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 8, 2026 - Part 4

"Who Will take the Garbage Out?" - *Zechariah 5:5-11*

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 "The Wonderful Cross" (Great Worship Songs Praise Band) – Video

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

P: We come today carrying many things.
C: We carry guilt, sin, and shame.
P: We carry sorrow, fear, and anxiousness.
C: "We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment." (Isaiah 64:6)
P: We all have sinned and fall short of God's glory. (Rom 3:23)
C: The things we carry weigh us down.
P: We come today to put our sin down at the cross
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.

COLLECT

P: The Lord be with you.
C: And also with you.
P: Let us pray. Heavenly Father, in Zechariah's seventh vision you take away the sin of the Judeans. We thank and praise you that in a much greater way you take away the sin of the world through the sacrificial Lamb—Jesus Christ our Lord. We pray in his powerful and priceless name.
C: Amen.

SHARING GOD'S PEACE

✠ WORD ✠

OLD TESTAMENT READING Zechariah 5:5-11

Then the angel who talked with me came forward and said to me, "Lift your eyes and see what this is that is going out." And I said, "What is it?" He said, "This is the basket that is going out." And he said, "This is their iniquity in all the land." And behold, the leaden cover was lifted, and there was a woman sitting in the basket! And he said, "This is Wickedness." And he thrust her back into the basket, and thrust down the leaden weight on its opening.

Then I lifted my eyes and saw, and behold, two women coming forward! The wind was in their wings. They had wings like the wings of a stork, and they lifted up the basket between earth and heaven. Then I said to the angel who talked with me, "Where are they taking the basket?" He said to me, "To the land of Shinar, to build a house for it. And when this is prepared, they will set the basket down there on its base."

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING Romans 5:1-8

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL John 4:5-30, 39-42

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourth chapter.
People: Glory to You, O Lord.

(The Gospel is read.)

So he came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there; so Jesus, wearied as he was from his journey, was sitting beside the well. It was about the sixth hour.

A woman from Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.” (For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, “How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?” (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, ‘Give me a drink,’ you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.” The woman said to him, “Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock.” Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.” The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water.”

Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come here.” The woman answered him, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “You are right in saying, ‘I have no husband’; for you have had five husbands, and the one you now have is not your husband. What you have said is true.” The woman said to him, “Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet. Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship.” Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.” The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ). When he comes, he will tell us all things.” Jesus said to her, “I who speak to you am he.”

Just then his disciples came back. They marveled that he was talking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you seek?” or, “Why are you talking with her?” So the woman left her water jar and went away into town and said to the people, “Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?” They went out of the town and were coming to him.

Many Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony, “He told me all that I ever did.” So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is indeed the Savior of the world.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
People: Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN LSB 611 “Chief of Sinners” (vs 1-3,5)

Chief of sinners though I be,
Jesus shed His blood for me,
Died that I might live on high,
Lives that I might never die.
As the branch is to the vine,
I am His, and He is mine.

Oh, the height of Jesus' love,
Higher than the heav'ns above,
Deeper than the depths of sea,
Lasting as eternity!
Love that found me wondrous thought
Found me when I sought Him not.

Only Jesus can impart
Balm to heal the wounded heart,
Peace that flows from sin forgiven,
Joy that lifts the soul to heav'n,
Faith and hope to walk with God
In the way that Enoch trod.

O my Savior, help afford
By Your spirit and Your Word!
When my wayward heart would stray,
Keep me in the narrow way;
Grace in time of need supply
While I live and when I die.

SERMON "Who Will take the Garbage Out?" - Zechariah 5:5-11 Pastor Nathan

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

OFFERING LSB 430 "My Song Is Love Unknown" (vs 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?

He came from His blest throne
Salvation to bestow;
But men made strange, and none
The longed-for Christ would know.
But, oh, my friend, My friend indeed,
Who at my need His life did spend!

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

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 "Everlasting God" (Brenton Brown) – Video

SENDING

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