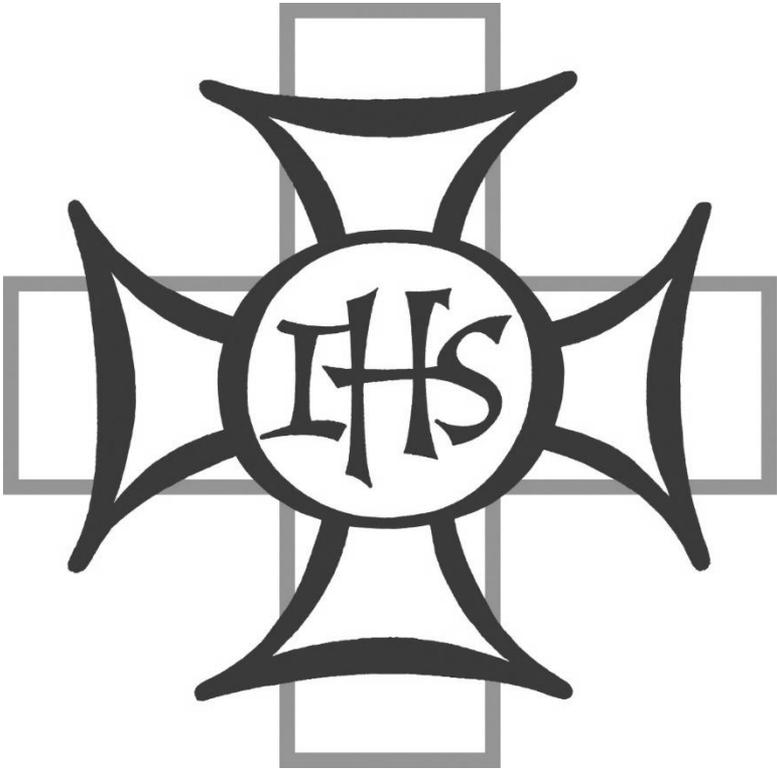


The Lutheran Church of the Savior

A Community of Faith: *Centered in Christ – Called to Serve*



Order of Worship

April 6, 2025 10:45 AM

The Lutheran Church of the Savior

426 Davis Road - Bedford, MA 01730

church@lcsavior.org 781-275-6013

<https://www.lcsavior.org>

Rev. Nils Niemeier, Pastor

email: pastor@lcsavior.org

Introit

Psalm 3:3–6; antiphon: v. 8

Salvation belongs to the LORD;

your blessing be on your people!

But you, O LORD, are a shield about me,

my glory, and the lifter of my head.

I cried aloud to the LORD,

and he answered me from his holy hill.

I lay down and slept;

I woke again, for the LORD sustained me.

I will not be afraid of many thousands of people

who have set themselves against me all around.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Communion Theology and Practice

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper is intended for those:

- who have been baptized in the name of the Triune God,
- who have faith in Jesus Christ as God the Son in the flesh and their personal Savior from sin, death, and the devil;
- who believe that they have sin that needs forgiving, hurt that needs healing, and faith that needs strengthening;
- who are committed to amending their sinful ways; and
- who believe that in, with, and under the bread and wine they receive the true body and blood of the risen Christ, together with the forgiveness of all their sins.

If you are a visitor with us this morning and wish to receive the Lord's Supper, please speak with the pastor before the service.

Thank you.

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Divine Service

Welcome

P In the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Blessing of Communion Vessels

Reception of Members by Transfer or Profession of Faith

Opening Song

By Faith

Getty, Getty, Townend

Verse 1, Verse 2, Chorus, Verse 3, Verse 4, Chorus, Verse 5, Chorus x2, Tag

VERSE

1. By faith we see the hand of God in the
2. By faith our fa - thers roamed the earth with the

light of cre - a - tion's grand de - sign, in the
pow'r of His pro - mise in their hearts, of a

lives of those who prove His faith - ful - ness,
ho - ly cit - y built by God's own hand,

who walk by faith and not by sight. reign. We will
a place where peace and jus - tice—

continued on next page

35

 know in Christ all things are pos-si-ble for all who call up-on His

38
 CHORUS

 name. We will stand as chil-dren of the pro-mise; we will

41

 fix our eyes on Him, our soul's re-ward. 'Til the

43

 race is fin-ished and the work is done,

45

 we'll walk by faith and not by sight. Oh, we will

Prayer of Confession

- P** Holy Lord, as we stand in your presence, we are aware of our sins of thought, word, and action.
- C** **We have not lived our lives according to your will.**
- P** We have failed to live up to your expectations.
- C** **We all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination

Confession and Absolution

- P** Hear us now, O Lord, as we confess our failings to you:
- C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Song

Be Unto Your Name

DeShazo, Sadler

Verse 1, Chorus, Verse 2, Chorus x3

VERSE

We are a mo - ment, You are for - ev - er,
 We are the bro - ken, You are the heal -
 er, Lord of the a - ges,
 er, Je - sus, Re - deem - er,
 God be - fore time; We are a va -
 might - y to save; You are the love
 por, You are e - ter - nal,
 song we'll sing for - ev - er,
 Love ev - er - last - ing, reign - ing on
 bow - ing be - fore You, bless - ing Your
CHORUS
 high. name. Ho - ly,
 ho - ly Lord God Al - might - y,
 worth - y is the Lamb Who was slain;

26
High - est prais - es hon - or and glo - ry

30
be un - to Your name.

34
1.
be un - to Your name.

38 2.
name. Ho - ly, ho - ly

42
Lord God Al-might - y, worth - y is the

46
Lamb Who was slain; High - est prais - es,

50
hon - or, and glo - ry be un - to Your

54
1.
name, be un - to Your name.

60 2.
name. be-un - to your name.

Psalm

Psalm 126; antiphon: v. 3

A Together, we speak Psalm 126 responsively:

¹When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,
we were like those who dream.

²**Then our mouth was filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy;**

then they said among the nations,

“The LORD has done great things for them.”

³The LORD has done great things for us; we are glad.

⁴**Restore our fortunes, O LORD,
like streams in the Negeb!**

⁵Those who sow in tears
shall reap with shouts of joy!

⁶**He who goes out weeping,
bearing the seed for sowing,
shall come home with shouts of joy,
bringing his sheaves with him.**

G **Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Prayer

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 43:16–21

¹⁶Thus says the LORD,
who makes a way in the sea,
a path in the mighty waters,

¹⁷who brings forth chariot and horse,
army and warrior;

they lie down, they cannot rise,
they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:
¹⁸Remember not the former things,
nor consider the things of old.
¹⁹Behold, I am doing 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.
²⁰The wild beasts 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,
²¹the people whom I formed for myself
that they might declare my praise.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

Philippians 3:8–14

⁸Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith— ¹⁰that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹²Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel

Luke 20:9–20

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twentieth chapter.

G **Glory to You, O Lord.**

⁹[Jesus] began to tell the people this parable: "A man planted a vineyard and let it out to tenants and went into another country for a long while. ¹⁰When the time came, he sent a servant to the tenants, so that they would give him some of the fruit of the vineyard. But the tenants beat him and sent him away empty-handed. ¹¹And he sent another servant. But they also beat and treated him shamefully, and sent him away empty-handed. ¹²And he sent yet a third. This one also they wounded and cast out. ¹³Then the owner of the vineyard said, 'What shall I do? I will send my beloved son; perhaps they will respect him.' ¹⁴But when the tenants saw him, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir. Let us kill him, so that the inheritance may be ours.' ¹⁵And they threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. What then will the owner of the vineyard do to them? ¹⁶He will come and destroy those tenants and give the vineyard to others." When they heard this, they said, "Surely not!" ¹⁷But he looked directly at them and said, "What then is this that is written:

'The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone'?

¹⁸Everyone who falls on that stone will be broken to pieces, and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him."

¹⁹The scribes and the chief priests sought to lay hands on him at that very hour, for they perceived that he had told this parable against them, but they feared the people. ²⁰So they watched him and sent spies, who pretended to be sincere, that they might catch him in something he said, so as to deliver him up to the authority and jurisdiction of the governor.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

G **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Nicene Creed

- ☩ I believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin
Mary and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified, who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.**



Song of the Day You Gave Your Life Away

Baloché, Scott

Verse 1, Chorus, Verse 2, Chorus, Bridge, Chorus x2



1. You spoke and worlds were formed; You breathed and life was born;



You knew that one day You would come;



So far from Heav-en's throne, clothed in hu-man form,



You showed the world the Fa-ther's love. You gave,



— You gave Your life a-way; You gave — You gave Your life a-way; You gave,



— You gave Your life a-way for — me; Your grace



— has bro-kenev-'ry chain; My sins — are gone, my debt's been paid; You gave,



— You gave Your life a-way for — me, for — me.



2. You lived a sin-less life, yet You were cru-ci-fied;



You bought our free-dom on — the cross;



For-sak-en for_our sin,_ You died. and rose. a - gain;



Je-sus,_ You are_ the Lamb. of God.____ You gave, _



____ You gave. Your life. a-way; You gave ____ You gave. Your life. a-way; You gave, _



____ You gave. Your life_ a-way for ____ me; _ Your grace_



____ has bro-ken ev-'ry chain; My sins ____ are gone. my debt's been paid; You gave, _



____ You gave. Your life_ a-way for ____ me, _ for ____ me..

BRIDGE



How_ glo - rious is ____ Your_ love; If I ____ could



sing for-ev - er, it's not e - nough; _



How_ glo - rious is ____ Your_ love; If I ____ could

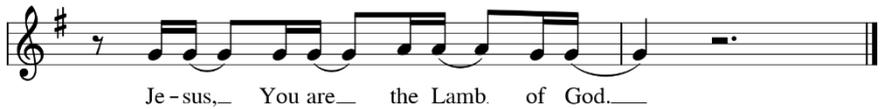
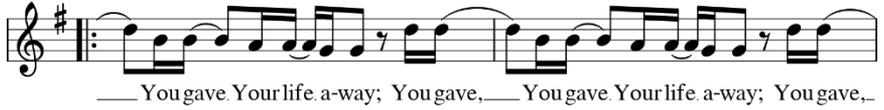


sing for-ev - er, it's not e - nough; _

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CHORUS



Sermon



Stand

Prayers of the Church Family and the Lord's Prayer

- L** Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Response after each petition

L Lord, in your mercy,

G **hear our prayer.**

- L** O Lord, in Baptism You have shared Christ's suffering, death and resurrection with us, that we might be raised from the dead. Preserve us from taking His sacrifice for granted. Encourage us to forget what lies behind and strain forward to what lies ahead, until we attain the resurrection from the dead; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G **Amen.**

- P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

G **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.

Benediction

- P** The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

G **Amen.**

Song

Only By Grace

Gustafson

Verse, Chorus x2, Verse, Chorus x2, Verse

On - ly by grace can we en - - - ter
on - ly by grace can we stand,
not by our hu - man en - deav - - - or,
but by the blood of the Lamb;
in - to Your pres - ence You call us. You
call us to come
in - to Your pres - ence, You draw us and
now by Your grace we come,
now by Your grace we come.
Lord, if You mark our trans - gres -
sions, who would stand?

Last time to Coda

23
Thanks to Your grace we are cleansed

25
by the blood of the Lamb. *Fine*

28 *Coda*
now by Your grace we come.

30
Now by Your grace we come,

32
now by Your grace we come. *Fine*

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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Resources for Meditation this Week

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

6 April 2025

Readings

Isaiah 43:16–21

Philippians 3:(4b–7) 8–14

Luke 20:9–20

God's Beloved Son Has Redeemed Us

Our life and works apart from Christ, no matter how they may glitter to the eyes of the world, are ultimately rubbish and have no righteousness. Rather, in the scandalous cross of Jesus, we find our righteousness alone *"through faith in Christ"* (Phil. 3:9). By such faith, we *"know him and the power of his resurrection"* (Phil. 3:10). For the same God who brought Israel out of Egypt has done a *"new thing"* for us in Christ Jesus (Is. 43:19). He has sent His beloved Son into His vineyard to be killed by sinful men and to become *"the stone that the builders rejected."* Yet, the One rejected by men *"has become the cornerstone"* of His Church (Luke 20:17). Through the waters of Holy Baptism, He provides us daily refreshment in our earthly pilgrimage, *"a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert"* (Is. 43:19).



Readings

John 12:12–19 (Palm Sunday Procession)

Deuteronomy 32:36–39

Philippians 2:5–11

Luke 22:1–23:56 or Luke 23:1–56 or John 12:20–43

The Cross and Passion of Our Lord Are the Hour of His Glory

The King of Israel comes into His royal glory by the path of humble obedience *“to the point of death, even death on a cross”* (Phil. 2:8). He *“goes as it has been determined”* (Luke 22:22), according to the Scriptures, willingly submitting to His Father’s plan for the salvation of sinners. *“Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name”* (Phil. 2:9). His suffering and death open the way of repentance for the forgiveness of sins because He goes to the cross bearing the sins of the world. In His resurrection, God the Father vindicates His people and has compassion on His servants (Deut. 32:36). He kills to make alive; He wounds in order to heal. In remembrance of Him, we praise God, confessing *“that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father”* (Phil. 2:11).

