

# Welcome to Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church

5631 N Adams Road  
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304  
Phone: 248.646.5041 Website:  
[www.blscmi.org](http://www.blscmi.org)

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

## Journeying to Jesus's Cross

*"Jesus's Warning"*

9:00—March 23, 2025

We hear in Jesus's words a warning to repent, to turn around, and return to God so we might experience life instead of death. God is patient with us, since God desires we not be cut down in our sin but rather live and bear fruit in God's grace.

### ORDER OF WORSHIP

#### GATHERING WORSHIP MUSIC

*"Divertimento in D, KV 136"* movements 1 & 2

W. A. Mozart

*"Come, Christians, Join to Sing"*

Paul Thompson

We welcome our Guest Artists!

Melody Wootton, violin    Sonia Lee, violin

Janine Bradbury, viola    Irina Tikhonova, cello

#### WELCOME VIDEO

#### 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 return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Compassionate One,

**C you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, but our lives do not always reflect you and your love for the world. We do not show others the tender compassion you have shown to us. We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality you grant to all people. We oppress others, even though you have set**

**us free again and again. We squander the abundant gifts of the earth. Transform our lives and guide us again in the way of the cross. Amen.**

P: Beloved in Christ, God's arms are always stretched open wide to welcome the wandering ones home. In ✠ Christ your sins are forgiven. You have a place in God's house forever.

**C: Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN** *"Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty"* v. 1, 2, 4

**ELW 777**

1 "Come to me, all pilgrims thirsty;  
drink the water I will give.  
If you knew what gift I offer,  
you would come to me and live."  
Jesus, ever flowing fountain,  
give us water from your well.  
In the gracious gift you offer  
there is joy no tongue can tell.

2 "Come to me, all trav'lers weary;  
come that I may give you rest.  
Drink the cup of life I offer;  
at this table be my guest."  
Jesus, ever flowing fountain,  
give us water from your well.  
In the gracious gift you offer  
there is joy no tongue can tell.

4 "Come to me, repentant sinners;  
leave behind your guilt and shame.  
Come and know divine compassion,  
turn to me, I call your name."  
Jesus, ever flowing fountain,  
give us water from your well.  
In the gracious gift you offer  
there is joy no tongue can tell.

## **THE GREETING**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Let us pray Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it, and bring your saving love to fruition in our lives, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**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.**

## CHORAL ANTHEM

*“Agnus Dei”*

Craig Courtney

## MEMORY VERSE

*Luke 9:23*

Ann Hussar

A: Together, let us recite the memory verse:

**C: Then (Jesus) said to them all, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me.”**

## FIRST READING

*Isaiah 55:1-9*

A: The first reading according to Isaiah, the fifty-fifth chapter.

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. <sup>2</sup> Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. <sup>3</sup> Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. <sup>4</sup> See, I made him a witness to the peoples, leader and commander for the peoples. <sup>5</sup> See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. <sup>6</sup> Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; <sup>7</sup> let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. <sup>8</sup> For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. <sup>9</sup> For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

A: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## SECOND READING

*1 Corinthians 10:1-13*

A: The second reading according to the first book of Corinthians, the tenth chapter.

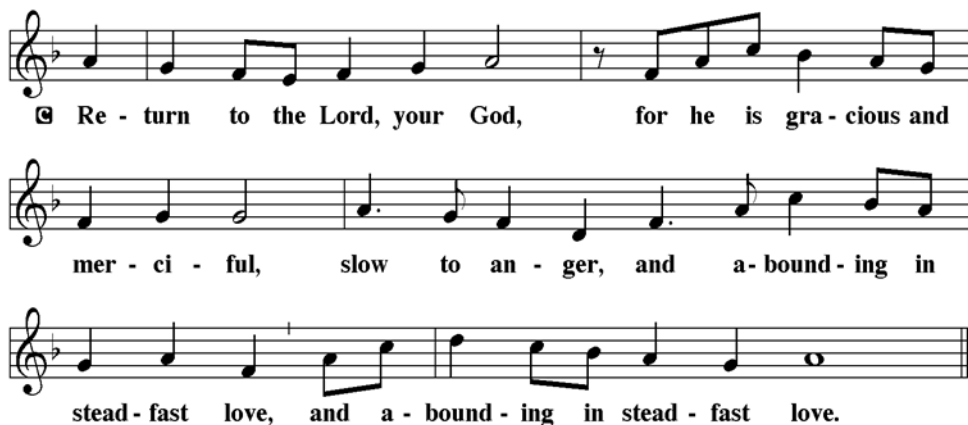
I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, <sup>2</sup> and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, <sup>3</sup> and all ate the same spiritual food, <sup>4</sup> and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. <sup>5</sup> Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness. <sup>6</sup> Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. <sup>7</sup> Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, “The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play.” <sup>8</sup> We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. <sup>9</sup> We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. <sup>10</sup> And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. <sup>11</sup> These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on

whom the ends of the ages have come. <sup>12</sup> So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. <sup>13</sup> No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

A: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### GOSPEL VERSE



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and  
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in  
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

### GOSPEL

*Luke 13:1-9*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the thirteenth chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. <sup>2</sup> He asked them, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? <sup>3</sup> No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. <sup>4</sup> Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? <sup>5</sup> No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.” <sup>6</sup> Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. <sup>7</sup> So he said to the gardener, ‘See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?’ <sup>8</sup> He replied, ‘Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. <sup>9</sup> If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

### CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

The Rev. Dr. Philip Hemke, Pastor Emeritus

## SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Philip Hemke, Pastor Emeritus

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*“Restore in Us, O God”*

**ELW 328**

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|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 Restore in us, O God,<br>the splendor of your love;<br>renew your image in our hearts,<br>and all our sins remove.      | 2 O Spirit, wake in us<br>the wonder of your pow'r;<br>from fruitless fear unfurl our lives<br>like springtime bud and flow'r.    |
| 3 Bring us, O Christ, to share<br>the fullness of your joy;<br>baptize us in the risen life<br>that death cannot destroy. | 4 Three-personed God, fulfill<br>the promise of your grace,<br>that we, when all our searching ends,<br>may see you face to face. |

## APOSTLES' CREED

P: God has made us God's own people through our baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith:

**C: 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.**

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Ann Hussar

A: Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

*A brief silence.*

A: We pray for the church, called to be a witness to all peoples. Grant humility and wisdom to bishops, pastors, deacons, elders, councils, and congregations, that they may call upon you in making decisions. God, in your mercy,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: We pray for the earth, called to provide abundantly. Teach your people the goodness of your generosity, that in sharing what we have been given, all life may flourish on the planet that is our shared home. God, in your mercy,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: We pray for the nations, called to protect their inhabitants and collaborate in the work of justice and peace. Forge bonds of compassion and mutual care across human borders and boundaries, that all the world may have enough to live. God, in your mercy,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: We pray for those in need, called to receive your compassion. Comfort those whose lives have been disrupted through natural disasters, human conflict, and illness (*especially those we now name aloud or in the quiet of our hearts*). Aid communities in coming together to mourn, heal, and rebuild. God, in your mercy,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: We pray for this assembly, called to welcome its neighbors to the table of your grace. Bless food pantries, community gardens and kitchens, clean water projects, and all ministries addressing human hunger and thirst. God, in your mercy,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: We give thanks for the faithful lives of those who proclaimed your gospel in times of challenge and strife, and for all those whose lives of love and service have ended (*especially those we now name aloud or in the quiet of our hearts*). May their witness inspire our own. God, in your mercy,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: Living Lord, as we travel this Lenten season together we ask for your mercy and steadfast love. We ask for your guidance for our call committee. Help us journey on together with hope and expectation. God, in your mercy,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.

**C: Amen.**

## **SHARING OF THE PEACE**

### **STEWARDSHIP READING**    *2 Corinthians 9:11-12*

You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God.

**OFFERING**                                    *"I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"*                                    Melody Wootton

### **OFFERING PRAYER**

P: Let us pray. Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ.

**C: Amen.**

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

### LORD'S PRAYER

**HOLY COMMUNION** *“String Quartet No. 1 in B Flat Major, Op. 1”*  
*“Passacaile”*

F. J. Haydn  
G. F. Handel

### POST HOLY COMMUNION BLESSING

### PRAYER AFTER HOLY COMMUNION

P: Together let us pray:

**C: Generous Host, you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### BLESSING

**SENDING HYMN** *“O Living Bread of Heaven”* v. 1, 2, 4

**ELW 542**

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|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 O living Bread from heaven,<br>how well you feed your guest!<br>The gifts that you have given<br>have filled my heart with rest.<br>O wondrous food of blessing!<br>O cup that heals our woes!<br>My heart, this gift possessing,<br>in thankful song o'er flows.             | 2 My Savior, you have led me<br>within your holiest place,<br>and here yourself have fed me<br>with treasures of your grace;<br>for you have freely given<br>what earth could never buy,<br>the bread of life from heaven,<br>that now I shall not die. |
| 4 Oh, grant me then, well-strengthened<br>with heav'nly food, while here<br>my course on earth is lengthened,<br>to serve you, free from fear;<br>and bring me home to praise you<br>where none can peace destroy,<br>where I will ever raise you<br>glad songs in endless joy. |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |

### DISMISSAL

**POSTLUDE** *“Divertimento in D, KV 136”* movement 3

W. A. Mozart

Oakland University School Of Music, Theatre and Dance

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# OAKLAND CHORALE

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Michael A. Mitchell, conductor | Aran Kim, collaborative pianist | Tyler Morse, assistant conductor



MARCH 30TH

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Sunday, 7pm

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Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church in Bloomfield Hills

*5631 N Adams Rd, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304*

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With works of Tallis, Mendelssohn, Mitchell, and Spencer, with American folk songs and spirituals