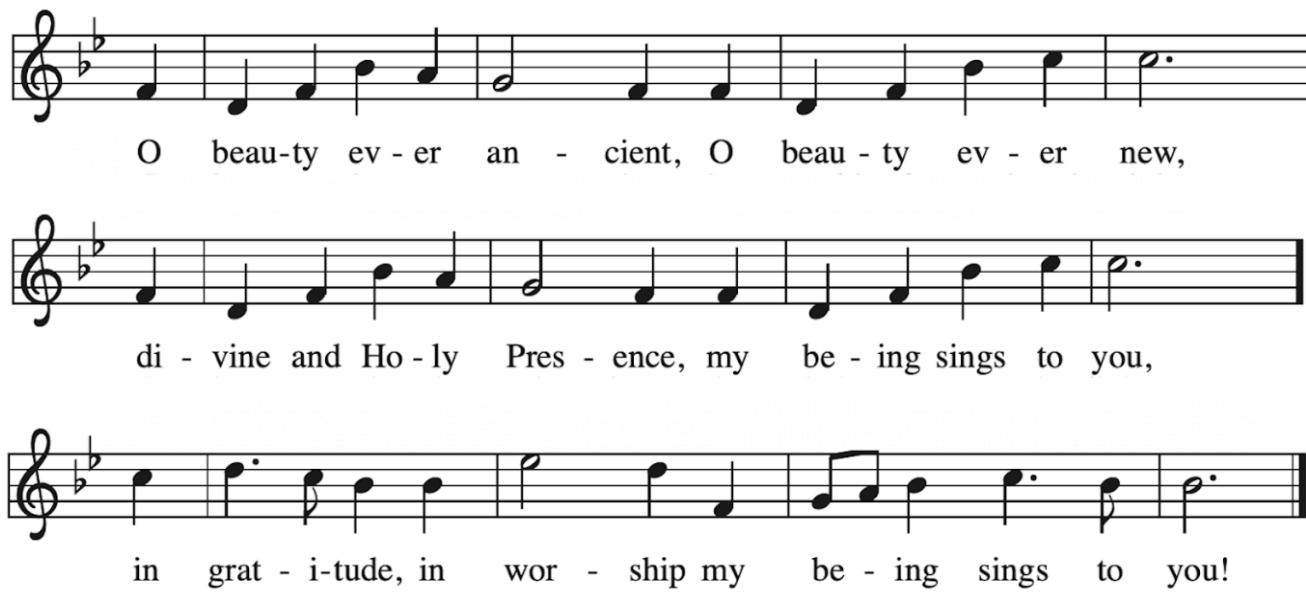
The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

Gathering our Gifts

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



O beau - ty ev - er an - cient, O beau - ty ev - er new,
di - vine and Ho - ly Pres - ence, my be - ing sings to you,
in grat - i-tude, in wor - ship my be - ing sings to you!

*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.

Taste and See

ELW 493

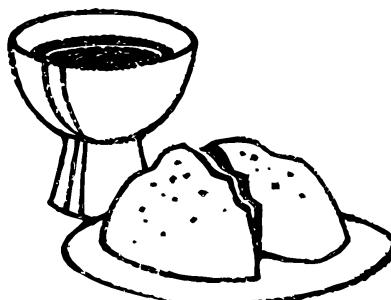
This Is Christ's Body

ACS 967

Music notation for 'Taste and See' (ELW 493) and 'This Is Christ's Body' (ACS 967). The notation consists of three staves of music. The first staff is for 'Taste and See', the second for 'This Is Christ's Body', and the third for 'Taste and See' again. The lyrics are: 'This is Christ's bod - y, bro - ken and blest. Feed us with' followed by a repeat sign. The music then continues with 'mer-cy and love. with mer - cy and love. We are Christ's bod - y,' followed by a repeat sign. The final section of the first staff continues with 'bro - ken and blest. Heal us and make us one.'

Continuation of the musical notation. The lyrics 'mer-cy and love. with mer - cy and love. We are Christ's bod - y,' are followed by a repeat sign. The music then continues with 'bro - ken and blest. Heal us and make us one.'

Final section of the musical notation. The lyrics 'bro - ken and blest. Heal us and make us one.' are followed by a repeat sign.



Deep Peace

Ray Makeever

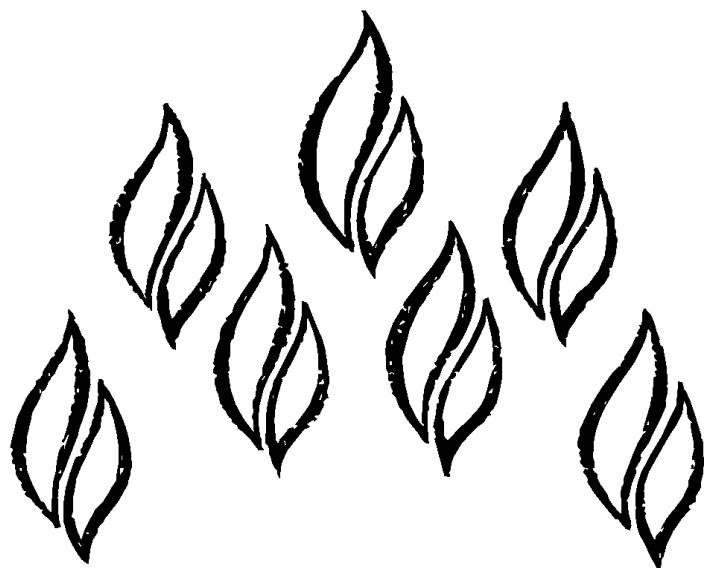
Deep peace of the running waves, deep peace of the

flow - ing air, deep peace of the shin - ing stars to

you, deep peace of the qui - et earth. earth.

To repeat *Last time*

*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 announcements and community time.

Acknowledgments

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“Psalm 32” Text: Psalm 32. Music Tom Witt

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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:	Martha Schwehn Bardwell
Preaching:	Martha Schwehn Bardwell
Reader:	Ralph Baumgartner
Prayers:	Karen Stevenson
Prelude:	Connor Owens
Musicians:	Anna Rohde, Jen Thaney, Clara Owens, Kent Goodroad
Sound:	Mike Libby
Livestream:	Jakob Johnson
Communion Recruiters:	5th & 6th graders
Window Blinds:	Remi Hanson

This week at OSLC:

Wednesday, February 25

8:30AM-9:30AM DIN

10:15AM Bible Study (HC/Zoom)

5:30PM Community Meal (HC)

6:30PM-7PM Holden Evening Prayer

7PM-8PM Adult Choir

Sunday, March 1

9AM Adult Forum: To Be Announced

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 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

Our Saviour's Staff

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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

