

## 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

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Cody Krueger, Seminary Field Worker  
Cheryl Vohlken, Organist

### #(un)filtered

*“Following Jesus in a selfie world”*

**Sunday April 12, 2026 - Part 1**

*“#struggles” (overcoming) - 2 Corinthians 12:1-10*

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

## SHARING GOD’S PEACE

## INVOCATION & CALL TO WORSHIP

- P: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
C: **Amen.**  
P: In a world that demands we post only our best moments,  
C: **We come to the One who sees our deepest struggles.**  
P: We often hide our scars, but God’s grace meets us in our weakness.  
C: **Lord, let Your power be made perfect in us today.**  
P: It’s time to stop scrolling and start living.  
C: **To discover the beauty of God’s unfiltered grace.**



## OPENING HYMN LSB 465 “Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds” (VS 1-3)

Now all the vault of heav’n resounds  
In praise of love that still abounds:  
“Christ has triumphed! He is living!”  
Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear!  
Repeat their song of glory here:  
“Christ has triumphed! Christ has triumphed!”  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Eternal is the gift He brings,  
Therefore our heart with rapture sings:  
“Christ has triumphed! He is living!”  
Now still He comes to give us life  
And by His presence stills all strife.  
Christ has triumphed! He is living!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Oh, fill us, Lord, with dauntless love;  
Set heart and will on things above  
That we conquer through Your triumph;  
Grant grace sufficient for life's day  
That by our lives we truly say:  
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

## CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

P: Holy God, we confess that we spend more time polishing our image than we do tending to our souls. We hide our struggles behind filters and hashtags, fearing that our weakness makes us unlovable. Forgive us for our pride. Remind us that Your grace is sufficient, and that we do not have to be perfect to be Yours.

**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: Hear the good news: God's grace is not a reward for the perfect, but a gift for the weary. In Christ, your weaknesses are covered and your sins are forgiven.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

P: God's unfiltered grace pours over you completely, fully, mercifully. The masks come off. The scrolling stops. From a cross and a tomb, the Lord's extravagant grace flows into your broken heart, filling you to the brim, as He gives you a new identity and new hope. Hear the good news! Because of Jesus' death and resurrection, your sins are forgiven,

**C: "As far as the east is from the west!" (Ps 103:12) Amen.**

## HYMN OF RESPONSE LSB 465 "Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds" (VS 4)

Adoring praises now we bring  
And with the heav'nly blessed sing:  
"Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!"  
Be to the Father and our Lord,  
To Spirit blest, most holy God,  
All the glory, never ending!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us pray. Almighty God, whose power is made perfect in weakness: Grant us the courage to set aside our carefully crafted images and bring our true selves before You. May we find that Your grace is not a reward for our strength, but a refuge for our struggles. Through Jesus Christ our Lord

**C: Amen.**

✘ WORD ✘

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**      Genesis 32:22-31

The same night he arose and took his two wives, his two female servants, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. He took them and sent them across the stream, and everything else that he had. And Jacob was left alone. And a man wrestled with him until the breaking of the day. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he touched his hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. Then he said, "Let me go, for the day has broken." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go unless you bless me." And he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." Then he said, "Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with men, and have prevailed." Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. So Jacob called the name of the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life has been delivered." The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

Lector:            This is the Word of the Lord.

**People:            Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE READING**    2 Corinthians 12:1-10

I must go on boasting. Though there is nothing to be gained by it, I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord. I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows. And I know that this man was caught up into paradise—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows— and he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not utter. On behalf of this man I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses— though if I should wish to boast, I would not be a fool, for I would be speaking the truth; but I refrain from it, so that no one may think more of me than he sees in me or hears from me. So to keep me from becoming conceited because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from becoming conceited. Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me. But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

Lector:            This is the Word of the Lord.

**People:            Thanks be to God.**

**HOLY GOSPEL**            Matthew 26:36-46

Pastor:            The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 26<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

(The Gospel is read.)

Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, "Sit here, while I go over there and pray." And taking with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, he began to be sorrowful and troubled. Then he said to them, "My soul is very sorrowful, even to death; remain here, and watch with me." And going a little farther he fell on his face and prayed, saying, "My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will." And he came to the disciples and found them sleeping. And he said to Peter, "So, could you not watch with me one hour? Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." Again, for the second time, he went

away and prayed, "My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done." And again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. So, leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words again. Then he came to the disciples and said to them, "Sleep and take your rest later on. See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise, let us be going; see, my betrayer is at hand."

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

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

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**SERMON HYMN** "Lord, I Need You" (Matt Maher) – video

**SERMON** "#struggles" (overcoming) - 2 Corinthians 12:1-10 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 478** "The Day of Resurrection" (vs 1-3)

The day of resurrection!  
Earth, tell it out abroad,  
The passover of gladness,  
The passover of God.  
From death to life eternal,  
From sin's dominion free,  
Our Christ has brought us over  
With hymns of victory.

Let hearts be purged of evil  
That we may see aright  
The Lord in rays eternal  
Of resurrection light  
And, listening to His accents,  
May hear, so calm and plain,  
His own "All Hail!" and, hearing,  
May raise the victor strain.

Now let the heav'ns be joyful,  
Let earth its song begin,  
Let all the world keep triumph  
And all that is therein.  
Let all things, seen and unseen,  
Their notes of gladness blend;  
For Christ the Lord has risen,  
Our joy that has no end!

## 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 "Because He Lives" (Worship Initiative) - video

### SENDING

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

