

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 Matt Martin
Cheryl Vohlken, Organist
Sunday School 10:45 am

RED LETTER CHALLENGE “Giving” Lent 4 March 19, 2023

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

RED LETTER CHALLENGE continues until Holy Week

Mar 25 - Lenten Midweek Services: March 22 & 29 (meal: 6pm - worship: 7pm)

Apr 02 – Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday

Apr 06 – Holy Thursday (7 pm)

Apr 07 – Good Friday Worship (7 pm)

Apr 08 – Easter Egg Hunt (10 am)

Apr 09 – Easter Sunday (9:30 am) – Elders' Pancake Breakfast begins at 7:30 am.

INVOCATION

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

C: **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 27:4–6; antiphon: Psalm 25:15*

L: My eyes are ever toward the Lord, for He will pluck my feet out of the net.

C: **One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to inquire in His temple.**

L: For He will hide me in His shelter in the day of trouble; He will conceal me under the cover of His tent; He will lift me high upon a rock.

C: **And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in His tent sacrifices with shouts of joy;**

L: I will sing and make melody to the Lord.

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.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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

C: **we confess that we have sinned and need forgiveness. By nature, we are sinful from the very beginnings of our lives. Through our thoughts, words, and deeds, we continually sin against You. We have lived for ourselves in many ways, breaking Your commands that direct us not to lie, steal, or transgress Your holy will. We have walked in the darkness of bad choices and have left unfulfilled opportunities to do good and be blessings to others. O God, in Your mercy forgive our sin and free us from selfishness and indifference, that we may joyfully follow Your will and gladly obey Your commandments. Graciously forgive our sins and direct us in ways of compassion and love.**

(God's Forgiveness is proclaimed)

SHARING THE PEACE

SONG OF PRAISE

“I Will Trust My Saviour Jesus”

CityAlight [\(video\)](#)

OLD TESTAMENT

Malachi 3:7–12 (Put God to the test)

From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you, says the LORD of hosts. But you say, ‘How shall we return?’ Will man rob God? Yet you are robbing me. But you say, ‘How have we robbed you?’ In your tithes and contributions. You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing me, the whole nation of you. Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the LORD of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need. I will rebuke the devourer for you, so that it will not destroy the fruits of your soil, and your vine in the field shall not fail to bear, says the LORD of hosts. Then all nations will call you blessed, for you will be a land of delight, says the LORD of hosts.

HOLY GOSPEL Luke 20:45-2:4 (The Widow gives her all)

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 20th chapter.

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

And in the hearing of all the people he said to his disciples, "Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and love greetings in the marketplaces and the best seats in the synagogues and the places of honor at feasts, who devour widows' houses and for a pretense make long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation."

Jesus looked up and saw the rich putting their gifts into the offering box, and he saw a poor widow put in two small copper coins. And he said, "Truly, I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them. For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on."

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

HYMN No. 730 "What is the World to Me"

SERMON "Giving from the Heart" Luke 20:45-21:4

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 (hymn is sung as the Offering is presented to the altar)

HYMN No. 781 "We Give Thee But Thine Own"

**We give Thee but Thine own,
Whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone,
A trust, O Lord, from Thee.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

(Final Petition)

L: We trust, O Lord, in Your great mercy to hear and answer us; through Jesus
Christ, our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

+ SACRAMENT +

PREFACE

P: The Lord be with you. *2 Timothy 4:22*

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts. *[Colossians 3:1]*

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *[Psalm 136]*

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

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P: Lord God Almighty, we bless You for the gift of light eternal that is ours in Christ Jesus, who has called us into the brilliance of His eternal kingdom. Now gathered at Your Table, grant that we be strengthened in faith toward You and in active love for one another as we await Your final coming in glory. Send Your Holy Spirit upon us to sanctify us, leading us into discovering what is good and right and true and renewing us in body and soul for the sake of Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, in whose name we offer our thanksgiving.

C: **Amen.**

SANCTUS (LSB 533) “Jesus Has Come and Brings Pleasure Eternal (vs. 4)

**Jesus has come as the King of all glory!
Heaven and earth, oh, declare His great pow’r,
Capturing hearts with the heavenly story.
Welcome Him now in this fast fleeting hour!
Ponder his love! Take the crown He has for you!
Jesus has come! He, the King of all glory!**

WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

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.**

THE PEACE OF THE LORD

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

C: **And also with you.**

DISTRIBUTION “One Bread, One Body”
LSB 437 – Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P: Let us pray.
Blessed are You, almighty God, for by You we have been fed and nourished with the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. Strengthen us through this Holy Meal in faith toward You and in caring love toward one another as we live out our callings. With Your loving grace, hear our prayers and grant all that is best for us according to Your caring will. Grant us Your abiding peace as we await Your eternal kingdom. In the name of Jesus, who is the way, the truth, and the life, we pray.

People: Amen.

BLESSING OF THE LORD

Numbers 6:24–26

HYMN No. 785 “We Praise You, O God”

We praise You, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
In grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before You,
we kneel and adore You;
We bless your holy name,
glad praises we sing.

We worship You, God of our fathers, we bless You;
Through trial and tempest our guide You have been.
When perils o’ertake us,
You will not forsake us,
And with Your help, O Lord,
our struggles we win.

With voices united our praises we offer
And gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.
With You, Lord, beside us,
Your strong arm will guide us.
To you, our great Redeemer,
forever be praise!

SENDING

L: Go in Peace to Love and serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**