

Welcome to Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church

5631 N Adams Road
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304
Phone: 248.646.5041
Website: www.blscmi.org

Sunday Worship Schedule
9:00 – Traditional
11:15 – Contemporary style
3rd Sunday of the month at 10:15—
Service of the Word for Wholeness

Counterfeit Gods

“The Power and the Glory”

9:00—October 13, 2024

Humans seek power and control at the expense of others in order to gain security, thereby making power and control a counterfeit god we worship. Today, we hear about Nebuchadnezzar, King of Babylon, who desired power above all else and yet was stripped of that power by God. When Nebuchadnezzar came to his senses, he recognized all he had was a gift from the real God, not from himself.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Flowers in Loving Memory of Don Booth

GATHERING WORSHIP MUSIC

“This Is My Father’s World”

Michael Burkhardt

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have honored you with our lips, but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues. The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes. In our desire to be first we make distinctions among ourselves. We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last. In your great mercy, forgive us our sins. Draw near to us with grace in time of need, and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P: God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven.

C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN *“O God, Beyond All Praising”* v. 1 & 3

ELW 880

- 1 O God beyond all praising, we worship you today
and sing the love amazing that songs cannot repay;
for we can only wonder at ev'ry gift you send,
at blessings without number and mercies without end:
we lift our hearts before you and wait upon your word,
we honor and adore you, our great and mighty Lord.

- 3 Then hear, O gracious Savior, accept the love we bring,
that we who know your favor may serve you as our King;
and whether our tomorrows be filled with good or ill,
we'll triumph through our sorrows and rise to bless you still:
to marvel at your beauty and glory in your ways,
and make a joyful duty our sacrifice of praise.

THE GREETING

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. Almighty and ever-living God, increase in us your gift of faith, that, forsaking what lies behind and reaching out to what lies ahead, we may follow the way of your commandments and receive the crown of everlasting joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR MISSION STATEMENT

P: Although as individuals we are unique in many and various ways, we gather as a congregation for a common mission.

C: Beautiful Savior is a biblically grounded community who unites to follow and share the way of Jesus.

MISSION MOMENT

“Community Art Fall Event”

Helen Blicharz

CHORAL ANTHEM

“Take Time to Be Holy”

Tom Fettke

MEMORY VERSE*Romans 1:16a*

Gwen Fitzgerald

A: Together, let us recite the memory verse:

C: For I am not ashamed of the gospel; it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who has faith.

READING*Daniel 4:28-37*

A: The reading according to Daniel, the fourth chapter.

²⁸ All this came upon King Nebuchadnezzar. ²⁹ At the end of twelve months he was walking on the roof of the royal palace of Babylon, ³⁰ and the king said, “Is this not magnificent Babylon, which I have built as a royal capital by my mighty power and for my glorious majesty?” ³¹ While the words were still in the king’s mouth, a voice came from heaven: “O King Nebuchadnezzar, to you it is declared: The kingdom has departed from you! ³² You shall be driven away from human society, and your dwelling shall be with the animals of the field. You shall be made to eat grass like oxen, and seven times shall pass over you, until you have learned that the Most High has sovereignty over the kingdom of mortals and gives it to whom he will.” ³³ Immediately the sentence was fulfilled against Nebuchadnezzar. He was driven away from human society, ate grass like oxen, and his body was bathed with the dew of heaven, until his hair grew as long as eagles’ feathers and his nails became like birds’ claws. ³⁴ When that period was over, I, Nebuchadnezzar, lifted my eyes to heaven, and my reason returned to me. I blessed the Most High, and praised and honored the one who lives forever. For his sovereignty is an everlasting sovereignty, and his kingdom endures from generation to generation. ³⁵ All the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing, and he does what he wills with the host of heaven and the inhabitants of the earth. There is no one who can stay his hand or say to him, “What are you doing?” ³⁶ At that time my reason returned to me; and my majesty and splendor were restored to me for the glory of my kingdom. My counsellors and my lords sought me out, I was re-established over my kingdom, and still more greatness was added to me. ³⁷ Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and extol and honor the King of heaven, for all his works are truth, and his ways are justice; and he is able to bring low those who walk in pride.

A: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL VERSE

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal -
- le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le -
lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

GOSPEL

Mark 4:30-32

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the fourth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁰ He also said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? ³¹ It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; ³² yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Karyn Parker, Children’s Worship Coordinator

SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Niklaus C. Schillack, Senior Pastor

HYMN OF THE DAY *“Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us”* v. 1 & 2

ELW 789

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| 1 Savior, like a shepherd lead us;
much we need your tender care.
In your pleasant pastures feed us,
for our use your fold prepare.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
you have bought us; we are yours.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
you have bought us; we are yours. | 2 We are yours; in love befriend us,
be the guardian of our way;
keep your flock, from sin defend us,
seek us when we go astray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
hear us children when we pray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
hear us children when we pray. |
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CALL COMMITTEE COMMISSIONING

P: Dear friends: United with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, we are joined in God's mission for the life of the world. We are called to that mission in our daily lives and in the ministries we share as the church of God. Today it is our privilege to recognize and support those who are engaged in the work of this congregation, especially those serving on the Call Committee for an Associate Pastor.

- Kathy Lewis (co-chair)
- Marilyn Lochner (co-chair)
- Connie McKee
- Tim Nadeau
- Patrick Shaw
- Bryant Wade
- Debbie Yadon
- Tom Barlow (ex-officio as council president)
- Pastor Niklaus Schillack (ex-officio as Senior Pastor)

P: Sisters and brothers, both your work and your rest are in God. Will you endeavor to pattern your life on the Lord Jesus Christ, in gratitude to God and in service to others, as you serve on the Call Committee for an Associate Pastor?

R: I will, and I ask God to help me.

P: People of God, I ask you: Will you support these your sisters and brothers in their service, and will you share in the mutual ministry that Christ has given to all who are baptized?

C: We will, and we ask God to help us.

P: Let us pray. O God of mercy, your Son washed the feet of his disciples and commanded us to love one another as he loves us. Bless those who are leading our search for an additional full-time pastor. Send us all forth with the will to serve others as he was the servant of all, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, for all who respond to the call to serve in your name. Give them joy and fulfillment, care and guidance in their tasks. Help us all to give willingly and to receive thankfully the gifts of ministry, that your name may be glorified, your people live in peace, and your will be done; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Gwen Fitzgerald

A: Challenged by God's Word in Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and the whole creation.

A brief silence.

A: Compassionate God, embolden the church to seek all who are lost, clothe those who are naked, and mend what is broken. May we be generous bearers of your eternal love.
God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Sustaining God, as we approach harvest time, we pray for farmers, field workers, and those who process crops. Keep us mindful of environmental threats to the nourishing food that feeds the world. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Steadfast God, inspire world leaders to share resources and work collectively to end global poverty, starvation, and preventable disease. Direct us in such a way that all may live in peace. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Loving God, we pray for those who are afflicted, tormented, grieving, oppressed, and lonely (*especially those we now name aloud or in the quiet of our hearts*). Deliver the strength of your love and compassion to all who need it today. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Ever-living God, we rejoice to be heirs of the eternal life made real in Jesus's death and resurrection. We give thanks for saints of all times and places, who still inspire us to faithful living (*especially those we now name aloud or in the quiet of our hearts*). God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in the saving grace you freely give through Jesus Christ, both now and forever.

C: Amen.

STEWARDSHIP READING *Deuteronomy 8:17-18*

Do not say to yourself, "My power and the might of my own hand have gained me this wealth." But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, so that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your ancestors, as he is doing today.

OFFERING

"Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"

Dale Wood

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

LORD'S PRAYER

HOLY COMMUNION *"Children of the Heavenly Father"*

J. Wayne Kerr

POST HOLY COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER HOLY COMMUNION

P: Together let us pray:

C: Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN *"Praise and Thanks and Adoration"*

ELW 783

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| 1 Praise and thanks and adoration,
Son of God, to you we give,
for you chose to serve creation,
died that sinners all might live.
Dear Lord Jesus, guide my way;
faithful let me day by day
follow where your steps are leading,
find adventure, joys exceeding! | 2 Hold me ever in your keeping,
comfort me in pain and strife;
through my laughter and my weeping,
lift me to a nobler life.
Draw my fervent love to you;
constant hope and faith renew
in your birth, your life and passion,
in your death and resurrection. |
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DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE

"O God, Beyond All Praising"

David Lasky

COUNTERFEIT GODS

SMALL GROUP & WORSHIP SERIES



It's easy to place faith in things of this world that do not deliver what they promise. Doing so leads to loneliness, restlessness, and disappointment. For six weeks, we are examining common counterfeit gods in our culture, facing challenging yet healing truths when we reveal these false gods for what they are. The book *Counterfeit Gods* by Pastor Timothy Keller, along with the Bible, will be our guiding material for this series and the accompanying six-week fall small groups.

SEPTEMBER 15 - OCTOBER 26

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

Sundays 9:00 & 11:15 AM

SMALL GROUP MEETINGS

weekly small group meeting options

REGISTER

in the Welcome Center or online at bslcmi.org/small-groups

BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

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