



OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

138 3RD ST. NW, VALLEY CITY, ND 58072 | (701) 845 - 1328 | OURSAVIORSVC.ORG

MARCH 5TH, 2023

+ SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT + "CALLED TO OPENNESS" +

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who makes all things new, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Trusting in God’s mercy, let us confess our sin... Gracious God, **in this unfinished life, we confess that our values do not always align with yours. We confess that we fail to be open to your vision for the world. We define people by their empty water jugs, and we fail to recognize how you are at work in surprising ways. We admit that where we focus our attention can prevent us from recognizing you at work right in front of us. We confess that we bind and entomb others and that our own lives are marked by grave clothes and tombs. Forgive us. Claim us. Call us anew. Through Jesus Christ, Our Savior and Lord, Amen.**

God who is rich in mercy, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love has come to us in Jesus, who by his holy cross has redeemed the world. Buried with Christ by baptism into death, yours sins are forgiven in † Jesus’ name. Cross-marked and Spirit-sealed, you are raised to new life. Almighty God strengthen you in faith to live each day renewed in God’s call for your life. **Amen.**

HYMN:

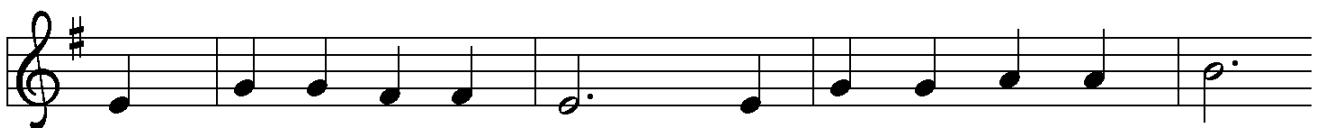
“God Loved the World”

#323

GREETING (p. 203)

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

KYRIE (p. 203)



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow’r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Open the eyes of our hearts to the mysteries of your saving love, O God, that we might grasp the hope to which you have called us. Give us a bold understanding of your unfolding vision for us and for your world. Accompany us on our seeking journey and lead us to where you would have us go. In the name of Jesus, + Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: Genesis 12:1-4a

¹The LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ²I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³I 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." ^{4a}So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him.

Response: The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 121 (Read Responsively)

¹I 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.**

³The LORD will not let your foot be move nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.

⁴**Behold, the keeper of Israel will neither slumber nor sleep;**

⁵the 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.**

⁷The 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.**

Response: The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

"Where Charity and Love Prevail" v. 3 & 4

#359

**3 Let us recall that in our midst dwells Christ, God's holy Son;
as members of each body joined, in him we are made one.**

**4 Let strife among us be unknown; let all contentions cease.
Be God's the glory that we seek; be his our only peace.**

GOSPEL READING: John 3:1-17

Reader: The Holy Gospel according to John 3:1-17. **Congregation: Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ²He 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 apart from the presence of God." ³Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." ⁴Nicodemus 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?" ⁵Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' ⁸The 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." ⁹Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" ¹⁰Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? ¹¹Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. ¹⁶For 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. ¹⁷Indeed, God

did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him." This is the gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

"Called to the Openness"

HYMN:

"How Firm a Foundation"

#796

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH- APOSTLES' CREED (p. 105)

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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

SHARING OF THE PEACE

THANKSGIVING FOR OFFERING AND PRAYER

OFFERING HYMN:

"Just As I Am, without One Plea"

#592

HOLY COMMUNION (p. 206)

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...we join their unending hymn: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

LORD'S PRAYER (p. 208)

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.

COMMUNION HYMN (p. 208)

**O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
you suffered death our lives to save: have mercy now, we pray.**

**O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mercy now, we pray.**

**O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
eternal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.**

DISTRIBUTION

POST COMMUNION PRAYER (p. 208)

BLESSING (p. 209)

SENDING HYMN:

“Abide, O Dearest Jesus”

#539

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OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Tara Anderson, Secretary
Janet Brown, Treasurer



GIVE ONLINE

We, Our Savior's Lutheran Church, welcome all to share Christ's love, grow in faith, and to live a life of service glorifying God.

Sundays during Lent we gather around the theme of *Unfinished: Discovering God's Call in the Not Yet*. Join us as we wonder about the ways God calls us and how we as people of faith live our whole lives in the space between the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus and the final fulfillment of God's hope-filled promises.

March 12th - "Called by God"

March 19th - "Called to Attentiveness"

March 26th - "Called to Regret"

April 2nd (Palm Sunday) - "Called to Experience God's Presence"

April 9th (Easter) - "Called to Resurrection"

Lent Midweek Worships will be held every Wednesday in March. We gather at 5:30 p.m. for supper and 6:30 p.m. for worship around the theme of *I Love To Tell The Story*, welcoming pastors from our ELCA neighbors.

March 8th - "Jonah" with Pr. Kyle

March 15th - "Joseph and His Brothers" with Pr. Jamie Desai from Faith Lutheran

March 22nd - "Hannah's Prayer" with Pr. Sharayah Robinson from the Kathryn/Nome/Fingal Lutheran Parish

March 29th - "Valley of the Dry Bones" with Pr. Kyle

Red Willow Bible Camp Registration for all ages is now open. Our Savior's has a special code for registration, so be in touch with Pr. Kyle before you register. Today we will welcome Alia Jenkins from Red Willow to share more info about all the fun things happening this summer! For more information or to register, visit redwillowministries.com

Radio Broadcast Sponsorships are available for lots of dates throughout 2023. Contact the church office to sponsor a radio worship time for \$100.

Synod Assembly Delegates: We are looking for three (3) individuals to represent OSLC at the Eastern North Dakota Synod Assembly held Saturday, June 3rd - Sunday, June 4th in Fargo. Travel and hotel costs are covered. Be in touch with Pr. Kyle if you are interested or if you have questions.

Thank you for your ongoing support of our Growing in Grace Capital Appeal! As you prayerfully consider your 2023 support, you can find appeal materials and pledges cards on the table in the back of the sanctuary. Again, thank you for all the "above and beyond" ways you continue to support the mission and ministry of OSLC.

Coffee Host Volunteers are needed for Sunday mornings. Sign up on our website or on the counter in the Gathering Room.

The 2023 Missionary Calendar is up! For \$25 a day you can show your support of our Missionaries Willie and Anne Langdji, who support the work of the Lutheran Church in Western Africa. They walk alongside of medical centers, schools, churches, food ministries to support and encourage local efforts. The calendar also supports the work of Global Health Ministries that ships medical supplies and supports medical facilities all over the globe. Sign up on the calendar and earmark your donation for "Missionary Calendar."

"And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. To that end, be alert and persevere in praying for all the Lord's people." (Ephesians 6:18). This week we hold these people of Our Savior's in prayer, as well as those concerns close to our hearts: Jill Taylor, Madison, Miles, Mitchel, McKenna; Gary & Lori Thompson; John Thompson & Kara Kramin; Aarika Thornton, Alex, RYanne, Jason Thornton; Bud Thum; Carolyn Timm.

This Week: **March 5-12**
 TODAY: 8:30 a.m. Worship-Choir sings
 8:30 a.m. Facebook Live
 9:30 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship
 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
 10:30 a.m. Worship-Choir sings
 11:00 a.m. Radio Broadcast
 MON: No Sr. High Lunch
 TUES: 9:00 a.m. Quilters
 1:30 p.m. Text Study
 WED: 9:30 a.m. Bible Study
 5:30 p.m. Lent Supper
 6:30 p.m. Lent Worship-Pr. Kyle
 7:00 p.m. Committees
 8:00 p.m. Council
 SAT: 7:30 a.m. Men's Bible Fellowship
 NEXT SUN: **Daylight Saving Time Begins**
 8:30 a.m. Worship
 8:30 a.m. Facebook Live
 9:30 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship
 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
 10:30 a.m. Worship
 11:00 a.m. Radio Broadcast

**Mission Support
 January-2023**

Year To Date Income	\$27,714.73
Year To Date Expense	36,717.72
YTD Expense over Income	- 9,002.99
A week of OSLC ministry:	\$7,116.00
General Fund Offering:	\$3,464.07

2021-2024 Growing in Grace Capital Appeal



\$846,180.00 Total Pledged
 By 125 Households
 through February 5, 2023
 \$674,415.31 Total Given
 through March 5, 2023