

# **Fifth Sunday in Lent**



**March 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](http://metrotransit.org).

## Mission of the month: Community Emergency Service (CES)

CES has been operated for the last 65 years as an outreach ministry of Augustana Lutheran Church, offering vital support to neighbors in Minneapolis. Today, CES reaches nearly 150,000 neighbors each year through their Food Market, one of Minnesota's largest Meals on Wheels programs, and Ani-Meals program. Your donation and time will help CES continue to grow, provide more food and to share hope to our vulnerable neighbors, especially such hard times like these.

**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:



# Fifth Sunday in Lent

*We began 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 to 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 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 disdain 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                      *I Bind unto Myself Today*                      *ELW 450*

**\*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 130**

1. For you, my God, I wait  
 2. You hear my plead - ing voice,  
 3. If you should list my faults,  
 4. For ev - en from the deep

with hope born of the Word.  
 and let me know you hear!  
 the sins of heart and hand,  
 I know you hear my cries.

Like sleep - less ones who long to dream  
 As sleep - less ones feel rest ap - proach,  
 like sleep - less ones who groan at dawn  
 Like sleep - less ones who dream at last

I wait and call my God.  
 I know my God is near.  
 I know I could not stand.  
 I ease my wear - y eyes.

## Reading

### A Letter from Fredrick Presbyterian Church, Fredrick, Maryland

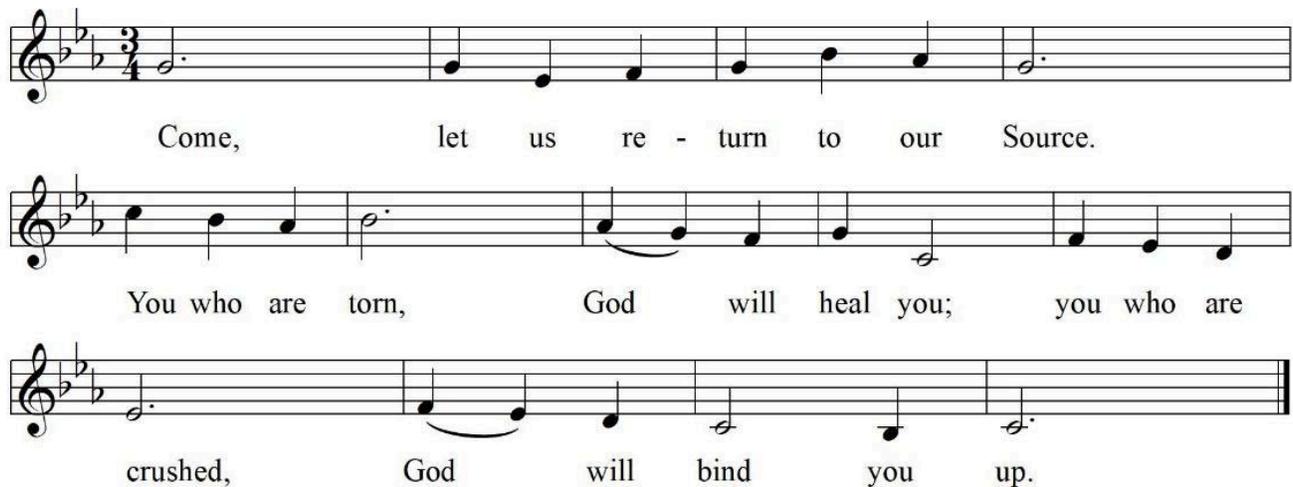
*In this Lenten season, we will be reading letters written to Our Saviour's that we received during the ICE occupation in Minnesota. Just as early Christian communities received letters from the apostle Paul that we still read today, we receive these letters as gospel encouragement for our lives of faith. This letter was sent to us by Fredrick Presbyterian Church in Fredrick, MD. You may find the full letter on the Prayer Wall.*

Although we are miles apart, our congregation wants to send a note of support and encouragement to you in these distressing times. Although you are no longer in our headlines, we will continue to pray for you. The work must go on.

Thank you for what you are doing. May you be blessed.

For these saints in Maryland, 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 23:39–43** (Spark Bible page 476)

The holy gospel according to Luke, the 23<sup>rd</sup> chapter. **Glory to you, O God.**

<sup>39</sup>One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding Jesus and saying, “Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!” <sup>40</sup>But the other rebuked him, saying, “Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?

<sup>41</sup>And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.” <sup>42</sup>Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come in your kingdom.” <sup>43</sup>He replied, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise.”

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                      *My Life Flows on in Endless Song*                      #763

5. When tyrants tremble, sick with fear	In prison cell and dungeon vile
And hear their death-knell ringing	Our thoughts to them are winging
When friends rejoice both far and near	When friends by shame and undefiled
How can I keep from singing?	How can I keep from singing?

***Last Refrain:*** No storm can shake my inmost calm  
while to that Rock I'm clinging.  
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth,  
How can I keep from singing?

### \*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

### *OSLC Choir*

*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: [oursavioursmples.org](http://oursavioursmples.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.*

#### *Eat This Bread*

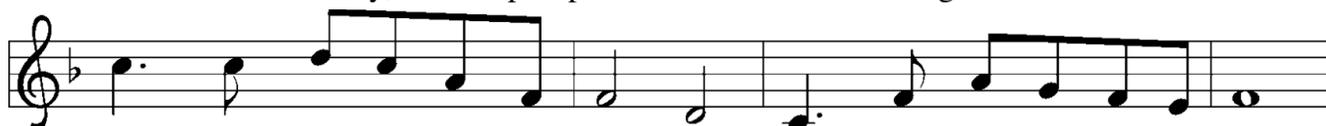
*ELW 472*

#### *Stream of Mercy Never Failing*

*Bret Hesla*



- 1 Stream of mer - cy ne - ver fai - ling, Here we stand and look to you.
- 2 Emp - ty pro - mis - es di - vide us. Emp - ty goals stand in our way.
- 3 Keep us mind-ful of our one - ness in your wa - ter's wide em - brace.
4. Stream of Mer - cy, flow up - pon us come and green our wil - ted vines



Pour your pre - sence now up - on us. Come and chris - ten us a - new.  
We re - nounce the ma - ny "is - ms" That turn "we" to "we and they."  
Give us eyes to see our kin - ship ev - ry - where in ev - ry face.  
We are thir - sting for your jus - tice now your realm our on - ly wine.



You have named us all your peo - ple. You have birthed us as your own.  
We ack - now - ledge our in - volve - ment. We have all di - vi - ders been.  
May we learn the way of Je - sus, learn to chal - lenge and to serve.  
Give us cour - age to be faith - ful may we know we're not a - lone.



You've re - stored us, whol - ly fam - ily, in your Spi - rit flow - ing down.  
Make us hea - lers of di - vi - sion, As your fam - ily we de - fend.  
May we learn to live to - ge - ther, Lov - ing all with - out re - serve.  
Give us joy in our re - un - ion with our sib - lings fin - ally known.

#### *Jesus Remember Me*

*ELW 616*

**\*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

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

# Today's Worship

Ministers:	You!
Presiding:	Martha Schwehn Bardwell
Preaching:	Martha Schwehn Bardwell
Reader:	Nancy Nygaard Johnson
Prayers:	Joel Abrahamson
Special Music:	OSLC Adult Choir
Musicians:	Alyssa Shwitzer & Kent Goodroad
Sound:	Mike Libby
Livestream:	Jakob Johnson
Communion Recruiters:	5th & 6th graders
Window Blinds:	Remi Hanson

## **This week at OSLC:**

**Wednesday, March 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 29**

9AM Adult Forum: Preparing for Palm Sunday Action  
2PM Pathway to Palm Sunday March (Capitol Building)

## **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. This year, we will receive new members later in the Spring. More details coming soon!



# 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](http://www.oursavioursmpls.org)  
[www.facebook.com/Our.Saviours.Lutheran.Church.Mpls](https://www.facebook.com/Our.Saviours.Lutheran.Church.Mpls)

## Our Saviour's Staff

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<b>OSCS Executive Director</b>	<b>Mike Huffman</b> <a href="mailto:mike@oscs-mn.org">mike@oscs-mn.org</a>	(612) 871-5900 opt 1