

## Blessed Savior Lutheran Church

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

Rev. Dr. Nathan Kuhlman, Pastor  
Cody Krueger, Seminary Field Worker

Cheryl Vohlken, Organist  
Sunday School & Bible Class: 10:45am

**FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY**

February 1, 2026

### **All Things New “A New Beginning”**

#### **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **INVOCATION & CALL TO WORSHIP**

P: We begin in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
C: **Amen.**

P: New life.  
C: **New you.**

P: The Gospel itself is all about new as it brings us many things:  
C: **A new beginning and new mission.**

P: A new family and new identity.  
C: **A new heart and new youthfulness.**

P: Every day His mercies are made new!  
C: **This world is always changing,**

P: Yet God's faithfulness is constant and firm.  
C: **In Christ, all things are new!**



#### **OPENING HYMN** “The King is Calling” (Kip Fox) – Video

**Come every beating heart that longs to find its worth  
Come every aching soul in need of something more  
Come with your questions Come with your doubts  
Bring them to the Lord**

**Come all you castaways, left out of every crowd  
Come all you outsiders, unwanted until now  
You are a people You have a place  
Waiting with the Lord**

**Refrain: Troubled and restless, hungry and helpless  
Sing for joy, the King is calling  
Strong in justice, rich in mercy  
Sing for joy, the King is calling  
And His love is never-ending**

**Come all you servants, with no candle left to burn  
Come every broken body, tired from years of work  
Lay down your tools Lift up your hands  
Lift them to the Lord. Refrain**

**Lift up a shout Our King is full of grace  
Lift up a shout He's worthy of our praise  
Lift up a shout Our King is full of grace  
Lift up a shout He's worthy of our praise. Refrain**

## **CONFESSION/ABSOLUTION**

**P:** January is a time of new beginnings. A New Year and new hope. It is a new beginning and fresh start as we close the page to one year and turn the page to another. It is a time to reflect on our past, and with it, regret over words spoken, things done, whether intentional or not, we have caused pain.

**C: Our hearts have calloused to Your love.**

**P:** Our homes have fostered anger and strife.

**C: Our lives have grown anemic to Your Word.**

**P:** We have sinned.

**C: We are desperate for a new way – a better way.**

**P:** Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord have mercy.

*(You are invited to silently reflect on the fact that  
though our sin is great, Christ's love is greater.)*

**P:** I have good news! God not only shows you a better way, He "IS" the way, truth, and life. No longer do you need to carry a burden of sin and guilt. God sends Jesus. All for you! Because of Jesus' death on the cross and rising from the grave, you are given new life. Forgiven life. Restored life. Whole life. Thus, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, I announce to you that your sins are forgiven.

**C: "He has removed our sins as far from us as the east is from the west." (Ps 103:24) All things new. Amen.**

## **SHARING GOD'S PEACE**

✂ WORD ✂

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** Micah 6:1-8

Hear what the LORD says: Arise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. Hear, you mountains, the indictment of the LORD, and you enduring foundations of the earth, for the LORD has an indictment against his people, and he will contend with Israel.

“O my people, what have I done to you? How have I wearied you? Answer me! For I brought you up from the land of Egypt and redeemed you from the house of slavery, and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. O my people, remember what Balak king of Moab devised, and what Balaam the son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the righteous acts of the LORD.”

“With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?” He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE READING** Romans 12:3-13

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**HOLY GOSPEL** John 1:1-14 (please stand)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.

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

(The Gospel is read.)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

**Pastor:** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

### **SERMON HYMN LSB 894 "For the Fruits of His Creation"**

**For the fruits of His creation, Thanks be to God.  
For His gifts to ev'ry nation Thanks be to God.  
For the plowing, sowing, reaping,  
Silent growth while we are sleeping,  
Future needs in earth's safe keeping,  
Thanks be to God.**

**In the just reward of labor, God's will is done.  
In the help we give our neighbor, God's will is done.  
In our world-wide task of caring  
For the hungry and despairing,  
In the harvest we are sharing,  
God's will is done.**

**For the harvest of the Spirit, Thanks be to God.  
For the good we all inherit, Thanks be to God.  
For the wonders that astound us,  
For the truths that still confound us,  
Most of all, that love has found us,  
Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON "A New Beginning" John 1:1-14**

**Pastor Nathan**

**CREED** *Nicene Creed (Please stand)*

**ALL:** 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 He 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.

And 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 LSB 878**

“Abide with Me” (vs 1,2 & 6)

Abide with me, fast falls the eventide.  
The darkness deepens;  
Lord, with me abide.  
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,  
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.

I need Thy presence ev'ry passing hour;  
What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's pow'r?  
Who like Thyself my guide and stay can be?  
Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me.

Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes;  
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.  
Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;  
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: Lord, in your mercy,  
C: **hear our prayer.**

## ✠ SACRAMENT ✠

**PREFACE**    *2 Timothy 4:22*

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.**

## PROPER PREFACE

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory that, seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may know and love those things which are not seen. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

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**SANCTUS**    *(LSB page 161, sung)*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might;  
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.  
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

**THE 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.”

**PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST**     *1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20*

P:     As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C:     **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

P:     O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and Passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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.**

**PAX DOMINI**

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

C:     **Amen.**

**AGNUS DEI** *(LSB page 163, sung)*

**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.**

**DISTRIBUTION HYMNS**

**“Be Still My Soul” (Lifeway Worship) – Video**

**LSB 725 “Children of the Heavenly Father”**

**Children of the heav’nly Father  
Safely in His bosom gather;  
Nestling bird nor star in heaven  
Such a refuge e’er was given.**

**God His own doth tend and nourish;  
In His holy courts they flourish.  
From all evil things He spares them;  
In His mighty arms He bears them.**

**Neither life nor death shall ever  
From the Lord His children sever;  
Unto them His grace He showeth,  
And their sorrows all He knoweth.**

**Though He giveth or He taketh,  
God His children ne’er forsaketh;  
His the loving purpose solely  
To preserve them pure and holy.**

**LSB 863 “Our Father, by Whose Name”**

**Our Father, by whose name  
All fatherhood is known,  
Who dost in love proclaim  
Each family Thine own,  
Bless Thou all parents, guarding well,  
With constant love as sentinel,  
The homes in which Thy people dwell.**

**O Christ, Thyself a child  
Within an earthly home,  
With heart still undefiled,  
Thou didst to man-hood come;  
Our children bless in ev’ry place  
That they may all behold Thy face,  
And knowing Thee may grow in grace.**



O Spirit, who dost bind  
Our hearts in unity,  
Who teachest us to find  
The love from self set free,  
In all our hearts such love increase  
That ev'ry home by this release  
May be the dwelling place of peace.

**POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE**      *(LSB page 164, sung)*

Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell everyone what He has done.  
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.  
He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy  
With shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

**POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING**

P: Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift,

**C: and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another;**

P: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**BENEDICTION**      *Numbers 6:24–26*

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**CLOSING HYMN 790** "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" ( vvs 1,2 & 4)

Praise to the Lord,  
the Almighty, the King of creation!  
O my soul, praise Him,  
for He is your health and salvation!  
Let all who hear  
Now to His temple draw near,  
Joining in glad adoration!

**Praise to the Lord,  
who o'er all things is wondrously reigning  
And, as on wings of an eagle,  
uplifting, sustaining.  
Have you not seen  
All that is needful has been  
Sent by His gracious ordaining?**

**Praise to the Lord,  
who has fearfully, wondrously, made you,  
Health has bestowed and,  
when heedlessly falling, has stayed you.  
What need or grief  
Ever has failed of relief?  
Wings of His mercy did shade you.**

**Praise to the Lord,  
who will prosper your work and defend you;  
Surely His goodness  
and mercy shall daily attend you.  
Ponder anew  
What the Almighty can do  
As with His love He befriends you.**

## **SENDING**

**P:** Go in peace as to love and serve the Lord.  
**C:** Thanks be to God!