

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

#(un)filtered

“Following Jesus in a selfie world”

Sunday, April 26, 2026 - Part 3

“#relationships” (restoring) - John 13:31-38

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHARING OF 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: We are more connected than ever, yet we long to be truly known.

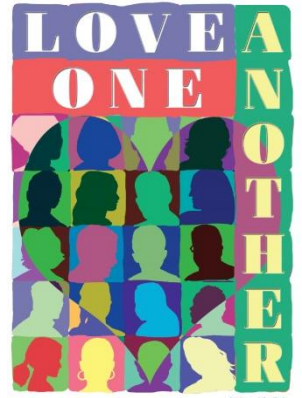
C: **Lord, move us past the screen and into the messiness of love.**

P: Let us be known by how we care for one another, as Christ cared for us.

C: **Restore our hearts, and restore our community.**

P: It’s time to stop scrolling and start living.

C: **To discover the beauty of God’s unfiltered grace.**



John 13:34

OPENING HYMN “Sing Sing Sing” (Chris Tomlin) – Sing

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

P: Father, we confess that we have traded deep community for digital convenience. We have settled for liking from a distance rather than loving up close. We have been quick to post and slow to listen. Forgive us for our isolation. Teach us to love one another with the same sacrificial heart that Christ showed us.

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: Christ has torn down the walls that divide us. Through His cross, we are reconciled to God and to one another. Know that you are called into the family of God.

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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray. Heavenly Father, who sent Your Son to move among us in flesh and blood: Help us to look up from our screens and see the neighbors You have placed beside us. Restore our capacity for deep connection and sacrificial love, that we may be known as Your disciples by the way we care for one another. Through Jesus Christ our Lord,

C: **Amen.**

✂ WORD ✂

OLD TESTAMENT READING 1 Samuel 18:1-5

As soon as he had finished speaking to Saul, the soul of Jonathan was knit to the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul. And Saul took him that day and would not let him return to his father's house. Then Jonathan made a covenant with David, because he loved him as his own soul. And Jonathan stripped himself of the robe that was on him and gave it to David, and his armor, and even his sword and his bow and his belt. And David went out and was successful wherever Saul sent him, so that Saul set him over the men of war. And this was good in the sight of all the people and also in the sight of Saul's servants.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING 1 John 4:7-21

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. We love because he first loved us. If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL John 13:31-38

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 13th chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

(The Gospel is read.)When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in him. If God is glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself, and glorify him at once. Little children, yet a little while I am with you. You will seek me, and just as I said to the Jews, so now I also say to you, 'Where I am going you cannot come.' A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, where are you going?" Jesus answered him, "Where I am going you cannot follow me now, but you will follow afterward." Peter said to him, "Lord, why can I not follow you now? I will lay down my life for you." Jesus answered, "Will you lay down your life for me? Truly, truly, I say to you, the rooster will not crow till you have denied me three times.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

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 LSB 477 "Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven"

Alleluia, alleluia!
Hearts to heav'n and voices raise:
Sing to God a hymn of gladness,
Sing to God a hymn of praise;
He who on the cross a victim
For the world's salvation bled—
Jesus Christ, the King of Glory,
Now is risen from the dead.

Alleluia, Christ is risen!
Death at last has met defeat:
See the ancient pow'rs of evil
In confusion and retreat;
Once He died, and once was buried:
Now He lives forevermore,
Jesus Christ, the world's Redeemer,
Whom we worship and adore.

Alleluia, alleluia!
Glory be to God on high:
Alleluia to the Savior
Who has gained the victory;
Alleluia to the Spirit,
Fount of love and sanctity!
Alleluia, alleluia
To the triune Majesty!

SENDING

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

