

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
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Cody Krueger, Seminary Field Worker
Cheryl Vohlken, Organist

#(un)filtered

“Following Jesus in a selfie world”

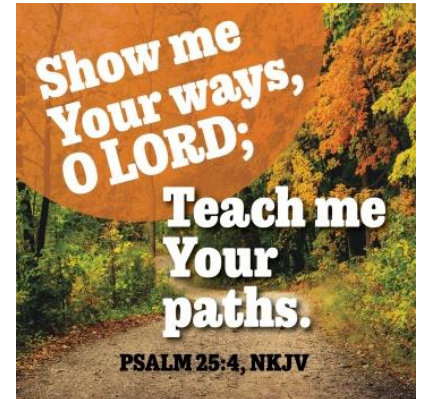
Ascension Sunday - May 17, 2026 - Part 6
“#loneliness” (conquering) - Psalm 25:1-7, 16-22

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: When the crowd is loud but our hearts feel isolated,
C: **We lift our souls to You, O Lord.**
P: You are the companion to the lonely and the guide to the wandering.
C: **Be our refuge and our peace; we trust in Your constant presence.**
P: It’s time to stop scrolling and start living.
C: **To discover the beauty of God’s unfiltered grace.**



OPENING HYMN “Song of Hope” (Chris Clayton) – Video

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

- P: Lord, we confess that we often try to fill our emptiness with more noise, more notifications, and more distractions. We admit that despite our many connections, we feel deeply alone. Forgive us for looking to screens for the comfort that only You can provide. Draw near to us as we draw near to You.
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: The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit. He will never leave you nor forsake you.
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. Comforting God, who is near to the brokenhearted and a friend to the solitary: Remind us that no notification or follower can fill the place intended for You. In our moments of isolation, be our constant companion and our surest hope, uniting us in the fellowship of Your Spirit. Through Jesus Christ our Lord,

C: **Amen.**

✠ **WORD** ✠

OLD TESTAMENT READING Psalm 25:1-7, 16-22

To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul. O my God, in you I trust; let me not be put to shame; let not my enemies exult over me. Indeed, none who wait for you shall be put to shame; they shall be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all the day long.

Remember your mercy, O LORD, and your steadfast love, for they have been from of old. Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of your goodness, O LORD!

Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted. The troubles of my heart are enlarged; bring me out of my distresses.

Consider my affliction and my trouble, and forgive all my sins.

Consider how many are my foes, and with what violent hatred they hate me. Oh, guard my soul, and deliver me! Let me not be put to shame, for I take refuge in you. May integrity and uprightness preserve me, for I wait for you.

Redeem Israel, O God, out of all his troubles.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE READING 2 Timothy 4:16-18

At my first defense no one came to stand by me, but all deserted me. May it not be charged against them! But the Lord stood by me and strengthened me, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed and bring me safely into his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 28:16-20

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 28th chapter.

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

(The Gospel is read.)

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN LSB 878 "Abide with Me" (VVS 1-2,5-6)

**Abide with me, fast falls the eventide.
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.**

**I need Thy presence ev'ry passing hour;
What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's pow'r?
Who like Thyself my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me.**

**I fear no foe with thee at hand to bless;
Ills have no weight and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still if Thou abide with me!**

**Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes;
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.
Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.**

SERMON "#loneliness" (conquering) - Psalm 25:1-7, 16-22 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 "To Love" (Kip Fox)

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 “Holy, Holy, Holy” (LSB Page 195 sung)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;
Heav’n and earth are full of Thy glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He
that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD *Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20;
1 Corinthians 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 \times 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 \times 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 “Lamb of God” (LSB page 198, sung)

**O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,
Have mercy upon us.**

**O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,
Have mercy upon us.**

**O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,
Grant us Thy peace. Amen.**

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“Came to My Rescue” (Shane Everette Band) – Video

“A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing” (493:1-4)

A hymn of glory let us sing!

New hymns throughout the world shall ring:

Alleluia, alleluia!

**Christ, by a road before untrod,
Ascends unto the throne of God.**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The holy apostolic band

Upon the Mount of Olives stand.

Alleluia, alleluia!

**And with His faithful foll’wers see
Their Lord ascend in majesty.**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

To them the shining angels cry,

“Why stand and gaze upon the sky?”

Alleluia, alleluia!

“This is the Savior,” thus they say;

“This is His glorious triumph day!”

Alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

“You see Him now, ascending high

Up to the portals of the sky.”

Alleluia, alleluia!

“Here after Jesus you shall see

Returning in great majesty.”

Alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

“Blest Be the Tie That Binds” (975)

**Blest be the tie that binds
Our hearts in Christian love;
The fellowship of kindred minds
Is like to that above.**

**Before our Father’s throne
We pour our ardent prayers;
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,
Our comforts and our cares.**

**We share our mutual woes,
Our mutual burdens bear,
And often for each other flows
The sympathizing tear.**

**When here our pathways part,
We suffer bitter pain;
Yet, one in Christ and one in heart,
We hope to meet again.**

**From sorrow, toil, and pain,
And sin we shall be free
And perfect love and friendship reign
Through all eternity.**

NUNC DIMITTIS “Song of Simeon” (LSB Page 199, sung)

**Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word,
For mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people,
A light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen**

50th ANNIVERSARY BLESSING – Roger & Phyllis Miesner

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN LSB 644 “The Church’s One Foundation” (VVS 1,3-5)

**The Church’s one foundation
Is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
She is His new creation
By water and the Word.**

From heav'n He came and sought her
To be His holy bride;
With His own blood He bought her,
And for her life He died.

Though with a scornful wonder
The world sees her oppressed,
By schisms rent asunder,
By heresies distressed,
Yet saints their watch are keeping;
Their cry goes up, "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping
Shall be the morn of song.

Through toil and tribulation
And tumult of her war
She waits the consummation
Of peace forevermore
Till with the vision glorious
Her longing eyes are blest,
And the great Church victorious
Shall be the Church at rest.

Yet she on earth has union
With God, the Three in One,
And mystic sweet communion
With those whose rest is won.
O blessed heav'nly chorus!
Lord, save us by Your grace
That we, like saints before us,
May see you face to face.

SENDING

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

C: Thanks be to God!

