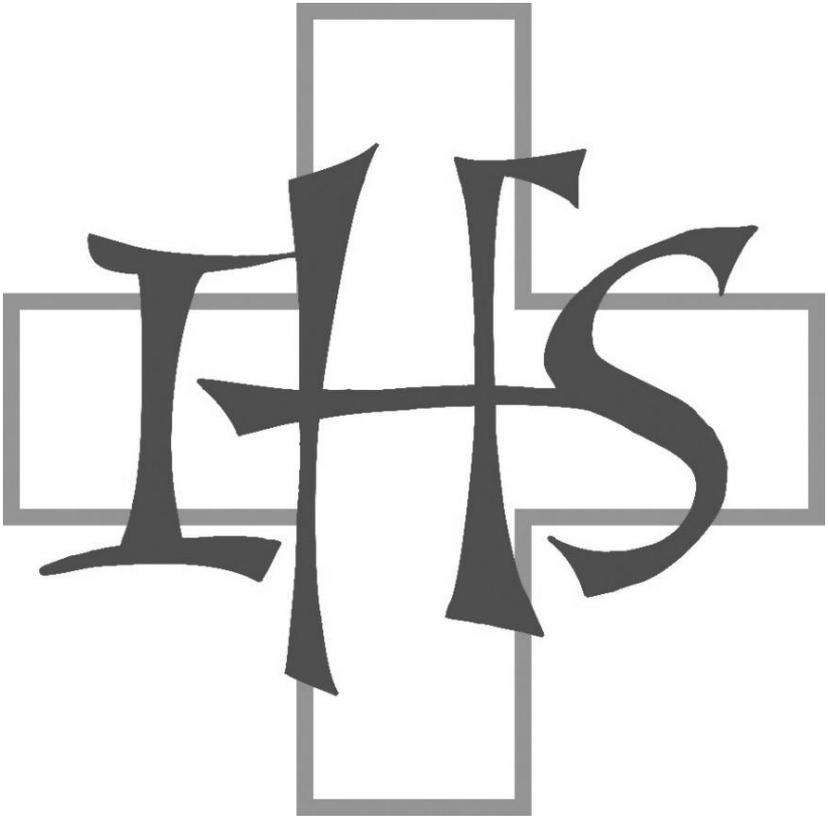


The Lutheran Church of the Savior

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



Order of Worship

March 8, 2026 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 84:1-4; antiphon: v. 5

Blessèd are those whose strength is in you,
in whose heart are the highways to Zion.

How lovely is your dwelling place,

O LORD of hosts!

My soul longs, yes, faints for the courts of the LORD;
my heart and flesh sing for joy to the living God.

Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where
she may lay her young,

at your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God.

Blessèd are those who dwell in your house,
ever singing your praise!

*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.

Blessèd are those whose strength is in you,
in whose heart are the highways to Zion.

Communion Theology and Practice

Please see our statement of Communion Theology and Practice
on the back page of the worship bulletin.

*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.

Third Sunday in Lent

Divine Service

Welcome

Stand

Song

Glorious

Baloche, Brown

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

VERSE



1. Look in - side the mys - t'ry, see the emp - ty cross;
2. Look be - yond the tomb - stone, see the liv - ing God;

4



See the ris - en Sav - ior, vic - to - ri - ous and strong;
See the res - ur - rec - ted Rul - er of my heart;

8



No one else a - bove Him, none as strong to save;
No one else a - bove Him, none to match His worth;

12



He a - lone has con - quered the pow - er of the grave.
The hope of His re - turn - ing fills the u - ni - verse.

16

CHORUS



Glo - ri - ous, my eyes have seen the glo - ry of the

21



Lord; Glo - ri - ous, He stands a - bove the rul - ers of the

27



earth; Glo - ri - ous, glo - ri - ous,

continued on next page

33 Lord, You are glo - ri - ous. (6)

39 BRIDGE Oh, You are glo - ri - ous;

43 Oh, You are glo - ri - ous,

47 CHORUS Glo - ri - ous, my eyes have seen the glo - ry of the

52 Lord; Glo - ri - ous. He stands a - bove the

57 rul - ers of the earth; Glo - ri - ous,

61 glo - ri - ous, Lord, You are glo - ri - ous.

68 Oh, You are glo - ri - ous;

74 Oh, You are glo - ri - ous.

78 Oh, You are glo - ri - ous.



Confession and Absolution

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

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

C **Amen.**

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.**

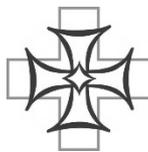
Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P Hear us now, O Lord, as we confess our sins 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

Thank You For The Cross

Altrogge

Verse, Chorus, Verse, Chorus x2

VERSE

Thank You for the cross, the might - y cross,
that God Him-self should die for such as
us; And ev - 'ry - day we're changed in - to Your
im - age more and more, yes,
by the cross we've tru - ly been trans - formed. And we're

CHORUS

so a - mazed, and we give You praise that
You would save us at such a cost; We're
so a - mazed, and we give You praise for the
pow - er of the cross, for the
pow - er of the cross.

Service of the Word

Psalm

Psalm 95:1–9; antiphon: v. 6

A Together, we speak Psalm 95 responsively:

*⁶Oh come, let us worship and bow down;
let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!*

¹Oh come, let us sing to the LORD;
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

**²Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!**

³For the LORD is a great God,
and a great King above all gods.

**⁴In his hand are the depths of the earth;
the heights of the mountains are his also.**

⁵The sea is his, for he made it,
and his hands formed the dry land.

**⁶Oh come, let us worship and bow down;
let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!**

⁷For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture,
and the sheep of his hand.

**Today, if you hear his voice,
⁸do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah,
as on the day at Massah in the wilderness,**

⁹when your fathers put me to the test
and put me to the proof, though they had seen my work.

C **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.**

*⁶Oh come, let us worship and bow down;
let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!*

Collect of the Day

P Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Exodus 17:1–7

¹All the congregation of the people of Israel moved on from the wilderness of Sin by stages, according to the commandment of the LORD, and camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ²Therefore the people quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." And Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" ³But the people thirsted there for water, and the people grumbled against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?" ⁴So Moses cried to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." ⁵And the LORD said to Moses, "Pass on before the people, taking with you some of the elders of Israel, and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock at Horeb, and you shall strike the rock, and water shall come out of it, and the people will drink." And Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷And he called the name of the place Massah and Meribah, because of the quarreling of the people of Israel, and because they tested the LORD by saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.



Epistle

Romans 5:1–8

¹Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. ²Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. ³More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

⁶For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— ⁸but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

C **The hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth.**

John 4:23a

Holy Gospel

John 4:5–30, 39–42

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourth chapter.

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

⁵[Jesus] came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶Jacob's well was there; so Jesus, wearied as he was from his journey, was sitting beside the well. It was about the sixth hour.

⁷There came a woman of Samaria to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." ⁸(For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.) ⁹The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?" (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.) ¹⁰Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." ¹¹The woman said to him, "Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep.

Where do you get that living water? ¹²Are you greater than our father Jacob? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock.” ¹³Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty forever. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.” ¹⁵The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water.”

¹⁶Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come here.” ¹⁷The woman answered him, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “You are right in saying, ‘I have no husband’; ¹⁸for you have had five husbands, and the one you now have is not your husband. What you have said is true.” ¹⁹The woman said to him, “Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet. ²⁰Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship.” ²¹Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. ²²You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. ²⁴God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.” ²⁵The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ). When he comes, he will tell us all things.” ²⁶Jesus said to her, “I who speak to you am he.”

²⁷Just then his disciples came back. They marveled that he was talking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you seek?” or, “Why are you talking with her?” ²⁸So the woman left her water jar and went away into town and said to the people, ²⁹“Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?” ³⁰They went out of the town and were coming to him. . . .

³⁹Many Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me all that I ever did.” ⁴⁰So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. ⁴¹And many more believed because of his word. ⁴²They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is indeed the Savior of the world.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C 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.**

Sermon

Stand

Prayer of the Church

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

The response after each petition is as follows:

L Lord, in your mercy:

C **Hear our prayer.**

C **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

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

C **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.

C **Amen.**

Song

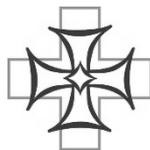
Lord, I Thirst for You

Sadler

Chorus x2, Verse, Chorus, Verse x2

Lord, I thirst for You. I long to be in Your pres
 ence; My soul will wait on You, Fa - ther,
 draw me near - er, draw me near - er to the
 beau - ty of Your ho - li - ness. I will
 wait for You, Al - might - y God, in the
 beau - ty of Your ho - li - ness; I will wor - ship You, Al -
 might - y God, in the beau - ty of Your ho - li - ness.

Chords: F/C, C, F, Am7, Bb, Dsus, Dm, Gm7, F2/A, Bb, Dsus, Gm7, Bb/C, C, F, C/E, Dm7, Am7, Gm7, F2/A, Bb2, C, Dm7, Am7, Gm7, Bb/C, C, F



Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Two from Lutheran Service Book

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“Glorious” - words and music by Baloché/Brown

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Resources for Meditation this Week

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

15 March 2026

Readings

Isaiah 42:14–21

Ephesians 5:8–14

John 9:1–41 or John 9:1–7, 13–17, 34–39

By His Word of the Gospel, Jesus Calls Us Out of the Darkness into His Marvelous Light

The Lord is grieved by the spiritual blindness of His people, yet in mercy He does not forsake them. He restrains His anger and keeps His peace, until He opens their ears and eyes to hear and see Him. *“For his righteousness’ sake,”* He magnifies His Word and makes it glorious in the coming of Christ Jesus (Is. 42:21). Jesus turns *“the darkness before them into light”* (Is. 42:16) because He is *“the light of the world”* (John 9:5). The incarnate Son of God does the works of His Father and displays the divine glory in His own flesh *“while it is day,”* until that night *“when no one can work”* (John 9:4). By the washing of water with His Word, He opens the eyes of the blind and grants rest to the weary. Therefore, though *“at one time you were darkness,”* now *“you are light in the Lord”* (Eph. 5:8). By our Baptism into Christ, we live in the eternal day of His resurrection, wherein He shines upon us. As often as we fall back into the darkness of sin, He calls us by the Gospel to *“awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead”* (Eph. 5:14).



Communion Theology and Practice

Welcome! In Holy Communion, our Lord invites us to eat and drink His true Body and Blood for the forgiveness of sins and eternal life (Matthew 26:26-28). In preparation for this sacrament, each communicant should examine him or herself and come to the Lord's Table seeking these things. As the Small Catechism teaches, "a person is truly worthy and well prepared who has faith in these words: 'Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.'" We likewise take seriously St. Paul's admonition in 1 Corinthians 11:27-30 regarding recognizing the Lord's Body and Blood in this sacrament and receiving it worthily. We also believe that Holy Communion is a profession of confessional unity in which all who commune at the Lord's Table are united in their confession and faith (1 Corinthians 11:26).

Therefore, we practice what is often called "closed communion," in which we invite those Christians who have been baptized and instructed in the Christian faith, who share in the same confession of faith as the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and who believe that Jesus offers here His true Body and Blood, in, with, and under the elements of bread and wine, for the strengthening of their bodies and souls, cleansing them of their old nature and giving them new life, to join us at His table.

If you are new here, have not been baptized, or have not received instruction with regard to the teachings of the Lutheran Church regarding the Lord's Supper, have doubts about the nature of the sacrament, or have questions, please introduce yourself to our pastor before the service. He will be happy to discuss these things with you and help determine whether or not you should commune. If you do not wish to commune, have not been baptized, or have not been instructed in the Christian faith, we invite you to come receive a blessing. When you come to the altar, please come forward with your arms crossed to indicate that you would like the pastor to bless you. If you would like to learn more about the Christian faith or wish to be baptized, please speak to our pastor!