

Blessed Savior Lutheran Church

1205 North Lincoln Ave
O'Fallon, IL 62269 (618) 632-0126
www.mybslc.org
Worship –9:30 am Sunday School & Bible Class: 10:45am

Rev. Dr. Nathan Kuhlman, Pastor
573-612-9090 pastorkuhlman@gmail.com
Cody Krueger, Seminary Field Worker
Cheryl Vohlken, Organist

Zechariah

“Rebuilding hope in a troubled world”

Sunday, March 1, 2026 Part 3

“Silencing Satan” - Zechariah 3:1-10

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVOCATION & CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Zechariah 9:9–10)

P: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: Behold, your King comes to you—

C: **Righteous and having salvation.**

P: Speaking peace to the nations.

C: **And ruling from sea to sea—**

P: To the ends of the earth!

C: **God’s kingdom comes—**

P: To us!

C: **Through Jesus Christ our Lord!**



OPENING HYMN “Graves into Gardens” (Elevation Worship) – Video

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

P: The Accuser does just that – accuses.

C: **He points the finger,**

P: Wags his head,

C: **Whispers doubts,**

P: And leads us to live in oceans of guilt.

C: **Peter urges: “Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.”
(1 Ptr 5:8)**

P: Rather than being alert and prepared, I have become numb to the tricks of the Devil,

C: allowing him a foothold in my heart and home.

P: Show me a different way.

C: Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy.

P: Come near to me and hear my cries through Jesus:

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

P: I have great news! God hears your cries and sends the Deliverer. The day of the Lord has come – on a cross, in a tomb, through a grave – the King steps from His heavenly throne into the fray of His creation. All for you! He loves you. He died for you. He rose for you. He forgives you. He restores you. The Kingdom is here in Jesus! Thus, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, I announce to you that your sins are forgiven.

C: “Return to me, and I will return to you,” says the Lord. (Zech 1:3) Amen.

SHARING GOD’S PEACE

✠ **WORD** ✠

OLD TESTAMENT READING Zechariah 3:1-10

Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to accuse him. And the LORD said to Satan, “The LORD rebuke you, O Satan! The LORD who has chosen Jerusalem rebuke you! Is not this a brand plucked from the fire?” Now Joshua was standing before the angel, clothed with filthy garments. And the angel said to those who were standing before him, “Remove the filthy garments from him.” And to him he said, “Behold, I have taken your iniquity away from you, and I will clothe you with pure vestments.” And I said, “Let them put a clean turban on his head.” So they put a clean turban on his head and clothed him with garments. And the angel of the LORD was standing by.

And the angel of the LORD solemnly assured Joshua, “Thus says the LORD of hosts: If you will walk in my ways and keep my charge, then you

shall rule my house and have charge of my courts, and I will give you the right of access among those who are standing here. Hear now, O Joshua the high priest, you and your friends who sit before you, for they are men who are a sign: behold, I will bring my servant the Branch. For behold, on the stone that I have set before Joshua, on a single stone with seven eyes, I will engrave its inscription, declares the LORD of hosts, and I will remove the iniquity of this land in a single day. In that day, declares the LORD of hosts, every one of you will invite his neighbor to come under his vine and under his fig tree.”

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING Romans 4:1-8, 13-17

What then shall we say was gained by Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness.” Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness, just as David also speaks of the blessing of the one to whom God counts righteousness apart from works: “Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered;

For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression.

That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring—not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL John 3:1-17 (please stand)

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

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

(The Gospel is read.)

Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him." Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN LSB 666 "O Little Flock, Fear Not the Foe"

**O little flock, fear not the foe
Who madly seeks your overthrow;
Dread not his rage and pow'r.
And though your courage sometimes faints,
His seeming triumph o'er God's saints
Lasts but a little hour.**

**Be of good cheer; your cause belongs
To Him who can avenge your wrongs;
Leave it to Him, our Lord.
Though hidden yet from mortal eyes,
His Gideon shall for you arise,
Uphold you and His Word.**

**As true as God's own Word is true,
Not earth nor hell's satanic crew
Against us shall prevail.
Their might? A joke, a mere façade!
God is with us and we with God
Our vict'ry cannot fail.**

**Amen, Lord Jesus, grant our prayer;
Great Captain, now Thine arm make bare,
Fight for us once again!
So shall Thy saints and martyrs raise
A mighty chorus to Thy praise
Forevermore. Amen**

SERMON "Silencing Satan" Zechariah 3:1-10

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 763 “When Peace like a River” (vs 1-2,4)

**When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows, roll;
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,
It is well, it is well with my soul. (Refrain)**

Refrain:

**It is well with my soul,
It is well, it is well with my soul.**

**Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control,
That Christ hath regarded my helpless estate,
And hath shed His own blood for my soul. (Refrain)**

**And, Lord, haste the day when our faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll;
The trumpet shall sound, and the Lord shall descend,
Even so, it is well with my soul. (Refrain)**

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:

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; 1Corinthians 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

“Beautiful Things” (North Point) – Video

LSB 563 “Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness”

Jesus, Thy blood and righteousness

My beauty are, my glorious dress;

Midst flaming worlds, in these arrayed,

With joy shall I lift up my head.

Bold shall I stand in that great day,

Cleansed and redeemed, no debt to pay;

Fully absolved through these I am

From sin and fear, from guilt and shame.

Lord, I believe Thy precious blood,

Which at the mercy seat of God

Pleads for the captives’ liberty,

Was also shed in love for me.

Lord, I believe, were sinners more

Than sands upon the ocean shore,

Thou hast for all a ransom paid,

For all a full atonement made.

When from the dust of death I rise

To claim my mansion in the skies,

This then shall be my only plea:

Jesus hath lived and died for me.

Jesus, be endless praise to Thee,

Whose boundless mercy hath for me,

For me, and all Thy hands have made,

An everlasting ransom paid.

LSB 547 "The Lamb" (vs1-4)

**The Lamb, the Lamb,
O Father, where's the sacrifice?
Faith sees, believes
God will provide the Lamb of price!
Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me His own!
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!**

**The Lamb, the Lamb,
One perfect final offering.
The Lamb, the Lamb,
Let earth join heav'n His praise to sing.
Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me His own!
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!**

**The Lamb, the Lamb,
As wayward sheep their shepherd kill
So still, His will
On our behalf the Law to fill.
Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me His own!
The Lamb is reigning on His throne
He sighs, he dies,
He takes my sin and wretchedness.
He lives, forgives,
He gives me His own righteousness.
Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me His own!
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!**

LSB 447 "Jesus, in our Dying Woes" (vs1-6,16-18)

**Jesus, in your dying woes,
Even while Your lifeblood flows,
Craving pardon for Your foes:
Hear us, holy Jesus.**

**Savior, for our pardon sue
When our sins your pangs renew,**

**For we know not what we do:
Hear us, holy Jesus.**

**Oh, may we, who mercy need,
Be like you in heart and deed,
When with wrong our spirits bleed:
Hear us, holy Jesus.**

**Jesus, pitying the sighs
Of the thief, who near You dies,
Promising him paradise:
Hear us, holy Jesus.**

**May we in our guilt and shame
Still your love and mercy claim,
Calling humbly on your name:
Hear us, holy Jesus.**

**May our hearts to you incline
And their thoughts your cross entwine.
Cheer our souls with hope divine:
Hear us, holy Jesus.**

**Jesus, all our ransom paid,
All Your Father's will obeyed;
By Your suff'rings perfect made:
Hear us, holy Jesus.**

**Save us in our soul's distress;
Be our help to cheer and bless
While we grow in holiness:
Hear us, holy Jesus.**

**Brighten all our heav'nward way
With an ever holier ray
Till we pass to perfect day:
Hear us, holy Jesus.**

POST-COMMUNION HYMN LSB 643:1

(“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”)

**Sent forth by God’s blessing, our true faith confessing,
The people of God from His dwelling take leave.
The Supper is ended. O now be extended
The fruits of this service in all who believe.
The seed of His teaching, receptive souls reaching,
Shall blossom in action for God and for all.
His grace shall incite us, His love shall unite us
To work as God’s servants and heed His glad call.**

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 LSB 665 “Be Strong in the Lord” (vs 1,3-5)

(tune: “O Worship the King” LSB 804)

**Be strong in the Lord
In armor of light,
With helmet and sword,
With shield for the fight;
On prayer be dependent,**

**Be belted and shod,
In breastplate resplendent:
The armor of God.**

**Integrity gird
You round to impart
The truth of His Word
As truth in your heart;
His righteousness wearing
As breastplate of mail,
His victory sharing,
Be strong to prevail.**

**With eagerness shod
Stand firm in your place,
Or go forth for God
With news of His grace;
No foe shall disarm you
Nor force you to yield,
No arrow can harm you
With faith as your shield.**

**So wield well your blade,
Rejoice in its pow'rs,
Fight on undismayed
For Jesus is ours!
Then in Him victorious
Your armor lay down,
To praise, ever glorious,
His cross and His crown.**

SENDING

P: Go in peace as to love and serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

