

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

Jesus's Early Ministry

"Jesus's Golden Rule"

9:00—February 23, 2025

Jesus loved us even when we were at odds with him, just as he blessed and prayed for those who abused and killed him. Likewise, Jesus calls us to a life of loving our enemies, doing good to those who hate us, blessing those who curse us, and praying for those who abuse us.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Flowers given in loving memory of Don Booth

GATHERING WORSHIP MUSIC

"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow" Michael Burkhardt

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MISSION MOMENT *"Evangelism"* The Rev. Dr. Philip Hemke, Pastor Emeritus

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life.

C: Amen.

P: Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Merciful God,

C: you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.

P: God proclaims these words of assurance: “Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine.” In † Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God.

C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN *“Praise and Thanks and Adoration”*

ELW 783

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.

THE GREETING

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. O Lord Jesus, make us instruments of your peace, that where there is hatred, we may sow love, where there is injury, pardon, and where there is despair, hope. Grant, O divine master, that we may seek to console, to understand, and to love in your name, for you live and reign with the Father 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

“God of Creation”

Joel Raney

MEMORY VERSE

Luke 6:31

Doug Beck

A: Together, let us recite the memory verse:

C: (Jesus said,) “Do to others as you would have them do to you.”

FIRST READING

Genesis 45:3-11,15

A: The first reading according to Genesis, the forty-fifth chapter.

³Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence. ⁴Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom

you sold into Egypt. ⁵ And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶ For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷ God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸ So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹ Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. ¹⁰ You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹ I will provide for you there since there are five more years of famine to come so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.’” ¹⁵ And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

A: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 37:1-8

¹ Do not fret because of the wicked; do not be envious of wrongdoers, ² for they will soon fade like the grass, and wither like the green herb. ³ Trust in the LORD, and do good; so you will live in the land, and enjoy security. ⁴ Take delight in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart. ⁵ Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him, and he will act. ⁶ He will make your vindication shine like the light, and the justice of your cause like the noonday. ⁷ Be still before the LORD, and wait patiently for him; do not fret over those who prosper in their way, over those who carry out evil devices. ⁸ Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath. Do not fret it leads only to evil.

GOSPEL VERSE

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

GOSPEL

Luke 6:27-38

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

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁷ “But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸ bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹ If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰ Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. ³¹ Do to others as you would have them do to you. ³² If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³ If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴ If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵ But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶ Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. ³⁷ Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸ give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Karyn Parker, Children’s Ministries Coordinator

SERMON

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

HYMN OF THE DAY

“*O Christ, Your Heart, Compassionate*” v. 1-3 **ELW 722**

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| 1 O Christ, your heart, compassionate,
bore ev'ry human pain.
Its beating was the pulse of God;
its breadth, God's vast domain.
The heart of God, the heart of Christ
combined in perfect rhyme
to write God's love in human deeds,
eternity in time. | 2 As once you welcomed those cast down
and healed the sick, the blind,
so may all bruised and broken lives
through us your help still find.
Lord, join our hearts with those who weep
that none may weep alone,
and help us bear another's pain
as though it were our own. |
| 3 O Christ, create new hearts in us
that beat in time with yours,
that, joined by faith with your great heart,
become love's open doors.
We are your body, risen Christ;
our hearts, our hands we yield
that through our life and ministry
your love may be revealed. | |

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

Doug Beck

A: With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

A: Surprising God, you call us to love our enemies and to show kindness in the face of cruelty. Let our actions be a shining witness of your overwhelming grace for all. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: As animals hibernate and fields lay dormant, let them be a reminder that life and faith are not static but always changing and growing. May we, with all creation, trust that the ending of one thing promises life in a new way. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: We pray for leaders and policymakers who work to reduce violence in our nations, cities, and municipalities. Give your wisdom and discernment amid heated arguments and differing viewpoints. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: We pray for the victims of abuse and violence. Provide safe shelter and new beginnings to those experiencing domestic violence and dangerous situations. Enfold with love all who seek your healing care (*especially those we now name aloud or in the quiet of our hearts*). God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Empower our faith communities to be signs of your gracious love. Bless the local ministries of parish nursing and caregiving, that they will be a voice for those in need in our communities. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: We give thanks for the enduring witness of those who have died before us (*especially those we now name aloud or in the quiet of our hearts*). May their lives in you provide a witness of your everlasting grace. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Omnipotent God, you have taught us to "pray without ceasing"! We believe in the power of a community coming together to pray. Here we are Lord, asking once again for your blessing, and Holy Spirit intervention on our journey to seek the associate pastor you have chosen for us. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope your promise is revealed among the people.

C: Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

STEWARDSHIP READING *Proverbs 22:2*

The rich and the poor have this in common: the Lord is the maker of them all.

OFFERING

"Let There Be Peace on Earth"

Sy Miller/Jill Jackson

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.

Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.

With God as our father, brothers all are we.

Let me walk with my brother, in perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now.

With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow:

To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray. God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always.

C: Amen.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

LORD'S PRAYER

HOLY COMMUNION

"O Day of Peace"

Charles Callahan

POST HOLY COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER HOLY COMMUNION

P: Together let us pray:

C: Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray, Amen.

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN *“Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us”* v. 1-3

ELW 707

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|---|--|
| 1 Lord of glory, you have bought us
with your lifeblood as the price,
never grudging for the lost ones
that tremendous sacrifice;
and with that have freely given
blessings countless as the sand
to the unthankful and the evil
with your own unsparing hand. | 2 Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give you
gladly, freely, of your own.
With the sunshine of your goodness
melt our thankless hearts of stone
till our cold and selfish natures,
warmed by you, at length believe
that more happy and more blessed
'tis to give than to receive. |
| 3 Wondrous honor you have given
to our humblest charity
in your own mysterious sentence,
"You have done it all to me."
Naked, sick, in prison, hungry—
in the least, your face we view,
saying by your poor and needy,
"Give as I have giv'n to you." | |

DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE

“All Creatures Worship God Most High”

Aaron Shows

JESUS'S EARLY MINISTRY

- JESUS'S BAPTISM
- THE MIRACLE IN CANA
- JESUS'S FIRST SERMON
- REJECTION OF JESUS
- THE FIRST DISCIPLES
- "WOE TO YOU"
- THE GOLDEN RULE

SUNDAYS
JAN. 12—FEB. 23
9 AND 11:15 A.M.

THE SEASON OF EPIPHANY IS ABOUT REVELATION AND GOD REVEALING TRUTH TO US AND TO ALL OF CREATION. THIS SERIES COVERS THE EARLY EVENTS OF JESUS'S MINISTRY, WALKING ALONGSIDE HIM AS HIS FIRST DISCIPLES WOULD HAVE, EXPERIENCING AN EVER-GROWING UNDERSTANDING OF HIM AS THE ONE ANOINTED BY GOD TO SAVE ALL OF CREATION FROM SIN, DEATH, AND THE DEVIL.

BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

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