

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
Brett Arrasmith, Field Worker, Liturgist
Cheryl Vohlken, Organist
Sunday School & Bible Class: 10:45am

Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

February 2, 2025

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVOCATION

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

C: **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES Psalm 71:1-5

L: In you, O LORD, do I take refuge;
let me never be put to shame!

C: **In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me;
incline your ear to me, and save me!**

L: Be to me a rock of refuge,
to which I may continually come;

C: **you have given the command to save me,
for you are my rock and my fortress.**

L: Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked, from
the grasp of the unjust and cruel man.

C: **For you, O Lord, are my hope,
my trust, O LORD, from my youth.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *John 1:14*

L: God has come to us to make us His own children. Let us confess our
sins of unbelief that He may give us faith to receive Him and His love.

C: **O God, we confess that we have ignored Your voice and Spirit by
choosing to go our own way. Without You, we are lost and
confused and without hope. Without You, we do not know love.
Come now to us and forgive our waywardness and weakness.
Give us Your gifts of faith, hope, and love. Receive us again into
the family of Your redeemed. Amen.**

DECLARATION OF GRACE *John 1:10-12*

SHARING THE PEACE

SONG OF PRAISE “Christ Our Hope in Life and Death,” Initiative

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Let us pray.

Almighty God, You know we live in the midst of so many dangers that in our frailty we cannot endure them. Give us strength and protection to support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Jeremiah 1:4–10* (The call of Jeremiah.)

Now the word of the Lord came to me, saying, “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations.” Then I said, “Ah, Lord God! Behold, I do not know how to speak, for I am only a youth.” But the Lord said to me, “Do not say, “I am only a youth”; for to all to whom I send you, you shall go, and whatever I command you, you shall speak. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, declares the Lord.” Then the Lord put out his hand and touched my mouth. And the Lord said to me, “Behold, I have put my words in your mouth. See, I have set you this day over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to break down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant.”

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE *1 Corinthians 12:31b–13:13* (The more excellent way of love.)

But earnestly desire the higher gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way. If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing. Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways. For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known. So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

VERSE: 1 Corinthians 13:12

L: Alleluia! For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face.

C: **Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known. Alleluia!**

CHILDREN'S TALK "One Body, One Church"

1 Cor. 12:12, 27

HOLY GOSPEL Luke 4:31–44 (Jesus heals many.)

(Please stand.)

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 4th chapter

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

(The Gospel is read.)

And he went down to Capernaum, a city of Galilee. And he was teaching them on the Sabbath, and they were astonished at his teaching, for his word possessed authority. And in the synagogue there was a man who had the spirit of an unclean demon, and he cried out with a loud voice, "Ha! What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are "the Holy One of God." But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent and come out of him!" And when the demon had thrown him down in their midst, he came out of him, having done him no harm. And they were all amazed and said to one another, "What is this word? For with authority and power he commands the unclean spirits, and they come out!" And reports about him went out into every place in the surrounding region.

And he arose and left the synagogue and entered Simon's house. Now Simon's mother-in-law was ill with a high fever, and they appealed to him on her behalf. And he stood over her and rebuked the fever, and it left her, and immediately she rose and began to serve them.

Now when the sun was setting, all those who had any who were sick with various diseases brought them to him, and he laid his hands on every one of them and healed them. And demons also came out of many, crying, "You are the Son of God!" But he rebuked them and would not allow them to speak, because they knew that he was the Christ. And when it was day, he departed and went into a desolate place. And the people sought him and came to him, and would have kept him from leaving them, but he said to them, "I must preach the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns as well; for I was sent for this purpose." And he was preaching in the synagogues of Judea.

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

(Please be seated for hymn.)

SONG Video (Words) "Brothers and Sisters in Christ" T. Dittmer

1. Sing Allelulia! Amen!

Let your prayers and your praises ascend.

Lift up your voices and sing to our Lord God, our Savior, our King!

Here brought together by grace, we are gathered as friends in this place.

Chorus:

And assembled as one, in the name of the Son,

Lifting hearts, lifting hands, celebrating as friends,

And proclaiming the Lord, all our praises afford.

We are brothers and sisters in Christ.

Man walked alone and in need,

Without faith, hope or promise or creed;

Wandering aimlessly lost unaware of the staggering cost;

That God in his mercy would save all his people from death and the grave.

Chorus:

And assembled as one, in the name of the Son,

Lifting hearts, lifting hands, celebrating as friends,

And proclaiming the Lord, all our praises afford.

We are brothers and sisters in Christ.

Lord, teach us how to proclaim

All your goodness your love and your name!

Lord, teach us how to forgive, and in love, teach us Lord, how to live.

Raising our voices in song, help us tell all the world we belong.

Chorus

And assembled as one, in the name of the Son,

Lifting hearts, lifting hands, celebrating as friends,

And proclaiming the Lord, all our praises afford.

We are brothers and sisters in Christ.

SERMON "The Greatest Gift of All," 1 Cor. 13:13 Pastor Perry

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

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

SACRAMENT

PREFACE

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

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

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P: Blessed are You, O Lord, our God, King of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

You have shown us again what true love is, drawing us to Your love in giving us the body and blood of Your Son, which was given and shed for us on the cross

Hear us as we pray as You have taught us:

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

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.

LET THE VINEYARDS BE FRUITFUL (LSB 955)

**Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord And fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, That we may be fed with the
Bread of Life. Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; Unite them with the
prayers we offer now. Grace our table with Your presence, And give us, a
foretaste of the feast to come.**

THE PEACE OF THE LORD

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

C: **And also with you.**

SELF-REFLECTION (As we prepare our hearts to receive this sacred meal, let us quietly ask ourselves these questions.)

1. Are you baptized in the name of the Triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit?
2. Do you know you are a sinner in need of God's grace?
3. Do you believe Jesus died to atone for your sins?
4. Do I believe that God offers His forgiveness through the "real" presence of Jesus, in, with, and under the elements of bread and wine?
5. Do you seek to amend your sinful life?

LAMB OF GOD (Agnus Dei, LSB 163)

**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;
grant us peace.**

WORDS OF OUR LORD

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION HYMNS:

Video: "At the Cross," Chris Tomlin

Hymn No. 694 “Thee Will I Love, My Strength, My Tower”

(St. 1,2,3,5)

**Thee will I love, my strength, my tower;
Thee will I love, my hope, my joy.
Thee will I love with all my power,
With ardor time shall ne'er destroy.
Thee will I love, O Light divine,
So long as life is mine.**

**Thee will I love, my life, my Savior,
Who art my best and truest friend.
Thee will I love and praise forever,
For never shall Thy kindness end.
Thee will I love with all my heart
Thou my Redeemer art!**

**I thank Thee, Jesus, Sun from heaven,
Whose radiance hath brought light to me;
I thank Thee, who hast richly given
All that could make me glad and free;
I thank Thee that my soul is healed
By what Thy lips revealed.**

**Thee will I love, my crown of gladness;
Thee will I love, my God and Lord,
Amid the darkest depths of sadness,
And not for hope of high reward,
For Thine own sake, O Light divine,
So long as life is mine.**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

BLESSING OF THE LORD

Numbers 6:24–26

HYMN No. 700 “Love Divine, All Love Excelling”

**Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heav'n, earth come down!
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling,
All Thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, Thou art all compassion,
Pure, unbounded love Thou art;
Visit us with Thy salvation,
Enter ev'ry trembling heart.**

**Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit
Into ev'ry troubled breast;**

Let us all in Thee inherit;
Let us find Thy promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning,
Set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty, to deliver;
Let us all Thy life receive;
Suddenly return, and never,
Nevermore Thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
Serve Thee as Thy hosts above,
Pray and praise Thee without ceasing,
Glory in Thy perfect love.

Finish then Thy new creation,
Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see Thy great salvation
Perfectly restored in Thee,
Changed from glory into glory,
Till in heav'n we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before Thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise!

SENDING

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

C: **Thanks be to God!**

For information on our church events, sermon recordings, church calendar, newsletters:

GO TO: www.mybslc.org.