

Sunday, March 8, 2026  
3rd Sunday in Lent



Our Savior's Lutheran Church  
Website: [oursaviorswymore.com](http://oursaviorswymore.com)  
8:00 AM Worship 9:00 AM Fellowship  
Faith Formation 5:30 PM Wednesdays

Pastor Gary Grinvalds

Organist: Alice Meints or Sandy Eltiste

**Introduction to the day**

In today's gospel the Samaritan woman asks Jesus for water, an image of our thirst for God. Jesus offers living water, a sign of God's grace flowing from the waters of baptism. The early church used this gospel and those of the next two Sundays to deepen baptismal reflection during the final days of preparation before baptism at Easter. As we journey to the resurrection feast, Christ comes among us in word, bath, and meal—offering us the life-giving water of God's mercy and forgiveness.

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### \*BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
who forgives all our sin,  
whose mercy endures forever.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt  
and blots out all offenses.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you:  
Gracious God,

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word:  
Gracious God,

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For failing to recognize your coming reign,  
and for hindering the work of the Spirit: Gracious God,

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition,  
and for disdain the living water Christ offers: Gracious God,

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For disregarding voices from the margin,  
and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world:  
Gracious God,

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent,  
and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life:  
Gracious God,

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound.  
 Through faith, the free gift of God,  
 you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ.  
 In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.  
 The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead  
 dwells in you, pours God's love into your hearts,  
 and gives you life and peace.

**Amen.**

**ENTRANCE HYMN**

**ELW 523**

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty



1 O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty, Zi - on, let me en - ter there,  
 2 Gra - cious God, I come be - fore thee; come thou al - so un - to me;  
 3 Here thy praise is glad - ly chant - ed, here thy seed is du - ly sown;  
 4 Thou my faith in - crease and quick - en, let me keep thy gift di - vine;  
 5 Speak, O God, and I will hear thee, let thy will be done in - deed;



where my soul in joy - ful du - ty waits for God who an - swers prayer.  
 where we find thee and a - dore thee, there a heav'n on earth must be.  
 let my soul, where it is plant - ed, bring forth pre - cious sheaves a - lone,  
 how - so - e'er temp - ta - tions thick - en, may thy word still o'er me shine  
 may I un - dis - turbed draw near thee while thou dost thy peo - ple feed.



Oh, how bless - ed is this place, filled with so - lace, light, and grace!  
 To my heart, oh, en - ter thou, let it be thy tem - ple now!  
 so that all I hear may be fruit - ful un - to life in me.  
 as my guid - ing star through life, as my com - fort in all strife.  
 Here of life the foun - tain flows; here is balm for all our woes.

Text: Benjamin Schmolck, 1672–1737; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.  
 Music: UNSER HERRSCHER, Joachim Neander, 1650–1680

\*Blessed are you, O Lord our God, king of the universe,

**For in your wisdom you have formed us.**

You feed the hungry and clothe the naked,

**We bless you and praise your name forever.**

You set free those who are bound.

**We bless you and praise your name forever.**

You raise up those whose courage falters.

**We bless you and praise your name forever.**

You provide for our every need.

**Accept our grateful praises.**

You have called us from all peoples.

**We rejoice and bless your name forever.**

You bless your people with peace.

**We bless you and praise your loving grace.**

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, king of the universe,

**For in your wisdom you have formed us.**

#### **\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Merciful God, the fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## As the Sun with Longer Journey



1 As the sun with long-er jour-ney melts the win-ter's snow and ice,  
 2 Through the days of wait-ing, watch-ing, in the des-ert of our sin,  
 3 Praise be giv-en to the mak-er of the sea-sons' year-ly round:



with its slow-ly grow-ing ra-diance warms the seed be-neath the earth,  
 search-ing on the far ho-ri-zon for a sign of cloud or wind,  
 Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Spir-it—Source, Sus-tain-er, Lord of life,



may the sun of Christ's up-ris-ing gent-ly bring our hearts to life.  
 we a-wait the heal-ing wa-ters of our Sav-ior's vic-to-ry.  
 as the ev-er turn-ing a-ges roll to their e-ter-nal rest.

Text: John Patrick Earls, OSB, b. 1935

Music: NAGEL, Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929

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### FIRST LESSON: Exodus 17:1-7

*Because the thirsty Israelites quarreled with Moses and put God to the test, Moses cried out in desperation to God. God commanded Moses to strike the rock to provide water for the people. The doubt-filled question—“Is the LORD among us or not?”—received a very positive answer.*

<sup>1</sup> From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. <sup>2</sup> The people quarreled with Moses and said, “Give us water to drink.” Moses said to them, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?” <sup>3</sup> But the people thirsted there for water,

and the people complained against Moses and said, “Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?”<sup>4</sup> So Moses cried out to the LORD, “What shall I do for this people? They are almost ready to stone me.”<sup>5</sup> The LORD said to Moses, “Go on ahead of the people and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile and go. <sup>6</sup>I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.” Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. <sup>7</sup>He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, “Is the LORD among us or not?”

Word of God, Word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 95

## Read Responsively

<sup>1</sup> Come, let us sing to the LORD; let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

**<sup>2</sup> Let us come before God’s presence with thanksgiving and raise a loud shout to the LORD with psalms.**

<sup>3</sup> For you, LORD, are a great God, and a great ruler above all gods.

**<sup>4</sup> In your hand are the caverns of the earth; the heights of the hills are also yours.**

<sup>5</sup> The sea is yours, for you made it, and your hands have molded the dry land.

**<sup>6</sup> Come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the LORD our maker.**

<sup>7</sup> For the LORD is our God, and we are the people of God’s pasture and the sheep of God’s hand. Oh, that today you would hear God’s voice!

**<sup>8</sup> “Harden not your hearts, as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert.**

<sup>9</sup> There your ancestors tested me, they put me to the test, though they had seen my works.

<sup>10</sup> **Forty years I loathed that generation, saying, ‘The heart of this people goes astray; they do not know my ways.’**

<sup>11</sup> Indeed I swore in my anger, ‘They shall never come to my rest.’ ”

## **SECOND LESSON: ROMANS 5:1-11**

*Though we often hear that God helps those who help themselves, here Paul tells us that through Jesus’ death God helps utterly helpless sinners. Since we who had been enemies are reconciled to God in the cross, we now live in hope for our final salvation.*

<sup>1</sup> Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup> through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. <sup>3</sup> And not only that, but we also boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, <sup>4</sup> and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, <sup>5</sup> and hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

<sup>6</sup> For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup> Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. <sup>8</sup> But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. <sup>9</sup> Much more surely, therefore, since we have now been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. <sup>10</sup> For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. <sup>11</sup> But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Word of God, Word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **CHILDRENS SERMON**

**\*GOSPEL: JOHN 4:5-42**

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Jesus defies convention to engage a Samaritan woman in conversation. Her testimony, in turn, leads many others to faith.*

<sup>5</sup> [Jesus] came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph.<sup>6</sup> Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

<sup>7</sup> A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink."<sup>8</sup> (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.)<sup>9</sup> The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.)<sup>10</sup> 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."<sup>11</sup> The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?"<sup>12</sup> Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?"<sup>13</sup> Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again,<sup>14</sup> but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life."<sup>15</sup> The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

<sup>16</sup> Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back."<sup>17</sup> The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband,'<sup>18</sup> for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!"<sup>19</sup> The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet."<sup>20</sup> Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem."<sup>21</sup> Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem."<sup>22</sup> You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews."<sup>23</sup> But the hour is coming and is now here when the true worshipers will

worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him.<sup>24</sup> God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.”<sup>25</sup> The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming” (who is called Christ). “When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.”<sup>26</sup> Jesus said to her, “I am he, the one who is speaking to you.”

<sup>27</sup> Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you want?” or, “Why are you speaking with her?”<sup>28</sup> Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people,<sup>29</sup> “Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?”<sup>30</sup> They left the city and were on their way to him.

<sup>31</sup> Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, “Rabbi, eat something.”<sup>32</sup> But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you do not know about.”<sup>33</sup> So the disciples said to one another, “Surely no one has brought him something to eat?”<sup>34</sup> Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work.”<sup>35</sup> Do you not say, ‘Four months more, then comes the harvest’? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting.<sup>36</sup> The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together.<sup>37</sup> For here the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’<sup>38</sup> I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.”

<sup>39</sup> Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I have ever done.”<sup>40</sup> So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days.<sup>41</sup> And many more believed because of his word.<sup>42</sup> 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 truly the Savior of the world.”

The Gospel of our Lord

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 335

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross



1 Je - sus, keep me near the cross, there's a pre - cious foun - tain;  
 2 Near the cross, a trem - bling soul, love and mer - cy found me;  
 3 Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes be - fore me;  
 4 Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hop - ing, trust - ing ev - er,



free to all, a heal - ing stream flows from Cal - v'ry's moun - tain.  
 there the bright and morn - ing star sheds its beams a - round me.  
 help me walk from day to day with its shad - ow o'er me.  
 till I reach the gold - en strand just be - yond the riv - er.

*Refrain*



In the cross, in the cross be my glo - ry ev - er;



till my ran - somed soul shall find rest be - yond the riv - er.

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915  
 Music: NEAR THE CROSS, William H. Doane, 1832–1915

## \*APOSTLES CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.**

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen**

## OFFERING

### \*OFFERTORY

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

The musical notation consists of three staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The first staff covers the first line of lyrics, the second staff covers the second line, and the third staff covers the third line. The music ends with a double bar line.

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise him, all  
crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye  
heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711  
Music: OLD HUNDREDDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510-1561

## \*THE PRAYERS

Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

*A brief silence.*

O God, when suffering arises, preserve your church. Give to pastors, deacons, bishops, and all servants of your gospel the endurance that produces character and the hope that will never disappoint. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

When the waters run dry, sustain this earth. Send water to places languishing with drought (*especially*), and bring relief to places damaged by floods (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

When quarrels ensue, soften our hearts. Quell hostilities between nations and peoples, and reconcile all humans across the lines of race, class, nationality, moral conviction, religion, and all else that divides or oppresses. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

When your people thirst, satisfy their needs. Send water and food to all who need nourishment. Grant welcome to all who are excluded. Show your mercy to any in need (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

When we gather to worship, send us your Spirit. Renew our hearts through the joyful noise we make and bless the work of our church musicians and musical ensembles (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

O God, when death draws near, we rejoice in the promise of life with you. We remember all who have entered eternal rest, and we pray that you bring us the hope of sharing in your glory. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.

**Amen.**

## **\*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.

## **\*BLESSING**

The Lord bless us and keep us.

The Lord make his face shine on us and be gracious to us.

The Lord look upon us with favor and give us peace.

**Amen.**

## O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts



1 O Je - sus, joy of lov - ing hearts, the fount of  
 2 We taste you, ev - er - liv - ing bread, and long to  
 3 For you our rest - less spir - its yearn, wher - e'er our  
 4 O Je - sus, ev - er with us stay! Make all our



life, the light of all: from ev - 'ry bliss that earth im -  
 feast up - on you still; we drink of you, the foun - tain -  
 chang - ing lot is cast; glad, when your smile on us you  
 mo - ments fair and bright! Oh, chase the night of sin a -



parts we turn, un - filled, to hear your call.  
 head; our thirst - ing souls from you we fill.  
 turn, blest, when by faith we hold you fast.  
 way! Shed o'er the world your ho - ly light.

TEXT: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091–1153; tr. Ray Palmer, 1808–1887, alt.  
 MUSIC: WALTON, W. Gardiner. *Sacred Melodies*, 1815

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Believe the good news.

**Thanks be to God.**

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Erin has created a quarterly newsletter that is now available on the church website: [oursaviorswymore.com](http://oursaviorswymore.com) and facebook page. If you do not have access to either of these, there are printed copies on the table in the entryway.

There are sign up sheets on the table in the entryway for the classes that Pastor is offering to the congregation. If you are interested in any of these, please sign up. There are also descriptions of each class beneath the sign up sheet.

There is an extra 50” tv from the video package installation that is not needed. If anyone is interested in purchasing it, please contact a council member. The cost is \$300.

Please make your Thrivent Choice dollars donations **before March 31<sup>st</sup>**. You can log onto your Thrivent Account and direct the dollars or call them on the phone at 800-847-4836. **If you wish for your dollars to be designated to a certain ministry or cemetery you must tell your Treasurer the amount you donated and where you want them to go.** When the \$ comes to the treasurers from Thrivent they do not specify who donated what or where you desire it to go.

Upcoming Community coffees are as follows:

March 13—Welsh Center

March 20—Wymore Medical (at Park Lodge)

March 27—Our Saviors Lutheran

April 3—Wymore Library

### **Remembered in Our Prayers:**

Kent Hohensee

Kathleen Remmers

Kai Spann

Pastor Gary: Phone: (402) 658-2253

Email: [garygrinalds@gmail.com](mailto:garygrinalds@gmail.com)

If you wish to have Pastor visit you, please contact him to set up a time. Sunday afternoon & Thursday are his open days.

**Your Council leaders are:**

President: Josh Schmidt (402) 520-0950

Vice President: Chavonn Mailahn (308) 214-0039

Secretary: Rachel Frerichs (402) 239-0466

At Large: Roger Henrichs (402) 239-7740

Erin Saathoff (402) 239-9117

Jodi Wegner (402) 223-8263

Church Account Balance: 02/28/2026: \$42,983.57

Church Offerings: 03/01/2026: \$

Attendance 03/01/2026: 44

03/04/2026: 33

March Birthdays:

09 Linda Creevan

10 Weston Whitwer

11 Reese Beninghaus

14 Shirley Anderson

14 Larry Schmidt

16 Ileen Theye

20 Caleb Harms

21 Oaklyn Mailahn

24 Evan Saathoff

26 Brock Adams

27 Emalee Maxson

27 Jacob Oblinger

28 Paxx Adams

28 Loren Trauernicht

March Anniversaries

12 Gene & Carol Erdmann

20 Scott & Denielle Trauernicht

Please have any announcements for the bulletin to Pam by Wednesday noon each week. You may text or call her at (402) 239-2715 or send an email to the church at [oursaviorslutheranwymore@gmail.com](mailto:oursaviorslutheranwymore@gmail.com). Thank you.

## **LENTEN SERVICE SCHEDULE**

**Wednesday Lenten Services will be at 7:00 p.m. on the following days:**

**March 11, 2026**

**March 18, 2026**

**March 25, 2026**

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**Maundy Thursday, April 2, 2026 at 7:30 p.m.**

**Good Friday, April 3, 2026 at 7:30 p.m.**

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**EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 5, 2026**

**8:00 A.M. AT OUR SAVIOR'S**