

## 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  
Seminarian Matt Martin, Lector  
Cheryl Vohlken, Organist  
Bible Class & Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

### Red Letter Challenge “Being”

February 26, 2023

### WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Daily Red Letter Challenge Devotions & Small Group Mtgs throughout the week!  
Mar 01 – Lenten Meal & Service (6 pm & 7 pm respectively)  
Mar 18 – Sign up for Trivia Night!

### INVOCATION

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

### OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 43:3–4, 5b; 61:1–2a*

L: Hear my cry, O God, listen to my prayer;  
C: **from the end of the earth I call to You when my heart is faint.**

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: Then I will go to the altar of God, to God my exceeding joy,  
C: **and I will praise You with the lyre, O God, my God.**

L: Hope in God; for I shall again praise Him,  
C: **my salvation and my God.**

### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

L: Let us make confession of our sins to God, our heavenly Father.

C: **O Lord, our God, in our sin we have avoided Your call. Our love for You is like a morning cloud; like the dew that goes away early. Have mercy on us; deliver us from judgment; bind up our wounds and revive us, in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

L: God is gracious and forgiving. He has shown His merciful power in ways that renew, restore, and heal. To those who come to Him with repentant and contrite hearts, our Lord says, “Fear not!” and promises pardon, life, and salvation. Let us look to the cross of Jesus where we receive forgiveness and reconciliation with God. Let us live in the peace of Christ; in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. As you believe, so may it be.

C: **Amen.**

### SHARING THE PEACE

HYMN OF PRAISE No. 727 “On Eagles’ Wings”

**You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,  
Who abide in His shadow for life  
Say to the Lord, “My Refuge, my Rock in whom I trust.**

Refrain: **And He will raise you up on eagle’s wings  
Bear you on the breath of dawn,  
Make you to shine like the sun,  
And hold you in the palm of His hand.**

**The snare of the fowler will never capture you,  
And famine will bring you no fear  
Under His wings your refuge,  
His faithfulness your shield. (Refrain)**

**You need not fear the terror of the night,  
Nor the arrow that flies by day;  
Though thousands fall about you,  
Near you it shall not come. (Refrain)**

**For to His angels He’s given a command  
To guard you in all of your ways;  
Upon their hands they will bear you up,  
Lest you dash your foot upon a stone. (Refrain)**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Let us pray.  
Almighty and eternal God, Your kingdom is everlasting and Your house is forever. Grant us grace to live with unflinching confidence, knowing that You have delivered us from sin and the power of death and Satan and have promised us a future life to come when we shall rejoice in Your eternal presence. This we ask for the sake of Jesus, our gracious Savior.

C: **Amen.**

## OLD TESTAMENT READING    Isaiah 40:28-31

Have you not known? Have you not heard?  
The LORD is the everlasting God,  
    the Creator of the ends of the earth.  
He does not faint or grow weary;  
    his understanding is unsearchable.  
He gives power to the faint,  
    and to him who has no might he increases strength.

Even youths shall faint and be weary,  
    and young men shall fall exhausted;  
but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength;  
    they shall mount up with wings like eagles;  
they shall run and not be weary;  
    they shall walk and not faint.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.  
C: **Thanks be to God.**

## EPISTLE    *Colossians 3:12-17* (Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly)

Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.  
C: **Thanks be to God.**

## VERSE    *Matthew 11:30-31*

L: Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart,  
C: **and you will find rest for your souls.**

## HOLY GOSPEL    *Matthew 11:25-30.* (Come to Me, and I Will Give You Rest)

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fourth chapter.  
C: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

(The Gospel is read.)

At that time Jesus declared, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

**HYMN No. 650** "Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling"

**Holy Spirit, ever dwelling In the holiest realms of light;  
Holy Spirit, ever brooding O'er a world of gloom and night;  
Holy Spirit, ever raising Those of earth to thrones on high;  
Living, life imparting Spirit, You we praise and magnify.**

**Holy Spirit, ever living As the Church's very life;  
Holy Spirit, ever striving Through us in a ceaseless strife;  
Holy Spirit, ever forming In the Church the mind of Christ:  
You we praise with endless worship For Your gifts and fruits unpriced.**

**Holy Spirit, ever working Through the Church's ministry;  
Quick'ning, strength'ning, and absolving, Setting captive sinners free;  
Holy Spirit, ever binding Age to age and soul to soul  
In communion never ending, You we worship and extol**

**SERMON** "The Secret to Finishing Well – Being" Pastor Vern

**CONFESSION OF FAITH** THE APOSTLES' CREED *stand*

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.**

**The third day He rose again from the dead.**

**He ascended into heaven**

**and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.**

**From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**OFFERING**

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**L:** All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us, Father,  
for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with  
You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever.

**C:** Amen.

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

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

**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.**

**BLESSING OF THE LORD**

*Numbers 6:24-26*

**P** 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. 718** "Jesus, Still Lead On"

**Jesus lead Thou on Till our rest be won;**

**And although the way be cheerless,**

**We will follow calm and fearless;**

**Guide us by Thy hand To our fatherland.**

If the way be drear, If the foe be near,  
Let not faithless fears o'ertake us;  
Let not faith and hope forsake us;  
For through many a woe To our home we go.

When we seek relief From a long felt grief,  
When temptations come alluring,  
Make us patient and enduring;  
Show us that bright shore Where we weep no more.

Jesus, lead Thou on Till our rest be won;  
Heav'nly leader, still direct us,  
Still support, console, protect us,  
Till we safely stand In our fatherland.

## **SENDING**

L: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God**