

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
138 3rd Street Northwest
Valley City, ND 58072

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Permit #39

March 2021



Palm Sunday – March 28, 2021

In Person Worship – 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
Facebook Live at 8:30 a.m., uploaded to YouTube
and broadcast on Radio KOVC at 11:00 a.m.

Maundy Thursday – April 1st, 2021

In Person Worship – 10:30 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.
1st Communion Celebration – 6:30 p.m.
Facebook Live at 6:30 p.m.

Good Friday – April 2nd, 2021



In Person and Facebook Live Worship – 6:30 p.m.

Easter Sunday – April 4th, 2021

In Person Worship – 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
Facebook Live at 8:30 a.m., uploaded to YouTube
and broadcast on Radio KOVC at 11:00 a.m.
Outdoor Easter Proclamation and Communion Service – 9:45 a.m.

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

March 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 9:00am Ministerial 9:00am Good Samaritans Quilters	3 10:30am Lent Liturgy in person Worship 3:00pm Kids for Christ 6:30pm Lent Liturgy in person Worship & Facebook Live	4	5	6 7:30am Men's Bible Fellowship
7 8:30am Worship At Home w/Facebook live 9:45am Sunday School 10:30am Lent Liturgy in person Worship 11:00am Radio broadcast	8	9 9:30am Text Study 9:00am Good Samaritans Quilters	10 10:30am Lent Liturgy Worship in person 3:00pm Kids for Christ 6:30pm Lent Liturgy in person Worship & Facebook Live 7:00pm Committees 8:00pm Council	11	12	13 7:30am Men's Bible Fellowship
14 8:30am Worship At Home w/Facebook live 9:45am Sunday School 10:30am Lent Liturgy in person Worship 11:00am Radio broadcast	15	16 9:30am Text Study 9:00am Good Samaritans Quilters	17 10:30am Lent Liturgy in person Worship 3:00pm Kids for Christ 6:30pm Lent Liturgy in person Worship & Facebook Live	18	19	20 7:30am Men's Bible Fellowship
21 8:30am Worship At Home w/Facebook live 9:45am Sunday School 10:30am Lent Liturgy in person Worship 11:00am Radio broadcast	22	23 9:30am Text Study 9:00am Good Samaritans Quilters	24 10:30am Lent Liturgy in person Worship 3:00pm Kids for Christ 6:30pm Lent Liturgy in person Worship & Facebook Live	25 9:30am Pastor's Conference	26	27 7:30am Men's Bible Fellowship
28 Palm Sunday 8:30 & 10:30am In Person Worship 8:30am Facebook Live, uploaded to YouTube 11:00am Radio broadcast	29	30 9:30am Text Study 9:00am Good Samaritans Quilters	31			

Reflections on Lament & Healing

Dear People of Our Savior's Lutheran Church,

You have permission to be honest with yourself and God about the all that you experience. While hanging on the cross Jesus cries out, "My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?" I find these words to be permission giving. If Jesus can cry out in such an angry and honest way to God, then I think it's okay for you and me to do so too.

The name for such crying out to God is "lament." There's actually a whole book of the Bible – dedicated to lament. As one author points out, in the book of Lamentations the writer grieved all that ancient Israel lost and endured in war and in exile before reconciling with God and returning home. There are also a number of Psalms of lament, that cry out to the Lord honestly about the struggles of life.

In the book "Outlaw Christian," author Jacqueline Bussie points out:

Lament creates a space for Christians to come together to say to God's face that we miss Love and that the world's pain is breaking our hearts. The precise origin of the word lament is unknown. The first root – la- in many languages means sadness or tears...The second root, ment, may share a root with the English words mantra, meaning thought or idea. For these reasons, I define a lament as a thought-tear, or a tear-thought. A lament is a tear put into words.

To be people of faith doesn't mean living like everything is okay all the time. To be people of faith is to be honest before our God. As Martin Luther said, we can "call a thing what it actually is." We don't always have to look for a silver lining or believe that God is teaching us something. Sometimes life is just plain hard. Sometimes terrible things happen. Sometimes we can just be plain fed up.

And so this month – as we continue in the church season of Lent – I offer you an invitation: Put your tears into words. Maybe for you that'll mean grabbing a pen & paper and writing down all that is frustrating you. Maybe that'll mean sitting at your table, pretending Jesus is in the chair next to you and telling him everything on your mind. Maybe that'll mean going for a walk and having a good yell while you are at it. Find a way that works for you.

I recently heard the phrase: Hurt often needs to be heard before it can be healed. So lament. Let God hear your hurts. We believe in a God who is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. We believe in a God who wants us to be well. When we turn our pain over to Jesus, it gives Jesus a chance to bring healing to our souls.

A Prayer for Healing from our hymnbook:

Living God, grant comfort in suffering to all who are in need of healing. When they are afraid, give them courage; when afflicted give them patience; when dejected, give them hope; and when alone, assure them of the support of your holy people. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Grace and peace, dear people. You are loved by the one who created you into being!

-Pastor Emmy

A LOOK AHEAD

WORSHIP AT OUR SAVIOR'S – LENT, HOLY WEEK, & EASTER

Sunday Worship – continues virtually via Facebook Live at 8:30 a.m., available on our YouTube Page (OSLC Valley City) on Sunday afternoons, with our radio broadcast on KOVC 1490 AM/96.3 FM at 11:00 a.m.



This Lent, our worship, prayer, and devotion will all call us back to a reality too often forgot in this year spent mostly apart – **we are the church together**. We hope you'll join us for these opportunities:

Weekly Lent Liturgy with Holy Communion

Sundays at 10:30 a.m. & Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. | Facebook Live on Wednesdays at 6:30

Wednesday, March 3rd – “**Shaped Together**”

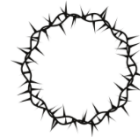
Sunday, March 7th and Wednesday, March 10th – “**Challenged Together**”

Sunday, March 14th and Wednesday, March 17th – “**Yoked Together**”

Sunday March 21st and Wednesday, March 24th – “**One Together**”



HOLY WEEK



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Church Office Hours

Monday – Friday | 8:00 am – 3:00 pm

Church Building Hours

Monday – Friday | 8:00 am – 5: 00 pm

Saturday – Closed

Sunday 8:00 am – Noon

Contact Information

Church Office 845-1328
oslcvalleycity@msn.com

Pastor Emmy Swedlund

Cell – (701)552-2419
rev.emmy@gmail.com

Pastor Kyle Symanski

Cell - (708)476-8712
klsymanski@gmail.com

Youth Director, Kyla Festch

Cell—840-4540
kylaoslc@outlook.com

If we do not answer, please leave a message so that we can get back to you.

Website: www.oursaviorsvc.org

Facebook: Our Savior’s Lutheran Church, Valley City, ND

YouTube: OSLC Valley City

March 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

The 2021 Missionary Calendar is

located above the information counter.

Claim your 2021 date soon. Donations of \$25 a day support our missionaries, Willie and Anne Langdji, serving as ELCA Representatives in Western Africa. They provide support to churches, schools, and medical centers in that region, including our partner synod in the Central African Republic. Donations also support Global Health Ministries, a Twin Cities based organization that supports medical centers around the world, through shipping supplies, sharing expertise.



Thanks to your generosity, at our annual meeting, the congregation voted to transferred \$35,000 from the general fund towards the “Roof, Roof” Flat Roof Project. The roof project is almost completed (a few punch list items remain to be completed) and it’s almost paid for. Wow!



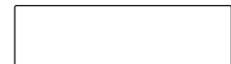
Give your offering online from the convenience of your home at our website: www.oursaviorsvc.org. Scroll down and click the blue “Give Online” button. You can give a one time gift or set up monthly or weekly giving.

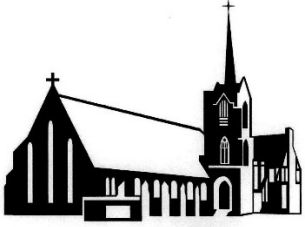
Offerings may also be mailed to the church office at 138 3rd St NW, Valley City, ND 58072.

APARTMENT FOR RENT

Apartment For Rent:

Unfurnished, ~950 square feet, 2nd floor apartment with hot water & heat included, two bedroom (carpet), hardwood floor hallway/living room, stove, fridge, shared washer and dryer, private entrance with off street parking. (No pets or smoking) Call Bobby Koeplin 701-840-0250.





Our Savior's Lutheran Church February Council Meeting Highlights:

Flat Roof Update/Capital Campaign: No final billing for the Flat Roof Project has been received yet. Once that project is complete prioritizing and plans for 2021 projects can begin. Next on the list is items related to building technology and security.

Paycheck Protection Program: The congregation is eligible to participate in a new round of the PPP. Given that there is still uncertainty in the year ahead, the council chose to move forward with the program again in 2021.

Worship Technology: The council shared in conversation about upgrading technology used for streaming worship services. Streaming services has been essential during this time of pandemic, but also seems like a positive outreach tool going forward. We'll move forward with exploration of what is needed and costs involved.

Transitions in the Congregation:

Deaths: Susan Delmore: non-member

2021 Church Council Officers:

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>
President	Paige Bjornson
Vice President	Michael Strom
Secretary	Bobbi Jo Langemo
Treasurer	Janet Brown
Farm Manager	Ken DeKrey



Council members: Julia Anderson, Kelly Bennefeld, Tara Anderson, Nathan Johnson, Karen Kringlie, Heide Beierle, Ruth Larson, Mike Lentz.



You can live a life of service by sharing generously with neighbors near and far. Current giving opportunities:

Donations for the Barnes County Food Pantry may be brought to the church. Items may be left in the back of the sanctuary. Items particularly needed include:

- Laundry soap
- Dish soap
- Canned fruit & vegetables
- Canned meat
- Spaghetti sauces
- Boxed mixes (like hamburger helper or macaroni & cheese)



Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits items are being collected, especially needed are bars of soap and bath towels. Thinner towels are preferred as they dry better. Items may be left in the back of the sanctuary.



Message from Good Samaritan Quilters



We've been busy making Mission quilts, graduation quilts, kids and baby quilts, quilts for sale and receiving blanket.

So far this year:

We've donated

25 mission quilts

25 lap robes to VA

52 receiving blankets to Red River Children's Advocacy.

If you are in need of a gift, we have quilts for sale.

60 x 80 are \$50

40 x 40 are \$30

40 x 57 are \$35

Call Carol Foth @ 840-2242 or Kathy Anderson @ 840-1426.

We are always willing to take donation of gently used flat sheets and fabric.

Thank you!



March Bible Reading Challenge

First Corinthians

Our Lent Liturgy Worship services are centered around readings from First Corinthians. So, why not read the whole book?

First Corinthians offers a window on a congregation and preacher trying to sort out the real-life implications of the gospel. How should Christians live in a culture at odds with their confession of faith? What commitments and practices enable Christians to honor one another in the midst of differences of opinion? The letter explores themes of Christian unity, ethics, and hope from the perspective of those upon "whom the ends of the ages have come" (1 Corinthians 10:11). www.enterthebible.org



twinkl.com

Lenten Congregational Prayer Activity

The invitation to Lent spoken on Ash Wednesday reminds us that we enter this season together "with the whole church", held forever in the unfailing love of Christ. Remembering that promise, we are inviting you, dear people of Our Savior's Lutheran Church, to hold each other in prayer during the season of Lent.

Beginning on Ash Wednesday, you will be invited to pick up a sheet of names of members of this congregation to hold in prayer during the season of Lent. As you remember them in your regular prayer practice, you are also invited to write those names on individual strips of paper, and create a prayer paper chain. Member name sheets, as well as paper strips, will be available outside the church office beginning Ash Wednesday, February 17th.

Return your prayer chains to the church prior to March 10th and we will link them together for use during our worship opportunities. As they are gathered at the church, we will combine them to create a visual representation of the ways that we are the church together in one body.



**YOUTH DIRECTOR AND
YOUTH ACTIVITY CALENDAR**

March 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Youth Director Office Hours 10:00am-12:00pm Tasty Tuesday! Students grades 9-12 are invited to grab a treat from Kyla in the OSLC parking lot, 12:10 until gone! :-)	3 Youth Director Office Hours 10:00am-12:00pm Kids for Christ 3:30-5:00pm Lent Worship 6:30pm* Senior High Youth Group 7:30-8:30pm	4	5	6
7 Sunday School 9:45-10:15am Lent Worship 10:30am*	8	9 Youth Director Office Hours 10:00am-12:00pm Tasty Tuesday! Students grades 9-12 are invited to grab a treat from Kyla in the OSLC parking lot, 12:10 until gone! :-)	10 Youth Director Office Hours 10:00am-12:00pm Kids for Christ 3:30-5:00pm Lent Worship 6:30pm*	11	12	13
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21 Sunday School 9:45-10:15am Lent Worship 10:30am*	22	23 Youth Director Office Hours 10:00am-12:00pm Tasty Tuesday! Students grades 9-12 are invited to grab a treat from Kyla in the OSLC parking lot, 12:10 until gone! :-)	24 Youth Director Office Hours 10:00am-12:00pm Kids for Christ 3:30-5:00pm Lent Worship 6:30pm*	25	26	27
28 Sunday School 9:45-10:15am Lent Worship 10:30am*	29	30 Youth Director Office Hours 10:00am-12:00pm Tasty Tuesday! Students grades 9-12 are invited to grab a treat from Kyla in the OSLC parking lot, 12:10 until gone! :-)	31 Youth Director Office Hours 10:00am-12:00pm Kids for Christ 3:30-5:00pm Lent Worship 6:30pm*	<p><u>*Confirmation Responsibilities in Lent:</u> Attend one Lent worship service a week in person, via Facebook Live, or on YouTube, fill in your Lent Passport, and work on your Psalm 23 project. We will gather together again in April and you will hand in your Passport and Psalm 23 project at that time.</p>		

Pre K - 6th Grade

- **SUNDAY SCHOOL** Now through the end of the year, Sunday School will run from 9:45-10:15am. Students are enjoying being back together and are doing great respecting the COVID-19 procedures that we have in place. Please remember to sign up for Remind to receive Sunday School announcements and updates via text. Simply text @oslcsund to the number 81010. All updates and last minute info and reminders will be sent this way so please sign up! If you have any questions regarding Sunday School, please contact SS Superintendent, Katie Sather at oslcsundayschool@outlook.com.
- **KIDS FOR CHRIST** We are having a blast meeting in person each Wednesday, after school until 5pm. You are responsible for transportation. Snacks are provided. Masks, hand sanitizer, and distancing continue to be a part of our routine and they do so well with it. There are currently a few more spots available, so if you are interested in having your student, grades K-6, join us, please contact Kyla at kylaoslc@outlook.com.

Thank You!

- Our "Souper Bowl Sunday" event looked a little different this year, however, our "Pizza Bowl" event was a HUGE success bringing in over \$2,000! The youth of OSLC would like to thank everyone who stopped by and supported our efforts. All donations were given to the Barnes County Food Pantry in honor of Souper Bowl Sunday. Thank you for your continued support of this event and this mission!

Jr & Sr High

- **CONFIRMATION** Confirmation groups will not meet during Lent. Instead, they should plan to attend a Lent worship service each week. This can be done in person on Sunday at 10:30am, Wednesday at 10:30am, or Wednesday at 6:30pm. This can also be done from home via Facebook Live on Wednesday at 6:30pm or afterward on YouTube. Confirmation students should fill in their Lent Passport each week as they attend worship. Students should also be working on their Psalm 23 project. Both the Passport and the Psalm 23 project will be handed in when we gather together again in April. Reminder that all confirmation students must complete 9 sermon notes by May and can use the Lent worship services to complete these. Sermon notes can be completed on paper in person or online. The link can be found on the church website youth page. The first confirmation student to tell me they read this info gets a \$5 DQ gift card! If you have any questions regarding confirmation, please contact the church office, Pastor Emmy, or Pastor Kyle.
- **TASTY TUESDAY** We are still enjoying our Tasty Tuesday event! Each Tuesday, youth in grades 9-12 are invited to grab a fresh baked brownie and a bible verse or inspirational message from Kyla in the OSLC parking lot from 12:10 until gone. :-) It is so fun to see these amazing kids each week, even briefly, and provide a sweet treat for them. Currently 18 boxes of brownie mix are being made and we are serving 135 youth each week! God's love and presence is here!!! What an amazing way to share His love with so many youth in such a quick time! Drive by and check it out sometime!
- **SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP** Senior High Youth Group will be meeting on March 3rd and 17th from 7:30-8:30pm! We get together in the youth room, hang out, enjoy snacks and time together, and have some great discussion. All 10-12th graders are invited to join us!

My office hours are Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10am-12pm. However, please feel free to contact me anytime at kylaoslc@outlook.com or 840-4540.

God's Blessings, Kyla Fetsch, Director of Youth Ministry

Red Willow Bible Camp Registration is Now Open!

www.redwillowministries.com

Early bird registration deadline is March 31st so sign up now!

OSLC has a particular way of registering so please contact Kyla Fetsch for more information and details! kylaoslc@outlook.com / 840-4540

WEEKLONG CAMPS

In a typical weeklong camp, campers will be assigned a cabin and a counselor. They will spend days playing gaga ball, hiking, swimming, boating, crafting, worshiping, and encountering both the Bible and creation. There are camp games and campfires, and holy time at the heart of each day with conversations about faith and life. It is an experience they will never forget!

CREATION CAMP (Entering Grades 4-6) June 27-July 2, July 11-16, and August 8-13

- This is the full weeklong summer camp experience.

DISCIPLES CAMP (Entering Grades 7-8) June 20-25 and August 1-6

- This is the next step after Creation Camp, geared toward junior high campers.

SENIOR HIGH AMP! CAMP (Entering Grades 9-12) July 18-23

- Amplify your faith at this featured camp for teenagers. Look forward to leadership training, a service project, and advanced team building activities.

SHORT STAY CAMPS

SEEKERS DAYS (Entering Grades K-6) June 4th and August 11th

- This is a perfect way for your campers to dip their toes into life at Red Willow! The counselors will lead them in games, arts and crafts, and a Bible study. They will have fun worship time and learn new songs to sing to you all the way home. Runs from 9am-3pm.

TASTE OF CAMP (Entering Grades K-2 Plus a Family Member) June 9-11, June 27-29, and August 8-10

- How would you like to experience summer camp with your child? At this camp, you can! Children and an adult companion will stay in a room in the Retreat Center for two nights and join in all the fun activities available to the Pathfinders campers, including songs, games, crafts, Bible studies, and campfires. Adults will also have opportunities for rest and relaxation.

PATHFINDERS (Entering Grades 2-3) June 9-11, June 27-29, and August 8-10

- Is your child ready to be at sleep-over camp? If so, this is a fun-packed three day and two night camp just for them! Campers will sleep in counselor-supervised cabins and enjoy a ton of activities such as swimming, hiking, playing games and doing crafts. You will have campfires, sing songs, and have a Bible study adventure each day.

SPECIALTY CAMPS

HOLY HOOPS (Entering Grades 5-8) July 25-30

- For over 15 years, Red Willow has offered a Holy Hoops Camp for the basketball enthusiast! This week is a unique combination of Bible camp and basketball. Campers arrive on Sunday afternoon and spend all day Sunday and Monday having an immersive camp experience. Then, Tuesday through Friday features a basketball camp at Cooperstown High School in the morning and early afternoon. The basketball camp focuses on the fundamentals of the game and leads campers through drills to help them reach the next level, plus games, free play, and more. This camp is a must for your basketball playing, camp loving, middle school age child!

WILDERNESS WEEK (Entering Grades 9-12) July 18-23

- If you are looking for a little more “outdoor” in outdoor ministry, sign up for Wilderness Week. Campers entering grades 9-12 will arrive on Sunday, load up the specialty hiking backpacks Red Willow provides, and head out into the wild. During Wilderness Week, campers have the opportunity to learn new survival skills, hike, swim, and experience a high ropes course. They will camp out at multiple sites on the camp’s scenic 500 acres. Along with daily Bible study and worship, there will be a focus on team building, environmental education, and outdoor skill development.

DISCOVERY CAMP OPPORTUNITY

DISCOVERY CAMP VOLUNTEERS (Ages 16+) June 14-17 and July 5-8

- This may be the most rewarding week of your summer! Come and volunteer for one of our two 4-day camps for adults with disabilities. You will stay in a cabin with other staff and volunteers and have the opportunity to assist campers. Campers will need your partnership as they experience Bible study, arts and crafts, swimming, pontoon rides, worship, games, campfire, and many other fun activities.

COUNSELORS IN TRAINING

LEADERSHIP WEEK (Entering Grades 10-12) June 6-11

- This is a program for those high schoolers interested in becoming camp staff members! If you have an interest in developing your leadership skills and learning about the responsibilities of life as a part of camp staff, this is the program for you. This week includes teambuilding activities, as well as training on how to lead Bible studies, games, and large group activities. During the second half of the week, our CIT’s (Counselors in Training) will shadow camp staff members and have a chance to plan activities for the whole camp. CIT’s may also return later in the summer to assist a counselor with a week long camp or with a day camp. Registration for this program includes a short application form.
 - Return as a Counselor in Training during the following weeks:

❖ June 27-July 2	Creation I
❖ July 11-16	Creation II
❖ July 25-30	Holy Hoops
❖ August 8-13	Creation III (Only CIT’s entering grades 11-12)



Easter Flowers

Help decorate the sanctuary of Our Savior's this Easter by sharing Easter lilies, azaleas, tulips.

Complete the information below and return the form to the church office or offering plate by March 21. You may also email the Church office at oslcvalleycity@msn.com

I wish to contribute a Easter plant:

Given by _____

In honor of _____

In memory of _____

Please bring the plant to the church by 3pm Friday, April 2nd. You can pick them up following the 10:30am Easter worship service. A list of those providing Easter plants will be included in the April 4th bulletin.

Daylight Saving Time Begins on March 14th



Radio broadcast of the 8:30 a.m. worship is on Sunday at 11:00 a.m. on KOVC 1490 AM. To sponsor a broadcast, please contact the church office. The cost is \$100 and may be gifted in memory or in honor of someone or a significant event. Your gift to this ministry is appreciated.

Lenten Prayers for Your Journey

From Awed to Heaven, Rooted to Earth: Prayers of Walter Brueggemann (Augsburg Fortress, 2003)

Loss is Indeed Our Gain

The Pushing and Shoving in the world is endless. We are pushed and shoved. And we do our share of pushing and shoving in our great anxiety. And in the middle of that you have set down your beloved suffering son who was like a sheep led to slaughter who opened not his mouth.

We seem not able, so we ask you to create space in our life where we may ponder his suffering and your summons for us to suffer with him, suspecting that suffering is the only way to newness.

So we pray for your church in these Lenten days, when we are driven to denial — not to notice the suffering, not to engage it, not to acknowledge it.

So be that way of truth among us that we should not deceive ourselves. That we shall see that loss is indeed our gain. We give you thanks for that mystery from which we live. Amen.

Revise Our Taking

You, You giver! You have given light and life to the world; You have given freedom from Pharaoh to your people Israel; You have given your only Son for the sake of the world; You have given yourself to us; You have given and forgiven, and you remember our sins no more.

And we, in response, are takers; We take eagerly what you give us; we take from our neighbors near at hand as is acceptable; we take from our unseen neighbors greedily and acquisitively; we take from our weak neighbors thoughtlessly; we take all that we can lay our hands on.

It dawns on us that our taking does not match your giving. In this Lenten season revise our taking, that it may be grateful and disciplined, even as you give in ways generous and overwhelming. Amen.