

**Our mission
is to teach,
love,
and connect...
teach all ages
about Jesus,
love one another
as God loves us,
and connect
with others
in a hurting world.**

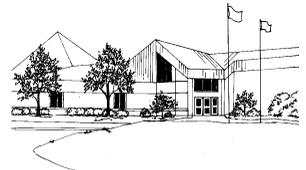
FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

11:00 AM, SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 2026



Our Savior Lutheran Church and School

**8305 Nottingham Parkway
Louisville, Kentucky 40222
Church (502) 426-1130
School (502) 426-0864**



**Church: www.oursaviorlouisville.com, www.facebook.com/oursaviorlouisville
School: www.oslslouisville.com, www.facebook.com/OSLSLouisville**

We warmly welcome you in the name of Jesus!

We are always glad to have you worship with us.

*If you do not have a regular church home,
we invite you to make our church home yours.*

- † Our worship services are on Sunday mornings at 8:30 and 11:00 AM. We also invite and encourage you to join us in Sunday School and Bible Study at 9:45 AM.
- † Assisted hearing devices, children's bulletins, and large print service folders are available; please ask an usher for one.
- † While we encourage children to be present in worship, the upstairs cry room opposite the elevator is available for you.
- † Our worship services can now be viewed on the church's Facebook page (live or after the service), as well as on our YouTube channel. *The Lutheran Hour* can be heard on Sundays at 9:00 AM at KAWZ (102.7FM).

Prayer before worship:

O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for the sake of His name. Amen.

AS WE GATHER Lent is a time when God prepares His people to celebrate the Paschal Feast, the resurrection of Jesus, with sincerity and truth. In the Reading from Ezekiel 37, we see the power of the Word that transforms dry bones into living flesh with the breath of the Spirit. This same Spirit lives in us and will raise us at the Last Day, which is exactly what we hear from Paul in the Reading from Romans 8. The Spirit who raised Christ will also give life to us. Having received the Spirit in Baptism, we join with Martha in confessing boldly that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, who comes to us today in His Word and Sacrament and will come again to call us out of our graves.

PRESERVICE MUSIC

RINGING OF BELL

OPENING SONG

"His Mercy Is More"

by M. Papa & M. Boswell

What love could remember no wrongs we have done?

Omniscient, all knowing, He counts not their sum.

Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore,

Our sins, they are many; His mercy is more.

**What patience would wait as we constantly roam?
What Father, so tender, is calling us home?
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor.
Our sins, they are many; His mercy is more.**

**What riches of kindness He lavished on us.
His blood was the payment; His life was the cost.
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford.
Our sins they are many; His mercy is more.**

Chorus
**Praise the Lord, His mercy is more.
Stronger than darkness, new every morn.
Our sins they are many; His mercy is more.
Praise the Lord, His mercy is more.
Stronger than darkness, new every morn.
Our sins they are many; His mercy is more.**

© 2016 Getty Music Hymns and Songs; Getty Music Publishing; Love Your Enemies Publishing; Messenger Hymns
For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com, CCLI License #841158

WELCOME

Please stand.

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS OF SINS

Leader: Out of the depths I cry to You, O LORD!

People: **O Lord, hear my voice! Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleas for mercy!**

Leader: If You, O LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?

People: **But with You there is forgiveness, that You may be feared.**

Silent reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Leader: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

People: **Most merciful God, we cry to You from the depths of our sin. We were born into those depths and need Your Word to call us out of them. We have sinned against You with our thoughts, our words, our actions, and our inactions. We have lived according to the flesh rather than the Spirit. From the depths, we wait for You. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, deliver our soul from death, our eyes from tears, and our feet from stumbling. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. You are precious in His sight because Christ is in you. As an ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.** *Remain standing for the Song of Praise.*

SONG OF PRAISE

“Great Are You, Lord”

by D. Leonard, J. Ingram, L. Jordan

Verse **You give life. You are love.
You bring light to the darkness.
You give hope. You restore ev'ry heart that is broken.
And great are You, Lord.**

Chorus **It's Your breath in our lungs,
So we pour out our praise,
We pour out our praise.
It's Your breath in our lungs,
So we pour out our praise to You only.**

Repeat Verse

Repeat Chorus twice

Bridge **And all the earth will shout Your praise.
Our hearts will cry,
these bones will sing.
Great are You, Lord! *Repeat Bridge***

Chorus

© 2012 Integrity's Alleluia! Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing (Integrity Music [DC Cook]))
Integrity's Praise! Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing (Integrity Music [DC Cook]))
Open Hands Music (Admin. by Essential Music Publishing LLC)
So Essential Tunes (Admin. by Essential Music Publishing LLC)
For use solely with the SongSelect®. Terms of Use.
All rights reserved. www.ccli.com
CCLI License # 841158

Please be seated.

COME AND HEAR THE GOOD NEWS!

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Ezekiel 37:1–14

Ezekiel prophesies over the bones, and the Lord brings them to life.

Reader: The hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. And he said to me, “Son of man, can these bones live?” And I answered, “O Lord GOD, you know.” Then he said to me, “Prophesy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. Thus says the Lord GOD to

these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD."

So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath; prophecy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live." So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army.

Then he said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are clean cut off.' Therefore prophecy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the LORD."

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 130; antiphon: v. 7

Pastor: O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love,

People: and with Him is plentiful redemption.

Pastor: Out of the depths I cry to You, O LORD!

People: O Lord, hear my voice! Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleas for mercy!

Pastor: If You, O LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?

People: But with You there is forgiveness, that You may be feared.

Pastor: I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in His word I hope;

People: my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning, more than watchmen for the morning.

Pastor: O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love,

People: and with Him is plentiful redemption.

Pastor: And He will redeem Israel from all his iniquities.

People: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Pastor: O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love,

People: and with Him is plentiful redemption.

EPISTLE READING

Romans 8:1–11

The Spirit who raised Jesus from the dead will also give life to you.

Reader: There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Please stand in reverence to the Gospel.

VERSE

John 11:25

People: I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in Me, though he die, yet shall he live.

HOLY GOSPEL

Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead.

John 11:1–45

Pastor: Hear now the Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eleventh chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord!

Pastor: Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. It was Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent to him, saying, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." But when Jesus heard it he said, "This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it."

Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. So, when he heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. Then after this he

said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now seeking to stone you, and are you going there again?" Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. But if anyone walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him." After saying these things, he said to them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken him." The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover." Now Jesus had spoken of his death, but they thought that he meant taking rest in sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus has died, and for your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." So Thomas, called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world."

When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in private, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." And when she heard it, she rose quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still in the place where Martha had met him. When the Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary rise quickly and go out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there. Now when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet, saying to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled. And he said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." Jesus wept. So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?"

Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you that you

have heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me." When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out." The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what he did, believed in him.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

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.

Please be seated.

SONG

"I Am the Resurrection and the Life"

by R. Repp

Chorus

**I am the resurrection and the life;
He who believes in Me will never die.
I am the resurrection and the life;
He who believes in Me will live a new life.**

**I have come to bring the truth.
I have come to bring you life.
If you believe then you shall live. *Chorus***

**In My word all men will come to know
It is love which makes the spirit grow.
If you believe then you shall live. *Chorus***

**Keep in mind the things that I have said.
Remember Me in the breaking of the bread.
If you believe then you shall live. *Chorus***

SERMON

"Many Wondered; Several Plotted; One Understood"

John 11-12

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD.

WE PRAISE THE LORD WITH OUR OFFERINGS *Tithes and offerings are collected by the ushers. We encourage you to sign and pass the Friendship Book at this time. All communicants are invited to read and prayerfully consider the following.*

We believe that...

- † *Holy Communion is a Sacrament since it was instituted by Christ Himself.*
- † *We are truly worthy and well prepared to partake of Holy Communion when we repent of our sins and have faith in these words, "Given and shed for you for the remission of sins."*
- † *We receive the bread and wine and the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ when, as repentant, true believers we partake of Holy Communion.*

Our Savior Lutheran Church practices close communion.

What does this mean?

Confirmed members of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod are welcome to commune with us. If you are not a confirmed member of our church or one of our sister congregations, we encourage you to speak to the pastor about preparing to participate in communion at Our Savior.

- † *Children and those not communing are welcome to come forward for a blessing (indicated by folded hands), or to remain seated for individual prayer. When the wine is offered, communicants have the choice of an individual cup or the common cup. Individual cups containing DARK WINE are alcohol-free for those with medical need only, please.*

OFFERTORY

Please stand.

PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

Pastor: Because the Lord has inclined His ear to us, let us call upon the One who delivers us in our time of need.

Lord of life, You look upon the ways in which sin has withered our existence, and You speak Your words of life over us. Bless all pastors, that they may speak that same word with the faithfulness of Ezekiel, for the benefit of Your church and her mission,

People: for Jesus is the resurrection and the life.

Pastor: Loving Father, You claimed us as children in Holy Baptism, setting us free from the law of sin and death by sending Your own Son in the likeness of human flesh. Help us to forsake the ways of sinful flesh and to walk according to the Spirit who lives in us,

People: for Jesus is the resurrection and the life.

Pastor: Fearless Lord, even in the threat of death You pursue those You love. Give us courage to follow You into those places where death taunts and persecution lingers. Help us to fix our eyes on the One who is the founder and perfecter of our faith,

People: for Jesus is the resurrection and the life.

Pastor: Almighty God, precious in Your sight is the death of Your saints. Strengthen our leaders, our government, and all You have put in place to protect us, that they look upon every life entrusted to their protection with the same care,

People: for Jesus is the resurrection and the life.

Pastor: Merciful Lord, You deliver those who cry to You from the depths of distress and anguish. Visit the sick, the dying, and the grieving, [*especially* . . .]. Bring them Your peace, especially as they might question Your ways and Your timing. Comfort them with the hope of life everlasting, when Your Word will restore their bodies again,

People: for Jesus is the resurrection and the life.

Pastor: Receiving the fullness of Your Spirit and offering these prayers to You, O gracious Lord, we trust that You hear and answer us according to Your good and gracious will,

People: for Jesus is the resurrection and the life. Amen.

Service of the Sacrament

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE AND SANCTUS

Pastor: 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, who overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

People: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory!"

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

WORDS OF CONSECRATION

Pastor: 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 \uparrow body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

Pastor: 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 \uparrow blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PEACE and AGNUS DEI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **Amen. Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!**

DISTRIBUTION *Please be seated. If you are communing, please follow the directions of the ushers.*

SONG

"I Come to the Cross"

by B. Batstone and B. Somma

**I come to the cross, seeking mercy and grace.
I come to the cross where You died in my place.
Out of my weakness and into Your strength,
Humbly, I come to the cross.**

**I come to the cross, seeking mercy and grace.
I come to the cross where You died in my place.
Out of my weakness and into Your strength,
Jesus, I come to the cross.**

**Chorus: Your arms are open, You call me by name,
You welcome this child that was lost.
You paid the price for my guilt and my shame.
Jesus, I come, Jesus, I come, Jesus, I come to the cross.**

© 1996 Meadowgreen Music Company/Maranatha! Music CCLI #851148.

Please stand.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up his countenance on you and \uparrow give you peace.

People: **Amen.**

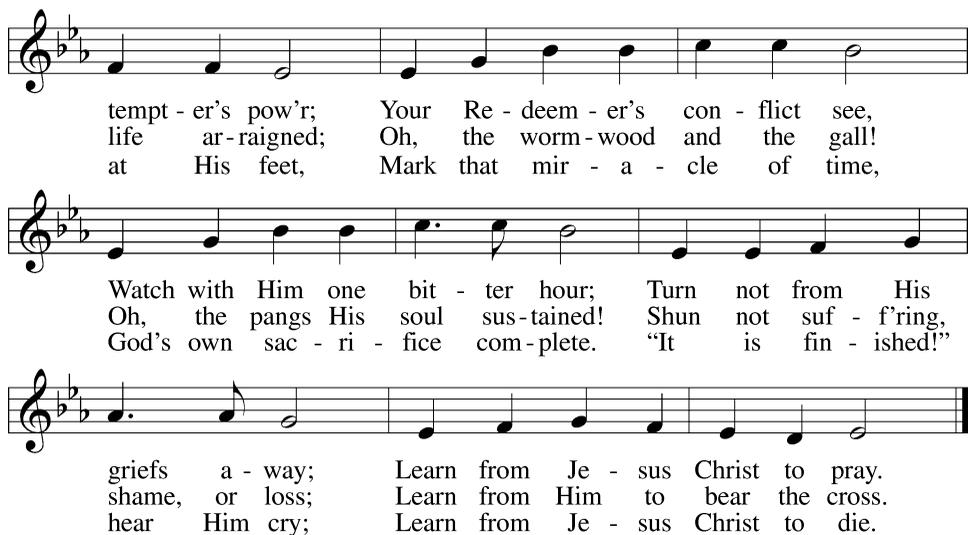
CLOSING SONG

Go to Dark Gethsemane

LSB 436, sts. 1-3



1 Go to dark Geth - sem - a - ne, All who feel the
2 Fol - low to the judg - ment hall, View the Lord of
3 Cal - v'ry's mourn - ful moun - tain climb; There, a - dor - ing



tempt - er's pow'r; Your Re - deem - er's con - flict see,
 life ar - rained; Oh, the worm - wood and the gall!
 at His feet, Mark that mir - a - cle of time,
 Watch with Him one bit - ter hour; Turn not from His
 Oh, the pangs His soul sus - tained! Shun not suf - f'ring,
 God's own sac - ri - fice com - plete. "It is fin - ished!"
 griefs a - way; Learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.
 shame, or loss; Learn from Him to bear the cross.
 hear Him cry; Learn from Je - sus Christ to die.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, Tune: Richard Redhead, 1820–1901, Text and tune: Public domain

SILENT PRAYER and POSTLUDE

Rev. Ron Richeson, Rev. Mark Whitsett

Vacancy Pastors

Mr. Chip Davidson

Principal

Mr. Scott Kamman

Director of Music

Mrs. Corrine Burmeister

DCE Intern

Mrs. Margy Whitsett

Deaconess

Readings for next Sunday, 3/29:

Isaiah 50:4–9a

Psalm 118:19–29

Philippians 2:5–11

Matthew 26—27