

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

PALM SUNDAY

MARCH 24, 2024

AS WE GATHER

The death of Jesus on the cross is not cause for continued sorrow or ongoing relief. As the Epistle points out, our Lord's giving of Himself for our sin makes His a glorious death. It causes "every tongue [to] confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" (Philippians 2:11). How do we do that? First, our Lord's death draws us to Him, where we find forgiveness, grace, and mercy. Then, each day we are given opportunity to die to sin ourselves and to receive Christ's forgiveness. It is an ongoing process with the people around us, with whom we share Christ's invitation to heaven itself. We sing "Hosanna," which means "save us." Because of the cross, we are confident that we have been saved already.



INVOCATION

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

OPENING HYMN No. 442 "All Glory, Laud, and Honor"

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Today is the beginning of Holy Week. During it we shall recall how our Savior gave His life so that our sins may all be forgiven, and heaven opened to us.

People: **Even during worship, our minds sometimes wander.**

Pastor: This is already known to God. Give your concerns into His loving hands and turn your hearts and minds on our Lord's determination to free us from every sin. Confident of the forgiveness He won through His glorious death and resurrection, let us admit our sinful condition to Him and to one another.

People: **I confess to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sometimes sinned in my thinking, speaking, and acting. I am incapable of saving myself. Heavenly Father, for Jesus' sake and because of His sacrifice for us we ask You to forgive, strengthen, and lead us to follow our Savior in loving service to You and to one another.**

Pastor: As a called and ordained servant of Christ, who gave Himself over to death that we might have eternal life, and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE

INTROIT Psalm 24:7-10; antiphon: Psalm 118:26

P: Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.

C: Who is this King of glory?

The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle!

P: Lift up your heads, O gates! And lift them up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.

C: Who is this King of glory?

The LORD of hosts, He is the King of glory!

**ALL: Blessed is He, blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!
We bless you from the house of the LORD.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray....

People: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Zechariah 9:9–12* (The King comes humbly on a donkey.)

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall speak peace to the nations; his rule shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth. As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE *Philippians 2:5–11* (Because of His humble death, Christ has been exalted by the Father.)

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God. All glory, laud, and honor

VERSE *Philippians 2:8b*

P: He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death,

C: even death on a cross.

HOLY GOSPEL John 12:20-43 (Some Greeks see Jesus. The Son of Man Must Be Lifted Up; Unbelief of the People. *(Please rise.)*)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twelfth 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.**

SERMON HYMN No. 539 "Christ is the World's Redeemer" *(Please be seated.)*

**Christ is the world's Redeemer,
The lover of the pure,
The font of heav'nly wisdom,
Our trust and hope secure,
The armor of His soldiers
The Lord of earth and sky,
Our health while we are living,
Our life when we shall die.**

**Christ has our host surrounded
With clouds of martyrs bright,
Who wave their palms in triumph
And fire us for the fight.
Then Christ the cross ascended
To save a world undone
And, suff'ring for the sinful,
Our full redemption won.**

**Down through realm of darkness
He strode in victory,
And at the hour appointed
He rose, triumphantly.
And now, to heav'n ascended,
He sits upon the throne
Whence He had ne'er departed,
His Father's and His own.**

**Glory to God the Father,
The unbegotten One,
All honor be to Jesus,
His sole begotten Son;
And to the Holy Spirit,
The perfect Trinity,
Let all the worlds give answer,
Amen! So let it be.**

SERMON "Humbled/Exalted," Philippians 2:5-11

Rev. Peter Kirby

CONFESSION OF FAITH THE APOSTLE'S CREED *(Please 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 \times everlasting. Amen *(Please be seated after Creed.)*

OFFERING *(Organ offertory.)*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Response after 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 mercy through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
C: Amen.

All: THE LORD'S PRAYER BLESSING OF THE LORD

P: The blessing of our glorious God—the Father who sent His Son; the \times Son whose glory was to give His
life that we might live forever; and the Holy Spirit, who has worked faith in our hearts to follow
Him—be with you, now and always.

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

CLOSING HYMN No. 837 “Lift High the Cross”

Refrain:
Lift high the cross, The love of Christ proclaim

Till all the world adore His sacred name.

**Come, Christians, follow where our Captain trod,
Our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God. Refrain**

**Led on their way by this triumphant sign,
The hosts of God in conqu'ring ranks combine. Refrain**

**All newborn soldiers of the Crucified
Bear on their brows the seal of Him who died. Refrain**

**O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
As Thou hast promised, draw us all to Thee. Refrain**

**Let ev'ry race and ev'ry language tell
Of Him who saves our lives from death and hell. Refrain**

**So shall our song of triumph ever be:
Praise to the Crucified for victory! Refrain**

SENDING

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

C: Thanks be to God!