



OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

138 3rd Street NW, Valley City, ND 58072

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MARCH 30TH, 2025 + 4TH SUNDAY IN LENT

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (*please stand)

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

Compassionate One, **you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, but our lives do not always reflect you and your love for the world. We do not show others the tender compassion you have shown to us. We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality you grant to all people. We oppress others, even though you have set us free again and again. We squander the abundant gifts of the earth. Transform our lives and guide us again in the way of the cross. Amen.**

Beloved in Christ, God's arms are always stretched open wide to welcome the wandering ones home.

In † Christ your sins are forgiven. You have a place in God's house forever. **Amen.**

HYMN:

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

#807

GREETING

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 (*Read Responsively*)

For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all;

for this holy house, for all who worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor;

that we may live out truth and justice and grace, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family;

for life and for love, for our work and our play, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives in the water and the Word;

that you nourish our souls with your body and blood, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy. Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE:

"Glory to God"

p. 139

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth...

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of compassion, **you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

"I Come to the Cross"

OSLC CHOIR

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: Joshua 5:9-12

⁹ The LORD said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal to this day. ¹⁰ While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. ¹¹ On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. ¹² The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

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

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

¹⁶ From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷ So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! ¹⁸ All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹ that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. ²⁰ So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹ For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: (*please stand)

p. 142

*Return to the Lord, your God,
for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love,
and abounding in steadfast love.*

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 13th chapter...**Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

¹ Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] ² And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them." ³ So he told them this parable: ^{11b} "There was a man who had two sons. ¹² The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. ¹³ A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. ¹⁴ When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶ He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷ But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! ¹⁸ I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.'" ²⁰ So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹ Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' ²² But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³ And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; ²⁴ for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate. ²⁵ "Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. ²⁷ He replied, 'Your brother has

come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.’²⁸ Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him.²⁹ But he answered his father, ‘Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends.’³⁰ But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’³¹ Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours.’³² But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.’”

Response: The Gospel of the Lord...**Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

HYMN:

“Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling”

#608

APOSTLE’S 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

Response: God in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

THANKSGIVING FOR OFFERING AND PRAYER

(offering plates are located on the table at the back of the sanctuary)

OFFERING HYMN:

“Create in Me a Clean Heart”

#186

HOLY COMMUNION (p. 144)

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.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING (p.144)

It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy...we join their unending hymn:

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.*

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER (p. 145)

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.

DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION HYMNS

“Lamb of God”

p. 146

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

“Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound” #779

“My Life Flows On in Endless Song” #763

POST COMMUNION PRAYER (*Please Stand)

p. 146

BLESSING

God our tender parent, God the crucified one, God the reconciling Spirit, ✠ bless you now and forever. Amen.

HYMN

“Restore in Us, O God”

#328

SENDING (p. 146)

Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you. **Thanks be to God!**

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Holy Week and Easter Information: Services on Maundy Thursday are at 6:30 pm. On Good Friday, we are providing the Community Wide Service at 12:00 pm. Easter Sunday services will be at 9:00 and 11:00, with brunch served in between. The Good Friday service will be streamed on Facebook - @BarnesCountyMinisterialAssociation. Maundy Thursday and Easter services will be streamed on @OurSaviorsValleyCity.

Help decorate the sanctuary of Our Savior's this Easter by sharing Easter lilies, azaleas, tulips, etc. You can contribute a plant in memory of or in honor of. Please bring the plant to the church during Holy Week, beginning April 14th. You can pick them up following the 11:00am Easter worship service. A list of those providing Easter plants will be included in the April 20th bulletin.



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LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Tara Anderson, Vice President
Sarah Wangrud, 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.

The Radio Broadcast is given today in memory of Judy Olstad by her family.

Sunday Greeters Needed: Greeters are needed for the North and South side doors to welcome worshippers to the service and hand out bulletins. You would need to be at the church by 8:45. Sign up sheet is on the countertop of the Information Center, under the Missionary Calendar. No experience needed and a great way to meet others in our church community!

Coffee and Fellowship Hosts: Hosts are needed for our fellowship times following worship on Sunday mornings. Hosting can be as simple as making sure the coffee is on and running and providing a light treat. You can sign up on the clipboard on the counter in the Gathering Room and be in touch with Pr. Nicholas with questions.

Sub List for Communion Helpers and Counters: We are building a list of substitutes for those Sundays when helpers are scheduled but are unable to attend. If you would like to help out on an occasional basis, please contact Ann in the office (845-1328) and we will add you to the list.

First Communion: Students in 3rd grade or older, who have not yet received First Communion but wish to, are invited to attend First Communion education on April 9th at 5:30, followed by our Wednesday Lent worship that evening. First Communion will be celebrated with the people of Our Savior's Lutheran Church on April 17th during our Maundy Thursday worship service at 6:30pm. Please contact Pastor Nicholas if you or your child would like to participate or if you have any questions.

Prayer Shawl Ministry: Do you knit or crochet? Are you interested in helping organize a Prayer Shawl Ministry here at OSLC? Please call Margaret Dahlberg (840-1206) or Janet Brown (845-2910) for more information.

Good Samaritan Quilters at OSLC: the quilters are asking you to keep them in mind as you do your spring cleaning. They can use (used) flat sheets, any size and any color except white. They also accept fabric. It can be dropped off Tuesday mornings, when the ladies meet downstairs or can be left in the office during normal office hours. If you have any questions, please contact Carol Foth (840-2242) or Kathy Anderson (840-1426). The quilts the ladies make are given as gifts for baptisms and graduations within the congregation and also to local charities and missions for those in need.

Join us as we mark 50 years of ELCA World Hunger addressing world needs. Today we will learn about Care Connections Network and their work to create community for older adults. Care Connections is one of many groups that work to care for communities and shift social

imbalances. We continue to explore how Jesus' followers in various places are impacting the world for good through Jesus' message and the work of their hearts, hands, and voices.

Book Study: Beginning on April 13th, we will begin a book study on Disability and the Church by Lamar Hardwick. During this 8-week study, we will discuss a chapter or two a week as Hardwick talks about different ways that Church can be more inclusive to those with varying abilities. This book can be purchased through Amazon for around \$16. Those who wish to participate are encouraged to buy the book themselves. However, if the cost is a hinderance, please contact the office for assistance. We wish for this book study to be accessible for all who wish to participate.

Red Willow Bible Camp Registration: For those of you planning to sign up for Bible Camp this summer, the payment code is now available. Please call the office for that information.

Red Willow Cabin Clean Up: One of the relationships that OSLC has is with Red Willow Bible Camp. As part of that relationship, OSLC sponsors and helps the upkeep of Mark Cabin at Red Willow. RWBC is looking for a group of us to come to camp ahead of the summer season to clean and prep the camp, and Mark Cabin. If you are interested in helping with this, please contact the church office.

"Christ in Our Home" for April/May/June booklets are now available in various places around the church – pick up your copy today. If you know someone else who would like a copy, please take one to share.

A look ahead at the week of March 30th - April 6th, 2025

TODAY: 9:00 am | Worship
9:00 am | Facebook Worship Livestream
10:00 am | Coffee & Fellowship
10:00 am | Lent World Hunger Bible and Topic Study
10:00 am | Sunday School
11:00 am | KOVC 1490 AM/96.3 FM Radio Broadcast

TUES: 9:00 am | Quilters
9:00 am | Ministerial Meeting
10:30 am | Staff Meeting
1:30 pm | Pastors' Text Study

WEDS: 9:30 am | Bible Study
5:30 pm | Lenten Meal
6:00 pm | Lenten Meal and Worship, Waldheim (Kathryn)
6:30 pm | Worship
6:30 pm | Facebook Worship Livestream
8:00 pm | Sr High

THURS: 2:00 pm | Prayer Shawl Ministry

SAT: 7:30 am | Men's Bible Fellowship

SUN (4/6): 9:00 am | Worship
9:00 am | Facebook Worship Livestream
10:00 am | Coffee & Fellowship
10:00 am | Lent World Hunger Bible and Topic Study
10:00 am | Sunday School
11:00 am | KOVC 1490 AM/96.3 FM Radio Broadcast
11:15 am | Worship at Messiah (Fingal)