Blessed Savior Lutheran Church
1205 North Lincoln Ave — Rev. Dr. Nathan Kuhlman, Pastor
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www.mybslc.org — Cody Krueger, Seminary Field Worker
Worship –9:30 am Sunday School & Bible Class: 10:45am — Cheryl Vohlken, Organist

O, How He Loves!

Midweek Series for Lent

Wednesday, March 4 - Part 2

"Love that Spares No Cost" - 1 Peter 1:13-21

INVOCATION & CALL TO WORSHIP

P: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
C: Amen.
P: Praise the Lord! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart—
C: in the company of the upright, in the congregation.
P: Great are the works of the Lord, studied by all who delight in them—
C: Full of splendor and majesty in His work, and His righteousness endures forever.
P: He has caused His wondrous works to be remembered;—
C: the Lord is gracious and merciful.
P: The Lord be with you.
C: And also with you.

OPENING HYMN "Our God is Love" (Hillsong) – Video

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

P: Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.
C: O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.
P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C: Amen.

COLLECT

P: O Lord, hear my prayer.
C: And let my cry come to You.
P: O God, You have commanded us to love You with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength; and to love our neighbors as ourselves. Strengthen us by Your own redeeming love that we might reflect Your love to the world; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C: Amen.

✠ WORD ✠

FIRST READING 1 Peter 1:13-21

Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, since it is written, *You shall be holy, for I am holy.* And if you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one's deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile, knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING Mark 12:28-37

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the twelfth chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

(The Gospel is read.)

And one of the scribes came up and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, asked him, *Which commandment is the most important of all?* Jesus answered, *The most important is, *Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.* The second is this: *You shall love your neighbor as yourself.* There is no other commandment greater than these.* And the scribe said to him, *You are right, Teacher. You have truly said that he is one, and there is no other besides him. And to love him with all the heart and with all the understanding and with all the strength, and to love one's neighbor as oneself, is much more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.* And when Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, *You are not far from the kingdom of God.* And after that no one dared to ask him any more questions.

And as Jesus taught in the temple, he said, *How can the scribes say that the Christ is the son of David? David himself, in the Holy Spirit, declared, **The Lord said to my Lord,
*Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet.**
David himself calls him Lord. So how is he his son?* And the great throng heard him gladly.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

CREED The Apostle's *Creed. (Please rise.)*

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

SERMON HYMN LSB 452 "O Perfect Life of Love" (1,3-5,7)

O perfect life of love!
All, all, is finished now,
All that He left His throne above
To do for us below.

No pain that we can share
But He has felt its smart;
All forms of human grief and care
Have pierced that tender heart.

And on His throne-crowned head
And on His sinless soul
Our sins in all their guilt were laid
That He might make us whole.

In perfect love He dies;
For me He dies, for me.
O all-atoning Sacrifice,
I cling by faith to Thee.

Yet work, O Lord, in me
As Thou for me hast wrought;
And let my love the answer be
To grace Thy love has brought.

SERMON "Love that Spares No Cost" - 1 Peter 1:13-21

SERMON SERIES HYMN LSB 544 "O Love, How Deep" (VS 2)

He sent no angel to our race,
Of higher or of lower place,
But wore the robe of human frame,
And to this world Himself He came.

OFFERING LSB 430 "My Song Is Love Unknown" (1,3,6-7)

My song is love unknown,
My Savior's love to me,
Love to the loveless shown
That they might lovely be.
Oh, who am I That for my sake
My Lord should take Frail flesh and die?

Sometimes they strew His way
And His sweet praises sing;
Resounding all the day
Hosannas to their King.
Then "Crucify!: Is all their breath,
And for His death They thirst and cry.

In life no house, no home
My Lord on earth might have;
In death no friendly tomb
But what a stranger gave.
What may I say? Heav'n was his home
But mine the tomb Wherein He lay.

Here might I stay and sing,
No story so divine!
Never was love, dear King,
Never was grief like Thine.
This is my friend,
In whose sweet praise
I all my days
Could gladly spend!

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

People: **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.

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN "God So Loved" (Worship Initiative) – Video

SENDING

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