



# OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

138 3rd Street NW, Valley City, ND 58072

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APRIL 6TH, 2025 + 5TH SUNDAY IN LENT

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## 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:

**"Lord, Your Hands Have Formed"**

**#554**

### 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**

Creator God, **you prepare a new way in the wilderness, and your grace waters our desert. Open our hearts to be transformed by the new thing you are doing, that our lives may proclaim the extravagance of your love given to all through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

### **FIRST READING: Isaiah 43:16-21**

<sup>16</sup> Thus says the LORD, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, <sup>17</sup> who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:

<sup>18</sup> Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. <sup>19</sup> I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

<sup>20</sup> The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, <sup>21</sup> the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

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

### **PSALM: Psalm 126** (*Read Responsively*)

<sup>1</sup> When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, then were we like those who dream.

<sup>2</sup> **Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy. Then they said among the nations, "The LORD has done great things for them."**

<sup>3</sup> The LORD has done great things for us, and we are glad indeed.

<sup>4</sup> **Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like the watercourses of the Negeb.**

<sup>5</sup> Those who sowed with tears will reap with songs of joy.

<sup>6</sup> **Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.**

### **SECOND READING: Philippians 3:4b-14**

Paul writes:] <sup>4b</sup> If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: <sup>5</sup> circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; <sup>6</sup> as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. <sup>7</sup> Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. <sup>8</sup> More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ <sup>9</sup> and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. <sup>10</sup> I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, <sup>11</sup> if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead. <sup>12</sup> Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. <sup>13</sup> Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, <sup>14</sup> I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

*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 John, the 12<sup>th</sup> chapter...**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**GOSPEL: John 12:1-8**

<sup>1</sup> Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. <sup>2</sup> There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. <sup>3</sup> Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. <sup>4</sup> But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, <sup>5</sup> "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" <sup>6</sup> (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) <sup>7</sup> Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. <sup>8</sup> You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

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

**SERMON**

**HYMN:**

**"My Hope is Built on Nothing Less"**

**#596**

**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.*

**"Let Us Break Bread Together" #471**

**"We Come to the Hungry Feast" #479**

**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**

**"Beautiful Savior"**

**#838**

**SENDING (p. 146)**

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

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# OUR SAVIOR'S

LUTHERAN CHURCH

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**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.**

**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 3<sup>rd</sup> grade or older, who have not yet received First Communion but wish to, are invited to attend First Communion education on April 9<sup>th</sup> 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 17<sup>th</sup> 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.

**The family of Patty Loven is holding an open house** Saturday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, to celebrate her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. It will be held in the Dakota Pavilion in Chautauqua Park from 2-4. All are welcome to join the celebration.

**Book Study:** Beginning on April 13<sup>th</sup>, 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.

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

**Friday's are Pastors' Sabbath feel free to contact them in case of emergencies.**

**A look ahead at the week of April 6<sup>th</sup> - April 13<sup>th</sup>, 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  
11:15 am | Worship at Messiah (Fingal)

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

WEDS: 9:30 am | Bible Study  
5:30 pm | 1<sup>st</sup> Communion Study  
5:30 pm | Lenten Meal  
6:00 pm | Lenten Meal and Worship, St Petri (Nome)  
6:30 pm | Worship  
6:30 pm | Facebook Worship Livestream  
7:30 pm | Committees  
8:00 pm | Council

THURS: 2:00 pm | Prayer Shawl Ministry

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

SUN (4/13): 9:00 am | Worship – **PALM SUNDAY**  
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 Waldheim (Kathryn)