

Blessed Savior Lutheran Church

1205 North Lincoln, O'Fallon, IL 62269
(618) 632-0126
www.mybslc.org
Worship – 9:30 a.m.

Rev. Vernon Lintvedt, Pastor
Assisting: Seminarian Nathan Nelson
Cheryl Vohlken, Organist
Bible Class & Sunday School 10:45 A.M.

The 7th Sunday after the Epiphany

February 20, 2021

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

TONIGHT (5:15 pm) Pizza /Movie Night! – “The First Valentine” (6 PM)

For information on all church events, sermon recordings, church calendar, newsletters: GO TO: www.mybslc.org

INVOCATION

L: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C: **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 30:10; 43:3; Proverbs 4:18; Isaiah 2:5b*

L: Hear, O LORD, and be merciful to me!
C: **O LORD, be my helper.**

L: Send out Your light and Your truth; let them lead me;
C: **let them bring me to Your holy hill and to Your dwelling!**

L: The path of the righteous is like the light of dawn,
C: **which shines brighter and brighter until full day.**
Come, let us walk in the light of the LORD.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *1 Thessalonians 5:23–24*

L: Let us now make confession of our sins to God, our gracious heavenly Father.
(moment of silent confession)

L: Eternal God,
C: **we confess that by nature we are sinful people. We are given to sinful thoughts, sinful words, and sinful deeds. We have transgressed Your law in many ways, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We deserve Your punishment, now and for eternity. Merciful God, in Your mercy, forgive our sin and restore us to a full and joyful relationship with You through the merits of Jesus, our Lord. Direct our days by Your Holy Spirit that we may joyfully follow Your will and gladly obey Your commandments as Your redeemed people, bringing the brightness of Your light to the darkened world.**

DECLARATION OF GRACE

L: It is good that we fear God and offer Him our sorrow for our sin and trust in His promise to forgive. Psalm 103 reminds us, “For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is His steadfast love toward those who fear Him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does He remove our transgressions from us.” His steadfast Love came down to earth as a person to accomplish what we could not: Christ died for us! Christ rose for us! Christ lives for us and in us through His life-giving Spirit. It is God who has taken away our sin and who declares us righteous! Let us live as His forgiven people; in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C: **Amen.**

SHARING THE PEACE

SONG OF PRAISE “Brothers and Sisters in Christ”
W&M by Terry Dittmer c.1983 Terry K. Dittmer. Used with permission

Sing alleluia! Amen!
Let Your prayers and praises ascend.
Lift up your voices and sing
To our Lord God, and Savior and King!
Here brought together by grace,
We are gathered as friends in this place.

Chorus:

**And assembled as one, in the name of the Son.
Lifting hearts, lifting hands, celebrating as friends,
And proclaiming the Lord, all our praises afford,
We are brothers and sisters in Christ.**

**Man walked alone and in need,
Without faith, hope or promise or creed,
Wandering aimlessly lost,
Unaware of the staggering cost,
That God in His mercy would save,
All His people from death and the grave... (chorus)**

**Lord, teach us how to proclaim,
All Your goodness, Your love and Your name.
Lord, teach us how to forgive,
And in love teach us Lord, how to live,
Raising our voices in song,
Help us tell all the world we belong. (chorus)**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Let us pray.
O Lord, You taught us to love our enemies and to be merciful as You are merciful. By Your Holy Spirit, grant us the gifts of love and peace without which we cannot live before You; for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Genesis 45:3–15*
(Joseph forgives his brothers.)

PSALM *Psalms 103:1–13*

L: Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me,
bless His holy name!
C: Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits,

L: who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases,
C: who redeems your life from the pit,
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,

L: who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.
C: The LORD works righteousness and justice for all who are oppressed.

L: He made known His ways to Moses, His acts to the people of Israel.
C: The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger
and abounding in steadfast love.

L: He will not always chide, nor will He keep His anger forever.
C: He does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our iniquities.

L: For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is His steadfast love toward those who fear Him;
C: as far as the east is from the west, so far does He remove our transgressions from us.

L: As a father shows compassion to his children, so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear Him.
ALL: 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.

EPISTLE *1 Corinthians 15:21–26, 30–42*
(Paul teaches regarding the resurrection of the dead.)

VERSE *Psalms 103:8*

L: Alleluia. The LORD is merciful and gracious,
C: slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 6:27–38* (Jesus teaches about loving enemies.)

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the sixth chapter.
C: Glory to You, O Lord.

(The Gospel is read.)

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN No. 843 "Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive"

"Forgive our sins as we forgive,"
You taught us, Lord, to pray;
But You alone can grant us grace
To live the words we say.

How can Your pardon reach and bless
The unforgiving heart
That broods on wrongs and will not let
Old bitterness depart?

In blazing light Your cross reveals
The truth we dimly knew:
What trivial debts are owed to us,
How great our debt to You!

Lord, cleanse the depths within our souls
And bid resentment cease;
Then, bound to all in bonds of love,
Our lives will spread Your peace.

SERMON "Understanding the Measure of God's Forgiveness" Luke 6:27-38

CONFESSION OF FAITH THE NICENE CREED *Please stand*

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 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.

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.

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

HYMN No. 636 "Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness" (vs 8)

Jesus, bread of life, I pray You.
Let me gladly here obey You.
By Your love I am invited,
Be Your love with love requited;
By this Supper let me measure,
Lord, how vast and deep love's treasure.
Through the gift of grace You give me
As Your guest in heav'n receive me.

LORD'S PRAYER (Matthew 6:9-13)

L: Remember us in Your kingdom, Lord, and teach us to pray saying:

All: 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.

THE PEACE OF THE LORD

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

SELF-REFLECTION (As the Sacrament is being prepared, let us take this moment of silence to prepare our hearts to receive this sacred meal.)

1. Are you baptized in the name of the Triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit?
2. Do you know you are a sinner in need of God's grace?
3. Do you believe Jesus died to atone for your sins?

4. Do I believe that God offers His forgiveness through the "real" presence of Jesus, in, with, and under the elements of bread and wine?

5. Do you seek to amend your sinful life?

If you have answered "Yes" to all of these questions you are encouraged to come. Jesus said, "Come to me all you who are weary and heavy laden, and I will give you rest."

AS WE APPROACH THE TABLE OF THE LORD

P: Merciful Lord,

C: we do not presume to come to this Your table, trusting in our own righteousness, but in Your manifold and great mercies.
We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under Your table.

But You are the same Lord whose nature is always to have mercy.
Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ and to drink His blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed, through His most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in Him, and He in us. Amen.

LAMB OF GOD (LSB 163)

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.

WORDS OF OUR LORD

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE "Thank the Lord" (LSB 164)

Thank the Lord and sing His praise;
Tell ev'ryone what He has done.
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name
He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy
With shouts of thanksgiving.
Alleluia, alleluia.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

- P: Let us pray.
Blessed are You, heavenly Father, for You have once again fed and nourished us at Your Table. Strengthen and support us, Your pilgrim people, so that we may continue to proclaim Your love to all the world. Keep before us the vision of the brightness of Your glory, and bring us at last to Your eternal kingdom, where You live and reign with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C: **Amen.**

BLESSING OF THE LORD

- L: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
- C: **Amen.**

HYMN No. 845 "Where Charity and Love Prevail" (vss. 1, 3, 5)

**Where charity and love prevail
There God is ever found;
Brought here together by Christ's love
By love are we thus bound.**

**Forgive we now each other's faults
As we our faults confess,
And let us love each other well
In Christian holiness.**

**Let us recall that in our midst
Dwells Christ, His only Son;
As members of His body joined
We are in Him made one.**

SENDING

- L: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
C: **Thanks be to God!**

