

Blessed Savior Lutheran Church

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

Pastor Tony Troup (618-340-8375), Vacancy Pastor
Pastor Perry Schefelker (618-322-7498), Vacancy Pastor
Akoh Daniel Kofi, Lector
Cheryl Vohlken, Organist
Sunday School & Bible Class: 10:45am

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 10, 2024

AS WE GATHER

We hear today of eternal life that is given to us because of God's God's genuine love to us and the world is shown in Jesus' death on love is present here and now; and, extends into eternal life. May we God's love that thank Him for it and share it with others.



great love for us.
the cross. God's
be so thrilled with

INVOCATION

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

HYMN LSB 420 "Christ, the Life of All the Living"

OPENING SENTENCES *John 3:16*

Pastor: God so loved the world,
People: that He gave His only Son,
Pastor: that whoever believes in Him should not perish
People: but have eternal life.
Pastor: Our Lenten journey leads us to the cross where Jesus gave His life,
People: and then to the resurrection and eternal life.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Our hope in Christ is strong and living, yet we have often taken for granted the profound reality of Christ's death for us. We have ignored how weak and unchristian we have been. Still, our heavenly Father gives us access to His throne of grace, to ask for His forgiveness.

Pastor: Though Christ has loved us with this genuine love that gives us eternal life, we sometimes ignore His love and refuse to share it with others. Still, our heavenly Father is merciful, and invites us to draw near to Him in hope and confidence, asking for His grace.

Pastor: Heavenly Father,
People: we have sinned against You and against our neighbors. We have not loved You with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not loved our enemies. Forgive us, renew our love, on account of Jesus. Amen.

Pastor: Jesus Christ was lifted up on the tree of the cross so that we might be forgiven. His genuine love is for the world. 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.

People: **Amen. We are forgiven by the genuine love of Jesus.**

SHARING THE PEACE

INTROIT *Psalm 27:3–5; antiphon: v. 1*

Pastor: Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war arise against me, yet I will be confident.

People: **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.**

All: **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.**

Pastor: The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, You have loved us with an everlasting love that offers us eternal life. Burn Your love within our hearts, so that we may love others as You have loved us; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Numbers 21:4–9* (Moses lifts up the bronze serpent to save the people of Israel.)

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE *Ephesians 2:1–10* (We are saved by grace through faith.)

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

VERSE *John 3:16*

Pastor: For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son,

People: **that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.**

HOLY GOSPEL *John 3:14–21* (God so loved the world.)
(Please rise for the Gospel.)

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

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

(The Gospel is read.)

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.** (Please be seated.)

HYMN: LSB 543 “What Wondrous Love Is This”

**What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this That caused the Lord of bliss
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul!**

**When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,
When I was sinking down, sinking down,
When I was sinking down Beneath God’s righteous frown,
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul, for my soul,
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul.**

**To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing;
To God and to the Lamb I will sing;
To God and to the Lamb, Who is the great I AM,
While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,
While millions join the theme, I will sing.**

**And when from death I’m free, I’ll sing on, I’ll sing on;
And when from death I’m free, I’ll sing on.
And when from death I’m free, I’ll sing His love for me,
And through eternity I’ll sing on, I’ll sing on,
And through eternity I’ll sing on.**

SERMON “God Brings Light to the Darkness,” John 3:19-21; Matthew 5:16

CONFESSION OF FAITH THE APOSTLE’S CREED *(Please stand.)*

ALL 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
(Please be seated after The Creed.)

OFFERING *(Organ offertory.)*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Response after each petition:

P: Lord in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Final Response: P: Into Your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your love through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

**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.**

JESUS
LOVES YOU—
and so do we!

BLESSING OF THE LORD

P: Now may the Lord of peace Himself give you peace at all times and in every way. The Lord be with all of you. (2 Thessalonians 3:16)

C: Amen. (*Please stand for our closing hymn.*)

HYMN: LSB 392 "God Loves Me Dearly"

**God loves me dearly, Grants me salvation,
God loves me dearly, Loves even me. (Refrain)**

**Refrain:
Therefore I'll say again: God loves me dearly,
God loves me dearly, Loves even me. (Refrain)**

**I was in slav'ry, Sin, death, and darkness;
God's love was working To make me free. (Refrain)**

**He sent forth Jesus, My dear Redeemer,
He sent forth Jesus And set me free. (Refrain)**

**Jesus, my Savior, Himself did offer;
Jesus, my Savior, Paid all I owed. (Refrain)**

**Now I will praise You, O Love Eternal;
Now I will praise You All my life long. (Refrain)**

SENDING

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

C: Thanks be to God!