

Blessed Savior Lutheran Church

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

Rev. Tony Troup, Rev. Perry Schefelker Vacancy Pastors
Lector: Pastor Akoh Daniel Kofi
Cheryl Vohlken, Organist
Sunday School & Bible Class 10:45 am

Ash Wednesday

February 14, 2024

P: O Lord, open my lips,
C: **and my mouth will declare Your praise.**
P Make haste, O God, to deliver me;
C **make haste to help me, O 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. Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our salvation.**

SENTENCES FOR WORSHIP

P: Here we are, again, the beginning of Lent. This will once again be a time in the church year when we journey in faith through the sufferings and finally death, of Jesus, our Savior from sin.

C: This year, Ash Wednesday falls on Valentine's Day. The love Jesus has for us makes our love for Him and for others look like a drop in a bucket.

P: "O Heavenly Father, we hear Your Son's words as He contemplates His approaching death: "My heart is very sorrowful, even to death."

C: Those words tell us that Jesus had feelings, just like us. He talked over His difficult circumstances with His Heavenly Father, just as He asked us to do, teaching us how to pray in The Lord's Prayer.

P: And yet, prayer doesn't always alleviate the pain as He found out for Himself. On the cross He would pray: "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?"

C: And You didn't really forsake Him, even though it felt like that to Him – and sometimes to us. As the song writer stated: "God never yet forsook in need; the soul that trusted Him indeed."

OPENING HYMN No. 752 "Be Still, My Soul" (st.1,2,3)

READINGS FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

After each reading:

P: O Lord, have mercy on us.
C: **Thanks be to God.**

Ezekiel 36:22-27 “Therefore say to the house of Israel, Thus says the Lord GOD: It is not for your sake, O house of Israel, that I am about to act, but for the sake of my holy name, which you have profaned among the nations to which you came. And I will vindicate the holiness of my great name, which has been profaned among the nations, and which you have profaned among them. And the nations will know that I am the LORD, declares the Lord GOD, when through you I vindicate my holiness before their eyes. I will take you from the nations and gather you from all the countries and bring you into your own land. I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.

Mark 14:32-36 And they went to a place called Gethsemane. And he said to his disciples, “Sit here while I pray.” And he took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be greatly distressed and troubled. And he said to them, “My soul is very sorrowful, even to death. Remain here and watch.” And going a little farther, he fell on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. And he said, “Abba, Father, all things are possible for you. Remove this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will.”

John 16:19-22 Jesus knew that they wanted to ask him, so he said to them, “Is this what you are asking yourselves, what I meant by saying, ‘A little while and you will not see me, and again a little while and you will see me’? Truly, truly, I say to you, you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice. You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy. When a woman is giving birth, she has sorrow because her hour has come, but when she has delivered the baby, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has been born into the world. So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you.

RESPONSORY FOR LENT (spoken)

- L: Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.
C: **Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.**
L: In You, O Lord, do I put my trust, Leave me not, O Lord, my God.
C: **Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.**
L: Deliver me, O Lord, My God, for You are the God of my salvation.
C: **Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.**

SERMON HYMN NO. 750 “If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee” (st.1,2,3,7)

**If thou but trust in God to guide thee
And hope in Him through all thy ways,,
He'll give thee strength, whate'er betide thee
And bear thee through the evil days.
Who trusts in God's unchanging love
Build on the rock that naught can move.**

What can these anxious cares avail thee,
These never-ceasing moans and sighs?
What can it help if thou bewail thee
O'er each dark moment as it flies?
Our cross and trials do not press
The heavier for our bitterness.

Be patient and await His leisure
In cheerful hope, with heart content
To take whate'er thy Father's pleasure
And His discerning love hath sent,
Nor doubt our inmost wants are known
To Him who chose us for His own.

Sing, pray, and keep His ways unswerving,
Performs thy duties faithfully,
And trust His Word; though undeserving,
Thou yet shalt find it true for thee.
God never yet forsook in need
The soul that trusted Him indeed.

SERMON

"Have a Heart, God Does"

Rev. Perry Schefelker

Mark 4:34, John 16:22, Ezekiel 36:26

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

"I pledge allegiance to the Christian flag, and to the Savior for whose kingdom it stands; one Savior, crucified, risen, and coming again with life and liberty to all who believe.

PRAYERS

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

SACRAMENT OF THE ALTAR: THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE PEACE OF THE LORD

AGNUS DEI - LAMB OF GOD p.210

DISTRIBUTION

Video

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

CLOSING HYMN NO. 895 "Now Thank we all Our God" (st. 1-2)

Now thank we all our God
With hearts and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things has done,
In whom His world rejoices;
Who from our mothers' arms
Has blest us on our way
With countless gifts of love
And still is ours today.

Oh, may this bounteous God
Through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts
And blessed peace to cheer us
And keep us in His grace
And guide us when perplexed
And free us from all ills
In this world and the next!

BENEDICTION

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

