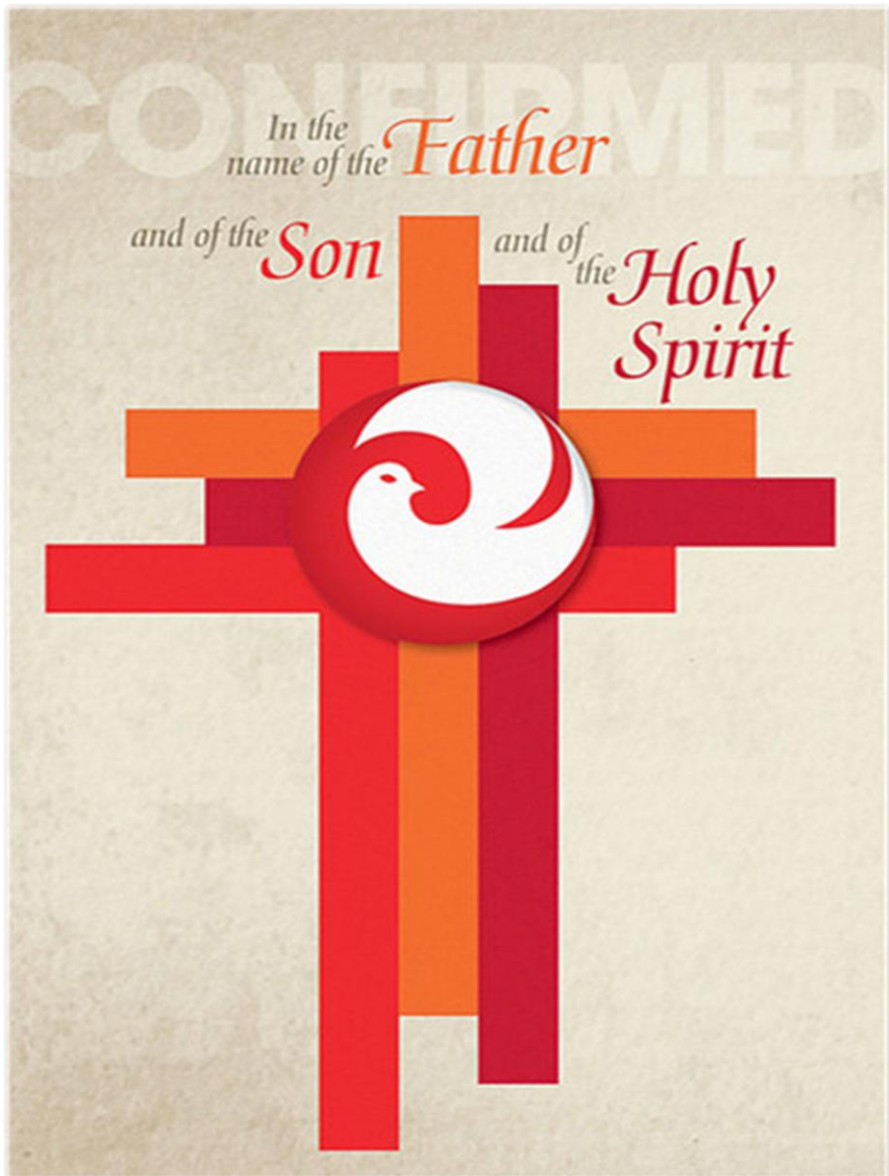


Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church & Preschool

Connecting people to Jesus as we gather, grow, and go.



Good Shepherd/Confirmation Sunday

April 26, 2026

8:00am & 10:45am

Welcome to Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church!

We greet you in the name of our risen Savior, Jesus Christ. We are glad you are worshipping with our family of faith and rejoice with you as God comes to us through His Word this day to bring His gift of forgiveness and life in Jesus.

If you have any questions, please seek out one of the ushers who will be happy to assist you.

Pastor Schultz & Pastor Ada look forward to meeting you at the end of the service.

ATTENDANCE REGISTRATION Members and visitors, please scan this QR code and register your attendance with us today. Thanks!



HEARING ASSISTANCE devices are available. Please talk to an usher.

YOUNG CHILDREN We believe that young children need to be brought to Jesus (Mark 10:14); and what better way than to include them in the regular worship life of the congregation! We **DO NOT** have a staffed nursery during church because we **encourage families to worship together**. Children's bulletins and worship activity bags are available to help quietly occupy those children too young to listen to the sermon. Please feel free to use the narthex as a cry room when needed. Monitors and speakers will assist in your participation.

EDUCATION HOUR (9:30-10:30am)

Adult Bible Class: Today we will be studying 1 Timothy.

Sunday School: Classes are offered for children who have turned 3 by September 1 through high school. Please ask an usher for assistance in locating classrooms.

Nursery: There is a nursery during education hour located in the lower level, Room 118.

HOLY COMMUNION In Holy Communion we celebrate the real presence of our Lord Jesus Christ as He gives us His true body and blood in and with the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of faith. In love for God's Word and in love for God's people, we do not want anyone to receive this blessed gift to their spiritual harm (1 Cor. 11:27-29). **Therefore, anyone who wishes to commune here for the first time and who is not a member of Beautiful Savior or a congregation of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, is asked to speak with Pastor Schultz or Pastor Ada before receiving Holy Communion.** Those not communing are still welcome to come receive a blessing.

Order of Service: Divine Service 1

HYMNS FOR TODAY'S SERVICE: LSB 709, 735, 618, 740, and 711

PRAYER AT THE BEGINNING OF WORSHIP

Lord, open now my heart to hear, And through your Word to me draw near;
Preserve that Word in purity That I your child and heir may be. *LW 197:1*

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION

PRELUDE

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

arr. Culli

PASTORAL GREETING

SHARING OF THE LORD'S PEACE

OPENING ANTHEM

Alleluia! Jesus is Risen

arr. Behnke

Intermezzo Ringers

(A setting of LSB 474)

Stand

✠ THE PREPARATION ✠

INVOCATION

(The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of your Baptism.)

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Matthew 28:19b

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

1 John 1:8-9

(A moment of silence to confess our specific sins.)

P Let us together confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. 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.**

P Almighty God in His mercy... and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

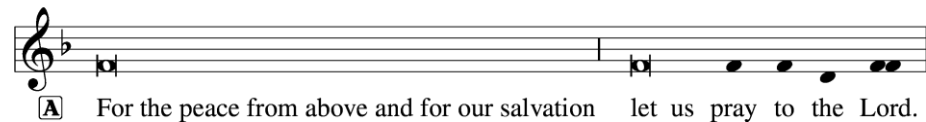
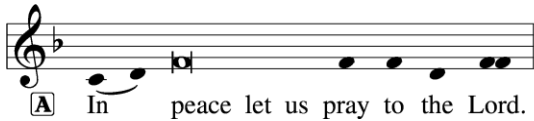
[John 20:19-23]

✠ THE SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

KYRIE ~~ *(Latin: Lord, Have Mercy)*

Mark 10:47

(The Kyrie is a litany, a prayer with a series of requests for all humanity first, and then for the whole Christian church. The people respond with the refrain, "Lord have mercy" making the prayer their own.)





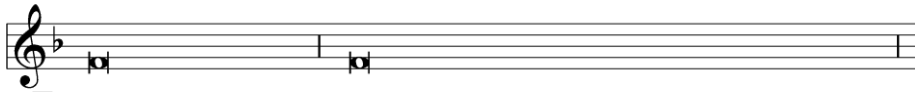
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



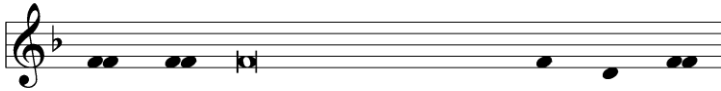
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE

This Is the Feast

Revelation 5:12-13; 19:5-9


Refrain




C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 — Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
5 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*
hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*
gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*

Final Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

2 Timothy 4:22

P Let us pray:

Almighty God, merciful Father, since You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us Your Holy Spirit that when we hear the voice of our Shepherd we may know Him who calls us each by name and follow where He leads; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sit

ANTHEM

I am His Lamb

Larson

Youth Choir

FIRST READING

Acts 2:42–47

⁴²They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴And all who believed were together and had all things in common. ⁴⁵And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

1 Peter 2:19–25

¹⁹This is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. ²⁰For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing

in the sight of God. ²¹For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. ²²He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. ²³When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. ²⁴He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

GOSPEL VERSE

Common

John 6:68

C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 10:1–10

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the tenth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹[Jesus said:] "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber. ²But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. ³To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. ⁵A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers." ⁶This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁷So Jesus again said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep.
⁸All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them.
⁹I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture.
¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Sit

READING THE FAITH *(as drawn from Luther's Small Catechism)*

BAPTISM PART 3

P How can water do such great things?

C **Certainly not just water, but the word of God in and with the water does these things, along with the faith which trusts this word of God in the water. For without God's word the water is plain water and no Baptism. But with the word of God it is a Baptism, that is, a life-giving water, rich in grace, and a washing of the new birth in the Holy Spirit, as St. Paul says in Titus, chapter three: "He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by His grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. This is a trustworthy saying." (Titus 3:5-8)**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pastor Mike Ada

SERMON HYMN

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

LSB 709

SERMON

"I came that they may have Life"

John 10:10

Pastor Mike Ada

Stand (8:00am service only)

APOSTLES' CREED *(8:00am service only) [located on the inside back cover of the hymnal]*

✠ The Rite of Confirmation ✠

10:45 am

CONFIRMATION HYMN

Christ Be My Leader

LSB 861



1 Christ be my Lead - er by night as by day; Safe through the
2 Christ be my Teach - er in age as in youth, Drift - ing or
3 Christ be my Sav - ior in calm as in strife; Death can - not



dark - ness, for He is the way. Glad - ly I fol - low, my
doubt - ing, for He is the truth. Grant me to trust Him; though
hold me, for He is the life. Nor dark - ness nor doubt - ing nor



fu - ture His care, Dark - ness is day - light when Je - sus is there.
shift - ing as sand, Doubt can - not daunt me; in Je - sus I stand.
sin and its stain Can touch my sal - va - tion: with Je - sus I reign.

CONFIRMATION ADDRESS

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles: "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Therefore, go 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 things that I have commanded You; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord's bidding. Jesus said, "Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father

who is in heaven." Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

P Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

R *Yes, I do.*

P Do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

R *Yes, I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.*

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

R *Yes, I believe 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.*

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

R *Yes, 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.*

P Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

R *I do.*

P Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

R *I do.*

P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

R *I do, by the grace of God.*

P We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord's Word and receive His Blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C **Amen.**

BLESSING OF THE CONFIRMANDS

PRAYER FOR THE CONFIRMANDS

(8:00 am service continues here.)

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For strength to praise our God aright, that our hearts and mouths would be filled with joy at the death and resurrection of Christ, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the forgiveness of our sins and the blessing of pastors who serve in Christ's name, that the Church would be built up in our time and in the ages to come, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For our confirmands, that God would continue to strengthen the faith given in Holy Baptism to life's end, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For those who have wandered from the household of faith, that faithful to His promises God would work all things in their lives to remind them of their need for His unending grace and steadfast love; and that they would return to the faith and delight in Christ, crucified and raised for them, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For our president; Congress; our governor; the legislature of our state; all who make, administer and judge our laws; and those who respond in emergency and disaster and guard our liberty, that the Lord would guide and protect them, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the servants of the Lord afflicted among us, [*especially _____,*] that God, the Great Physician, would grant them healing under the shadow of His wings, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P *Additional Prayers of Thanksgiving or Intercession*, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P Good Shepherd, almighty God, with You all the souls of the faithful rest in safety and in the assurance of the resurrection of all flesh. Make safe our way to join them, and bring us and all the saints into the marriage feast of the Lamb in His

kingdom; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

OFFERING

(Our offerings are collected at the door and brought forward and presented in thanksgiving to the Lord. If you missed this opportunity, your offering can be placed in the plate at the door as you leave.)

OFFERING PRAYER

✠ THE SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE



P The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22



C And al - so with you.

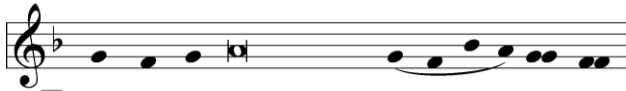


P Lift up your hearts.

[Colossians 3:1]



C We lift them to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

[Psalm 136]



C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

P It is truly good, right, and salutary...evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS~~(Latin: Holy, Holy, Holy)

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo-ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

P Lord, remember us in Your Kingdom and teach us to pray:

C **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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

*Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24;
Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25*

PAX DOMINI~~(Latin: Peace of the Lord)

John 20:19

(The pastor here makes a **declaration** of the peace we have with the Lord through the forgiveness offered in this Sacrament. Therefore, we boldly respond **AMEN!** – which means “Yes, yes, this is so!”)

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen!

AGNUS DEI~~(Latin: Lamb of God)

John 1:29



C Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.

INVITATION

P Welcome to the table of our Lord.

Sit

DISTRIBUTION

VISITORS, please read the statement concerning Holy Communion on page 2.

Personal Examination Before Communing

1. Do I believe I am a sinner and am I sorry for my sins?
2. Do I believe Christ's true body and blood to be present in the Lord's Supper for the forgiveness of sins?
3. Do I earnestly intend with the help of the Holy Spirit to amend my sinful life?

(For a longer examination see pages 329-330 of the hymnal.

Communion Prayers are located inside the front cover of the hymnal.)

Instructions for Communing

We use continuous kneeling tables for Holy Communion. The congregation will be ushered forward to kneel. You will receive the Body of Jesus from the Pastors and then the Blood of Jesus from the Elder/Vicar. You may receive either from the common cup or the individual cup. When you have sufficiently meditated, stand, reverence the altar, and return to your seat. Those not communing will receive a blessing from the pastor.

Non-alcoholic white wine is located in the center of each tray and should only be used by those with medical conditions prohibiting the use of wine.

Gluten-free wafers are available from the pastor when you come forward.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

LSB 735 *Have No Fear, Little Flock*

LSB 618 *I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table*

LSB 740 *I Am Jesus' Little Lamb*

LSB 689 *Let Me Be Thine Forever*

Stand

DISMISSAL

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

Thank the Lord



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

BENEDICAMUS/BENEDICTION

P Let us bless the Lord.

Psalm 103:1

C **Thanks be to God.**

P The Lord bless you...and ✠ give you peace.

Numbers 6:24-26

C **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us

LSB 711

POSTLUDE

Christ Be My Leader

Manz

**Before you go:
Visitors and Members –
please register your attendance.**



Rev. Joel Schultz, Senior Pastor
Rev. Michael Ada, Associate Pastor
Rev. John Kastner, Associate Pastor (Lead Pastor LOTW)
Vicar Jonah Wilson, Student Pastor

A Member Congregation of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod
 13145 S. Blackbob Road, Olathe, KS 66062
 Phone: (913) 780-6023 website: www.bslcks.org

SERVING THE LORD AND US TODAY:

Preaching Pastor Mike Ada
 Celebrant..... Pastor Joel Schultz
 Liturgist..... Vicar Jonah Wilson
 Organist..... Lauran Delancy
 Acolytes..... (8:00) Sophia Teply & TBD (10:45) Emmett Gruhn & Adam Stoll
 Greeters (8:00) Beau & Ann Campbell (10:45) Brad Keefe
 Visitor Hosts..... (8:00) Bruce & Suzie Kempin (10:45) Scott & Angela Hodge
 Ushers.....(8:00) Randall Barrett, Roger Berardi, Beau Campbell, Bob Newman,
Andrew Nichols, & Chris Wibe
(10:45) Kurt Batten, Laurie Cichon, Steve Cichon, & Rick Vaughn
 Altar Guild..... Carol Brandt, Jim & Nancy DeLaney, Angela Hodge & Gina Stoehr
 Nursery..... Zach & Alaina Booth (Helping Hands – Adam & Chelsie Holste)
 Counters Jym Fees & Chuck Tuttle
 Altar Flowers Carol Brandt in Memory of Dale Brandt’s Birthday
 Doug & Jennifer Mahnken’s 31st Wedding Anniversary

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Divine Service One from Lutheran Service Book
Parts of the catechism reprinted from Luther's Small Catechism
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VOICE OF THE MARTYRS PRAYER REQUEST

Town Rebuilding After Attacks - Democratic Republic of the Congo,

The Congolese town of Tchabi is rebuilding after suffering a series of attacks from an Islamist group beginning in 2019. Over the course of two years, the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) murdered dozens of residents and took many hostages. By Sept. 2023, government troops had brought some peace to the region, and residents who had fled began returning. Though the ADF was never fully eradicated and continues to operate in the eastern DRC, the town has begun to rebuild, and VOM has been active in providing spiritual care, distributing Bibles and helping residents plant community gardens. "This project is bringing the [Christian] believers and non-believers together," a front-line worker said, "because those who are not believers are also joining the morning prayers and [devotions] before gardening." He added that a Muslim man become a follower of Christ through the gardening project.

Confirmation Class 2026

Rowen Josephine Clark

Rowen is the daughter of Brett and Bobbie Clark. She was born on January 23, 2012, in Shawnee Mission, Kansas. Rowen was baptized at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church in Olathe, KS on March 18, 2012. Rowen's baptismal sponsors are Brian Kobliska and Lindi Kobliska.

1 Peter 5:7 (NIV), Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

That verse has become very important to me. For a long time, I struggled with prayer and talking to Christ. I knew about God, but when real problems came along, I often felt like Jesus couldn't really help me work through them because He isn't in the flesh right next to me. I feared the worst, leaned on other people, and talked to everyone but God. Even though I knew the truth—that I wasn't alone—I didn't always live like I believed it.

I used to pray about my stress, but nothing felt different. Now I realize I was praying without truly trusting that God could help me. My parents and friends would ask, "Have you prayed about it?" and honestly my first thought was, That won't change anything. I worried that my doubts meant God wouldn't listen or that my relationship with Him wasn't strong enough. But God's promise does not depend on my feelings—He listens because of Christ.

But then I remembered something important: Jesus Himself suffered. On the cross, He suffered physically, emotionally, and spiritually. He understands suffering, doubt, and fear.

When I think about Peter, it gives me comfort. He was a normal person like me, doing everyday work as a fisherman. When Jesus told him to leave his old life and follow Him, Peter must have been terrified. But Peter trusted Jesus, who cared for him and taught him so much. Peter failed more than once, but he was forgiven and was even trusted to lead others by sharing God's Word. That shows how much God cares for imperfect people like Peter and like me. Peter's words remind me that I am not alone. God is with me at all times. He loves me, and He wants me to come to Him with my anxieties and fears. He will lift me up in His own time.

I've started to pray differently. I'm trying to bring all my fears, doubts, stress, problems, and pain to Him, and to trust that He will lead me in the right direction even when I don't understand how. I'm working every day to stay firm in the faith that God has given me, because doubt does not remove me from God's love. Peter denied knowing Jesus three times, and Jesus still forgave him and loved him. Jesus already paid for my sins on the cross. I don't have to earn His love or strive to be good enough. I am saved by God's grace through faith in Jesus, and I can trust His promises.

As Jesus hung on the cross, He was loving the people He loved and came to save. This reminds me that He will always care for me. He reigns on His throne, and I am never alone in my problems. I can cast my anxieties on Him.

Brielle Jean Francis

Brielle is the daughter of Michael and Heather Francis. Brielle was born on July 13, 2012, in Mason City, IA. She was baptized on August 26, 2012, at First Lutheran Church in Britt, IA. Brielle's baptismal sponsors are Brent and Tara Gast.

Proverbs 3:5, "Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding."

This verse shows me what it really means to rely on God, not just say I believe in Him. It reminds me that faith is something I live out every day by trusting Him. Trusting God with "all your heart" means giving Him everything—my worries, decisions, and future. It's easy to trust Him when things are going well, but it's harder when I'm confused or stressed. This verse reminds me to still trust Him even when I don't understand what's happening.

The part about not leaning on my own understanding stands out to me because I like to figure things out on my own and be in control. But this reminds me that God knows more than I do and sees the bigger picture. Sometimes what I think is best isn't actually what's right, but God always knows what I need. This verse encourages me to pray, listen to God's Word, and trust His wisdom instead of rushing into decisions. It also gives me peace because I know I don't have to figure everything out on my own.

Jack Frederick Gruhn

Jack is the son of Fred and Lisa Gruhn. Jack was born on April 10, 2012, in Overland Park, KS. He was baptized on May 13, 2012, in Olathe, KS at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church in Olathe, KS. Jack's baptismal sponsors are Beth Luhman and Shelly Meyer.

Philippians 4:13, "I can do all things through him who strengthens me."

In the section this verse is found in, Paul talks about God's provision and how God will provide for His believers. He says that throughout all of his struggles, his faith has given him hope to keep moving. He tells the Philippians that he was grateful to them for supporting him when other congregations would not. In the notes for this verse, it says that God's wisdom in His Word and the work of the Holy Spirit allow us to experience difficult things that benefit us and others.

To me, this verse means that with God on my side I can endure anything and do what He calls me to do. It also means that God will always be with me, and that I can trust Him to protect me. David trusted in God while fighting Goliath, and he was given the strength to defeat the giant. Job trusted in the Lord through his suffering and did not give up hope. Joseph suffered as a slave in Egypt, but his faith allowed him to ascend the ranks and become second-in-command of all of Egypt. These stories show me that the “all things” Paul was referring to were our daily trials as Christians living in this sinful world, and that with God we can endure them.

Jack Hudson McDonald

Jack is the son of Jeff and Rebecca McDonald. Jack was born on July 4, 2011 in Kansas City, MO. Jack was baptized on August 7, 2011, at Faith Lutheran Church, in Gering, NE. Jack’s baptismal sponsor is Zach Chain.

Proverbs 3:5, “Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.”

Proverbs 3:5 tells us to trust in the LORD with all our heart and not to lean on our own understanding, but what does this mean for you and me? How does it apply to a 21st-century Christian? Proverbs 3 is an informative chapter of the Bible that teaches us to live wisely in the fear of the Lord. Proverbs 3:5 captures an important point: we are human and, because of sin, we are flawed by nature. So we should not rely on our own ideas about the world, but rely on God and His Word. Even though God gives us a clear path to follow, it is easy to wander from it (Matthew 7:13–14).

Everything the world tells us is that we can only really trust ourselves, and that we should work everything out on our own. Family members break our trust, friends move far away, and teachers and mentors pass away. Suddenly, we start thinking that we just have to push through on our own: “If I just put in the work, I can fix it.” We stop trusting in God and instead turn to money, politics, or our personal vices for security and hope. Whatever we trust the most can become an idol—a false god—in our lives.

In Proverbs 3:5, God calls us to trust Him. He is faithful and keeps His promises, and in Christ He forgives our sins and gives us eternal life. Martin Luther taught from Scripture that salvation is God’s gift—by grace alone, received through faith—and that our works do not earn our salvation. Because the Lord is in control, we do not have to be consumed with worry about world events or what might happen next. Instead, we can put our trust in the Lord.

The reason I chose Proverbs 3:5 as my confirmation verse is that it shows what we should be as Christians. We should not put ourselves above God, but instead trust in Him. We should not let the world dictate what we think, but listen to God’s Word. God has a plan for me, so I do not need to

be anxious about what is happening in the world or in the economy. After all, the Lord is the One who made me, so He knows what is best for me.

Talia Ann Marie Neuschafer

Talia is the daughter of Doug and Michelle Neuschafer. Talia was born on February 7, 2012 in Wichita, KS. Talia was baptized on April 29, 2012, at Christ Lutheran Church, in Augusta, KS. Talia's baptismal sponsors are Jeff Chapman and Emily Linklater.

James 1:17, "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change."

To me, this verse means that God is the creator and giver of everything truly good in our lives. When the verse says that every good gift comes "from above," it means that all we have ultimately comes from God. No matter what you look at, it is a gift from Him. A gift is truly good because it is given out of God's love and generosity and is intended for our benefit. There are so many seen and unseen gifts in our lives. One gift we see clearly is Jesus. He was sent by God from above for us and for our sin, so that we may be forgiven and have eternal life with Him. Because God created and provides for everything, there is nothing we have that is not a gift from Him; every single thing we have is a blessing. Only true goodness comes from God, so every gift that has that true goodness comes from Him.

Little things we have, like a beautiful sunset or a song you really like, are good gifts from God, too. But the goodness James is talking about is more than a temporary feeling that makes us happy; it is goodness that lasts, rooted in God Himself. So, we should look at our lives with an eternal standpoint and ask whether something is truly good according to God's Word or whether it only seems good in the moment. It might feel like a gift from God but if it's not pure then it's sin, or it is temptation. Temptation is what the devil shows you, what he wants you to fall for. When you keep falling for his tricks repeatedly you are turning your back to God But only God can and will give true goodness, but you must have your eyes only on God. He must be the center of your life, not just believing in him, but allowing him to guide your choices throughout it.

Not only should we value God, but we should always be humble with God, always be grateful, always be appreciative of the blessings he gives you. When we take God's gifts for granted or make them more important than God, we are falling into sin. In His love, God may allow us to face hardship or loss to discipline us and turn our hearts back to Him – not because He stops loving us, but because He wants us to rely on Him. He is the Giver, and we are dependent on His mercy. Only then can we fully recognize the magnitude of God's gifts, the greatness that comes with them. No matter how big or how small it is, you woke up today, you have food in your stomach, that's a blessing. Appreciate everything that God has given you, with joy, trust and faith in him.

At the end of the verse it says, "coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change." "Father of lights" is a way of describing God as the Creator of the lights in the sky (like the sun, moon, and stars) and as the source of all true light. So, it's something that is going to shine no matter the time of day, and it's going to burn just as bright as before. James in this verse is equalizing the Father of lights and God, saying God doesn't change. That must mean his goodness never changes, his love for us never changes and the way he views and treats you is never going to change.

For me, as a child of God, I must not only believe in God but allow him to guide me the right way, through the storm, not just praising him when I am in the light, but also when I am in the darkness.

Samuel Frederick Schlef

Samuel is the son of Eric and Kerri Schlef. Samuel was born on June 14, 2012 in Overland Park, KS. Samuel was baptized on June 24, 2012, at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, in Olathe, KS. Samuel's baptismal sponsors are Brett and Ashley Stoll.

Revelation 2:10, "Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and for ten days you will have tribulation. Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life."

God says, "Do not fear." Why does He say this, though? It is because He is with us, and He will protect us against the devil. God proclaims in Matthew 28:20, "And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." He also says in Hebrews 13:5, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." This also means He is always with us wherever we are. He is there watching over us.

If one man says, "God is tempting me," he is lying, for God tempts no one. Temptation comes from the devil, the world, and our sinful flesh. You also cannot tempt God. God says in Revelation 2:10, "Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life," symbolizing eternal life with Him in heaven. Unsurprisingly, God doesn't like sin. He also does not sin.

Luther's Small Catechism says that in Baptism God gives the forgiveness of sins and eternal salvation to all who believe this. The crown of life symbolizes having eternal life with Jesus. You might be wondering whether eternal life means I get to stay on earth forever. The answer is no. You receive eternal life in heaven with Jesus, not on this corrupt earth.

God talks about many things in the Bible, one of those being eternal life. We receive eternal life through Baptism, as God works through His Word and Sacraments to give us faith and forgiveness. But eternal life doesn't mean you live an earthly life forever; it means you get to go to heaven instead of hell because you have been forgiven for Jesus' sake. God also teaches us to fear, love, and trust in Him.

The First Commandment, "fear, love, and trust in God above all things," is important because the Bible also says, "for I the LORD your God am a jealous God" (Exodus 20:5). That means that He hates it when you sin and drift from Him.

Skylar Dakota Sears

Skylar is the daughter of Buddy and Sharon Sears. Skylar was born on August 2, 2011 in Shawnee Mission, KS. Skylar was baptized on October 2, 2011, at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, in Olathe, KS. Skylar's baptismal sponsors are Kristie Myers and Kyle Osweiler.

Joshua 1:9, "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

I chose the Bible verse Joshua 1:9 for a handful of reasons. Whenever I'm having a difficult time being confident in myself and in God's promises, I read this verse. It helps me feel like a strong child of God and that I will never be all alone. It teaches me how to handle fear, challenges, and uncertainty in my life every day. It is a reminder that God has given me strength to be assured in my faith. There are times in my life when I feel stressed about what's going to happen next and how I will handle certain situations that might come my way. It's easy for me to get overwhelmed and want to shut down, but instead this verse tells me to be strong and courageous and to have faith, hope, and trust in God and His plans for me.

Another important part of this verse is where it says, "Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed." Feeling scared is a normal emotion everyone experiences, but this reminds me not to let fear consume me. I have a tendency to doubt myself, so thinking about these words when I start to get lost in my thoughts helps me stay calm and believe in myself, just like God does. I also have a hard time trying new things and stepping out of my comfort zone. So, this verse is a good reminder to be courageous and not be afraid to mess up—whether it's from playing wiffle ball in P.E. or sharing my beliefs with another student that I don't know that well. It has taught me that having courage isn't about not having fears, but choosing to overcome them.

In addition to these reasons, this verse helps me with discouragement. Even though I like to plan out what is going to happen, it doesn't always go my way. So, instead of getting scared and freaking out when things don't go my way, I need to remind myself that God is with me and to remain faithful to him through whatever unexpected things come my way. To me, Joshua 1:9 isn't just a random verse I chose for a confirmation essay; it's a reminder of the strength, courage, and comfort God has given me. It encourages me to be strong during hard times, courageous in my life, and confident knowing that whatever I face, God will always be with me wherever I go.

Ethan Alexander Wolff

Ethan is the son of Ryan and Tara Wolff. Ethan was born on April 5, 2011 in Des Moines, IA. Ethan was baptized on May 8, 2011 at Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church in Indianola, IA. Ethan's baptismal sponsors are Kevin Beck and Deborah Martin.

Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV), "'For I know the plans I have for you,' declares the Lord, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.'"

I chose Jeremiah 29:11 as my confirmation verse because it has been imprinted on my heart since second grade. My life can sometimes feel confusing or stressful, especially when I think about my future: What career will I have? Where will I live? What challenges might I face? God has a purpose for my life; it is not random. This verse reminds me that I don't have to worry about my future because God is guiding my path. Even when I don't know what will happen next, God already does. This gives me hope and comfort. It reminds me to trust God and to know that things will work out the way He has planned, as I continue to pray, seek, and call upon Him.

Jeremiah 29:11 gives me hope because it is a daily reminder that God's plans are good, even during difficult times. Jeremiah's message reminds me that my faith is built on trusting God even when I cannot see my future clearly. When things don't go the way I expect, I can remember that God's plans are bigger than I could ever imagine. In the book of Jeremiah, God spoke to the Israelites who were in exile in Babylon. He promised that He had not forgotten them and that He would bring them hope for the future. Jeremiah reminded them to seek the LORD with all their hearts and to pray to Him, trusting that God hears His people. This reminds me that difficult moments in life are not meaningless, but that God can use them for His good purposes. Even when life feels uncertain or challenging, I can trust that God is at work. Like the people who first received this message from the prophet Jeremiah, I am reminded to remain patient and faithful.

I also remember that God's greatest plan for me is not just an easier life, but forgiveness and eternal life through Jesus. Because of what Christ has done, I can have real hope—no matter what happens. I trust God, knowing that He cares for me, and I will continue to follow Him with hope, confidence, and perseverance. Jeremiah also reminds me that God has a path and plans specifically for me. When things don't go the way I expect, I can remember that setbacks may be a part of God's bigger plans—guiding me and teaching me. This motivates me to work hard, be patient, and stay faithful to God, knowing that my efforts and experiences can be used for something meaningful. Instead of being afraid of my future, I can look forward to it with confidence as God guides my decisions and my dreams.

PRAYERS REQUESTED THIS WEEK

For eight of our youth who are being confirmed this morning in the 10:45am service: **Rowen Clark, Brielle Francis, Jack Gruhn, Jack McDonald, Talia Neuschafer, Samuel Schlef, Skylar Sears, and Ethan Wolff.**

For **Callan Roy**, Tim and Karen Hagen's 20 month old grandson, a prayer of thanksgiving for a successful open heart surgery and his continued healing.

For **Annabelle Muller**, Jennifer Kesinger's friend's, a prayer of thanksgiving for healing after a serious car accident.

For **Maddie Walz and Brandon Rayos**, as they were joined in holy matrimony on April 25th.

For **Carisa McMullen**, who is having meniscus surgery on Tuesday, April 28th.

For **Lily Morgan**, Dan and Sandy Jameson's granddaughter, who has been diagnosed with a very rare bone cancer.

For **Valerie Kandt**, Kim Burdett's sister-in-law, who was diagnosed with esophageal cancer.

For **Mindy Muller**, Jennifer Kesinger's friend, who is recovering from a broken ankle and other personal challenges.

For **Gilbert Voice**, Eric Olson's uncle/Carol Olson's brother, who fell and is recovering from hip replacement surgery.

For **Michael Baker**, Doris Baker's husband, who is recovering from surgery on Monday, April 20th.

For **Western Kansas and Nebraska**, as the farmers and ranchers are in desperate need of rain.

For **Christy McCombs, Jude and Paul Stapf**, as they mourn the death of their grandfather/great-grandfather Don Lowry.

For **Brett and Bobbie Clark and family**, as they mourn the death of Brett's uncle Dennis Eige.

CONTINUED PRAYERS

For **Renee Elliott**, who is recovering from kidney stone removal surgery.

For **Peyton Werling**, who is recovering from ACL surgery.

For **Jordan Bishoff**, Carol Brandt's stepsister Michelle's son, who was in a serious car accident last week in Colorado.

For **Dan and Sandy Jameson**, as they mourn the death of their family friend Denise Smith who died from a car accident.

For the **family and friends of Ruth Zych**, former BSLC member, at her death.

For **Jackson Collins**, Sharlene Sears best friend's 8 year old son whose cancer has spread and has been placed in hospice.

For **Stan Behrman**, Scott Behrman's father, who is diagnosed with stage 3 kidney disease.

For **Dave Seutter**, who is having some additional testing done before knee replacement surgery.

For **Sherri Webb**, who is hospitalized with an infection that the doctors may be able to provide the best treatment.

For **God to bring peace in the Middle East and safety for our troops.**

For **Ray Cromer**, Shirley Knese's brother who has complete kidney failure.

For **Shirley Knese**, who is now on hospice care.

For **Marcella Ronsick**, David Ronsick's grandmother, who has Leukemia and nearing life's end.

For **Bill Coiner**, who is in the advanced stages of Alzheimer's disease.

For **our expectant mothers: Audra Bruschi, Michelle Giangrosso, Chanel Gloe, Debra Lewallen, Marissa Lippe, Amy Oestmann, Peyton Ohlman, Aubrey Scarlett, and Stacey Vanderpool** and their unborn children, and for those who long for God's gift of children.

For **those undergoing cancer treatment: Patty Allen, Brad Alyea, Tonya Baker, Mandy Bender, Jeff Beverstock, Jackson Collins, Richard Cooley, Christie Crooks, Peggy Doane, Brad Gellerstedt, Maya Goudy, Michelle Hill, John Huss, Brian Jenkins, Beth Johnson, Lauren Kandt, Carl King, Linda Knight, Tammie Kohl, Steven Koontz, Marilyn Kucks, Mark Kurz, Judy Landall, John Mahnken, Bonnie Malloch, Lorette Marsh, Bill Marshall, Holly McFarland, Susan Mountain, Melissa Nesemeier, Pam Ott, Brad Reece, Lori Russel, Lisa Schaefer, Brian Schissel, Robert Schmidt, Dave Semro, Tom Serafin, Tyler Smith, Carol Starnes, Eydie Taylor, John Turek, Cindy Whitney, Tyson Wolfer and Pam Young.**

For the **LCMS** as we approach the time for the convention as well as all Recognized Service Organizations (RSOs) of the LCMS in particular the official auxiliaries **Lutheran Women in Mission (LWML)** and the **Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM)**.

For **our partner church in Zacapa, Guatemala**: Pray that God would bless this congregation with church members and the community that they would be strengthened and encouraged in His faith.

For **our neighbors at Fieldstone Apartments**, that God would bless them through our interactions, and they may come to know Christ.