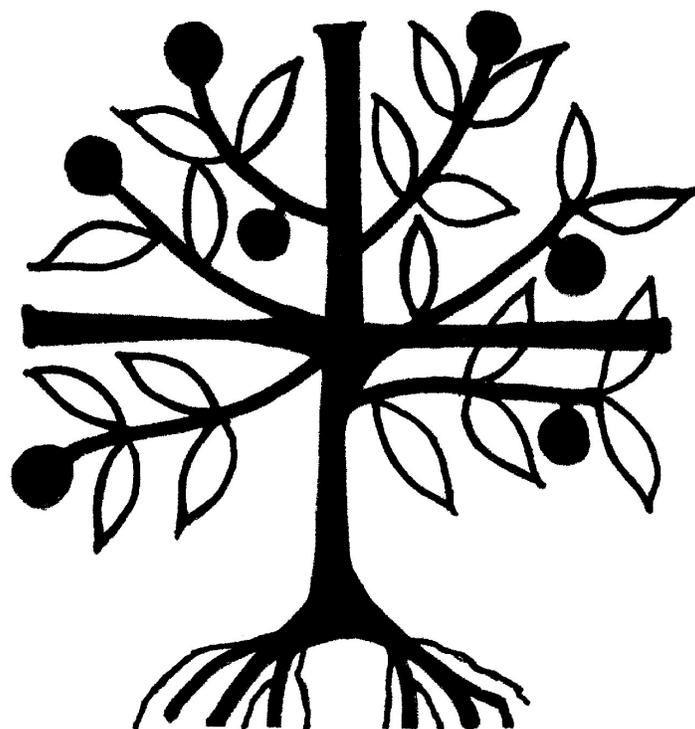


Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

Sunday Worship

March 15, 2026

Lent 4



WELCOME



ELCA

Your presence builds up the body of Christ. We welcome and affirm God's diversity, including all ethnicities, cultures, races, sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions, abilities, ages, and life experiences. You are invited to full participation in

our congregation because of who you are. We lament and confess how the Christian Church has withheld Christ's love by misusing the power of institution. We commit to advocating for God's justice and mercy for all of creation, including humans. We commit to anti-racism and other ways of ending systems that cause harm. Christ is our peace and breaks down the walls that divide us. Our communion table is Christ's table. You and all people are welcome without exception.



RECONCILING IN CHRIST

Newcomers and Visitors + Newcomers and Visitors + We're glad you're here. Please fill out the green slip in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate. You're welcome to share in Holy Communion. Families - we have a small play area up front.

Nametags + Nametags help us get to know and remember each other. Please let the ushers know if you need one made for you.

Expansive Language + As Lutherans, we teach that "God calls all creation into being and gives people language as a way of responding to God and forming community" (Principles for Worship, Principle L-1). In worship at Our Saviour's, we seek to use expansive language for God and people, sometimes changing or offering alternatives to the printed text.

Current Liturgy Music + liturgy is the flow of our worship service - working together as people to praise God. Our current liturgy is from All Creation Sings, Setting 12, and Sundays and Seasons.

Prayer Requests: Our Saviour's Community: Family & Friends of John Garrard, especially his wife, Carol); Sheila and Timothy Bustamatne (death of Sheila's father, Melvin); Fred Alvord (hospitalization); Mary Wildner-Bassett (daughter's health diagnosis); Corky Ronstadt (at-home care), Mary Neff (memory care), Schatzi Taylor (care facility), Diane Siefkes (death of her father, Harlan), and all at home and in care facilities.

Our Extended Friends & Family: Pastor Adele Resmer, former interim pastor (recovering from back surgery); Kay G. recovering from hip replacement surgery (Mary Pflibsen's aunt); Sarah and family (great niece of Donna Lounsbury); Shawn (friend of David Lester); Becky (Daughter of Mary Wildner-Bassett) Frenchie (Friend of Judy and John Indermark); Lia (granddaughter of Angie Grandison), Beverly (Mother of Hildi Williams), David (Son of Geoff and Suzy Swann); Jeanne (Cousin of Alan Bales); Barbara (sister-in-law of Kenith Ijams); Peggy (sister of Bonnie Phelps); Josh, Melissa, Mary Ann Libby (friends of Chris and Theda Doak); Megan (niece of Chris and Theda Doak); Sally, and Ashley, (friends of Kathy DeVinney); Grant and Shirley (brother and sister-in-law of Theda Doak; John (son of Martha Neff Stum and Paul Stum); Sam; Eleanor (mother-in-law of Kris Sanchez; Daniel (neighbor's son of Gloria Schmidt); Rich (cousin-in-law of Jennifer Strand) Misty (friend of Schatzi Taylor) Will (nephew of Chris and Theda Doak); Leaticia, Azogan, Meivis, Sidibe, Bintou, Zinsou, and Mabel (friends of Rachel Starner); Michael (friend of Suzanne Hesh); Beverly and Shorty (Dave Varley's parents).

Names will generally remain on the list for three weeks, unless requested for renewal. Please contact the church office for corrections, updates, and additions.

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OVERVIEW OF TODAY'S SCRIPTURE:

The readings for this fourth Sunday in Lent invite us to look deeper than appearances and presumptions in order to truly see. The book of Samuel anchors the finding of a new king in not being swayed by appearances. The Shepherd Psalm bids us look at situations fraught with danger with eyes of trust and well-being in God's presence. Paul bids the Church to not only see but to walk God's light. John's Gospel tells the dramatic story of one once blind but who now sees. The story astonishes by the way such coming to sight triggers reversals of blind and sighted ones.



Lent with Our Saviour's and Lutheran Campus Ministry - Chapel

Daytime services are led by Our Saviour's; Evening services led by LCM. All are invited to attend either or both. Held in the Chapel

Wednesdays, February 25 – March 25 - 12:00 PM - Service followed by a meal

Wednesdays, February 25 – March 25 - 6:15 PM – Service followed by a meal

Special Lent Offering - ELCA World Hunger Appeal

March 15, 2026

Lent 4

*An asterisk indicates the congregation should stand in body and/or spirit.
Congregation's speaking and singing parts are in bold font.

WELCOME

PRELUDE *Fairest Lord Jesus* arranged by Barbara Baltzer Kinyon

Bell Choir

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

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 disdaining 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.

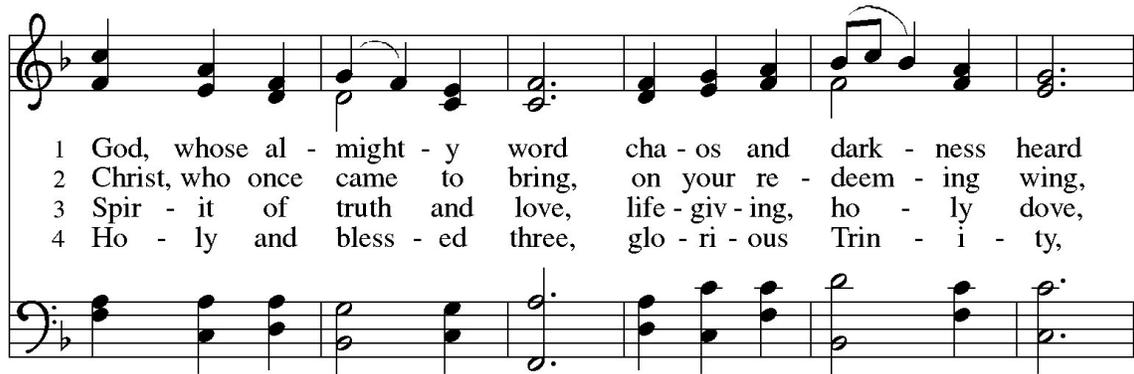
God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound.
Through faith, the free gift of God,
you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

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.

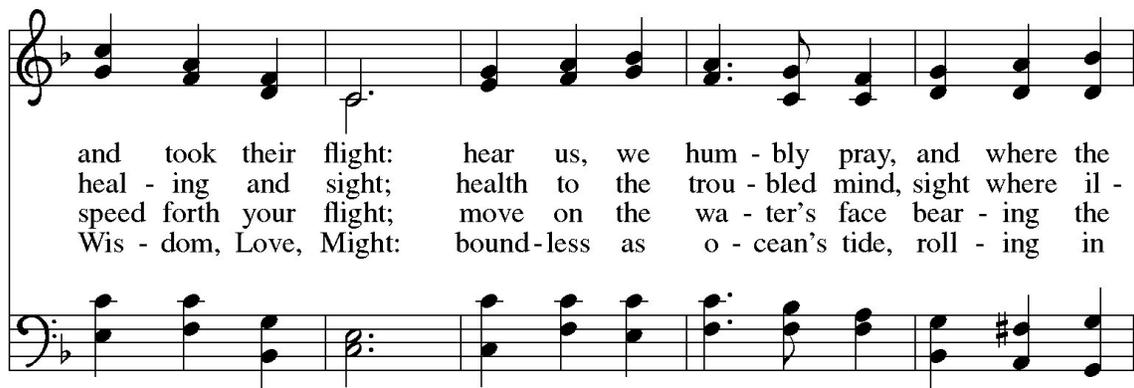
Amen.

*GATHERING HYMN - ELW #673 God Whose Almighty Word

God, Whose Almighty Word



1 God, whose al - might - y word cha - os and dark - ness heard
2 Christ, who once came to bring, on your re - deem - ing wing,
3 Spir - it of truth and love, life - giv - ing, ho - ly dove,
4 Ho - ly and bless - ed three, glo - ri - ous Trin - i - ty,



and took their flight: hear us, we hum - bly pray, and where the
heal - ing and sight; health to the trou - bled mind, sight where il -
speed forth your flight; move on the wa - ter's face bear - ing the
Wis - dom, Love, Might: bound - less as o - cean's tide, roll - ing in



gos - pel day sheds not its glo - rious ray, let there be light.
lu - sions blind; oh, now to hu - man-kind let there be light.
lamp of grace, and in earth's dark - est place let there be light.
full - est pride, through the earth, far and wide, let there be light.

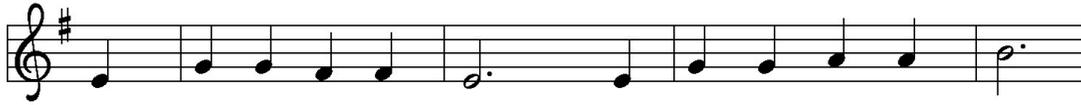
Text: John Marriott, 1780-1825, alt.
Music: ITALIAN HYMN, Felice de Giardini, 1716-1796

*GREETING

The grace of Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

*KYRIE



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

FIRST READING

Our Old Testament reading is from the first book of Samuel.

The book of Samuel opens when the twelve tribes of Israel were still led by judges and prophets. But the tribes demanded to have a king like their neighbors when Samuel was their prophet. As they say, be careful what you ask for. Saul was anointed king, who to all outward appearances was the real thing. Handsome, tall – but appearances proved misleading. Soon, God sent Samuel in search of a replacement. That search leads to the finding of an overlooked child in our reading.

1 Samuel 16:1-13

¹ The Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." ² Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the Lord said, "Take a heifer with you and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.'" ³ Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do, and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." ⁴ Samuel did what the Lord commanded and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling and said, "Do you come peaceably?" ⁵ He said, "Peaceably. I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

⁶ When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely his anointed is now before the Lord."

⁷ But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him, for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." ⁸ Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." ⁹ Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." ¹⁰ Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen any of these." ¹¹ Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him, for we will not sit down until he comes here." ¹² He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. The Lord said, "Rise and anoint him, for this is the one." ¹³ Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 23

¹ The Lord is my shepherd;

I shall not be in want.

² **The Lord makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.**

³ You restore my soul, O Lord,

and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

⁴ **Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

⁶ **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

SECOND READING

Our New Testament reading is from Paul's letter known as Ephesians.

One common theme in the Bible is the contrast of light and darkness. It is a motif that played large roles in other religions of those times. Our reading today involves such a contrast. Paul uses light and darkness as metaphors for the consequence of relationship with God. One cautionary note: light and dark metaphors can intentionally or unintentionally reinforce racial stereotypes.

Ephesians 5:8-14

⁸ Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Walk as children of light, ⁹ for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. ¹⁰ Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹ Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness; rather, expose them. ¹² For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly, ¹³ but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, ¹⁴ for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Sleeper, awake!

Rise from the dead,

and Christ will shine on you.”

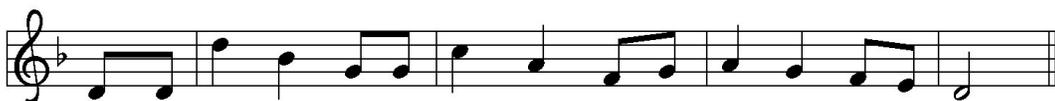
Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

GOSPEL AND REFLECTION

John 9:1-41 (Read in sections with reflecton between)

¹ As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. ² His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" ³ Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. ⁴ We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵ As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." ⁶ When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, ⁷ saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. ⁸ The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" ⁹ Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am he." ¹⁰ But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" ¹¹ He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." ¹² They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

¹³ They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴ Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵ Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." ¹⁶ Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the Sabbath." Others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. ¹⁷ So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet."

¹⁸ The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight ¹⁹ and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" ²⁰ His parents answered, "We know that this is our son and that he was born blind, ²¹ but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." ²² His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. ²³ Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

²⁴ So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." ²⁵ He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." ²⁶ They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" ²⁷ He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" ²⁸ Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹ We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." ³⁰ The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. ³¹ We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. ³² Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. ³³ If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." ³⁴ They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

³⁵ Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" ³⁶ He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." ³⁷ Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." ³⁸ He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. ³⁹ Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not see may see and those who do see may become blind." ⁴⁰ Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" ⁴¹ Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

***The Third Article: On Being Made Holy**

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.

What does this mean?

I believe that by my own understanding or strength I cannot believe in Jesus Christ my Lord or come to him, but instead the Holy Spirit has called me through the gospel, enlightened me... made me holy and kept me in the true faith, just as the Holy Spirit calls, gathers, enlightens, and makes holy the whole Christian church on earth and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one common, true faith. Daily in this Christian church the Holy Spirit abundantly forgives all sins—mine and those of all believers. On the last day the Holy Spirit will raise me and all the dead and will give to me and all believers in Christ eternal life. This is most certainly true.

From Martin Luther's Explanation of The Third Article of the Apostles' Creed

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

...God of grace, receive our prayer.

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

***EXCHANGE OF PEACE**

OFFERING *Voluntary in E Minor* by John Stanley arr. by Hal Hopson

Bell Choir

***OFFERING PRAYER**

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy... ..we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

***HOLY HOLY HOLY**

Holy, Holy, Holy

2x any language

Santo, santo, santo

San - to, san - to, san - to, mi co - ra-zón te, a - do - ra.
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dores you.

Mi co - ra-zón te sa - be de-cir: San - to, e-res Se - ñor.
My heart is glad to say the words: You are ho - ly, God.

***THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

***THE 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.**

This congregation tends to use the traditional form of the Lord's Prayer. You are welcome to pray using other versions, words, or languages that may be more familiar to you. You are also encouraged to address God in a way that most opens your heart to relationship with God (Creator, Father and Mother, Abba, Our Only Home are a few options). Jesus taught this form of prayer to the disciples to encourage sincere and meaningful conversation with God.

COMMUNION

Come to this Table of mercy. Become what you receive.

This is Christ's table. You and all are welcome, without exception. If you prefer a blessing only, cross your arms over your heart. Gluten-free wafers available by request. The wine is red; the grape juice is clear. Please let an usher know if you would like communion brought to your pew.

COMMUNION HYMNS Lamb of God



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

ELW #793 Be Thou My Vision
ELW #816 Come My Way, My Truth, My Life

SENDING PRAYER

SENDING ANNOUNCEMENTS

***BLESSING**

***SENDING HYMN ELW #768 Lead Me, Guide Me**
Turn to follow the cross as it passes and leads us to love and service in the world.

***DISMISSAL**
Go in peace. Believe the good news.
Thanks be to God!

The Lord's My Shepherd

1 The Lord's my shep-herd; I'll not want. He makes me down to lie
 2 My soul he doth re - store a - gain, and me to walk doth make
 3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, yet will I fear no ill;
 4 My ta - ble thou hast fur - nish - ed in pres - ence of my foes;
 5 Good - ness and mer - cy all my life shall sure - ly fol - low me,

in pas - tures green; he lead - eth me the qui - et wa - ters by.
 with - in the paths of righ - teous - ness, e'en for his own name's sake;
 for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me com - fort still;
 my head thou dost with oil a - noint, and my cup o - ver - flows.
 and in God's house for - ev - er - more my dwell - ing - place shall be;

He lead - eth me, he lead - eth me the qui - et wa - ters by.
 with - in the paths of righ - teous - ness, e'en for his own name's sake.
 for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me com - fort still.
 My head thou dost with oil a - noint, and my cup o - ver - flows.
 and in God's house for - ev - er - more my dwell - ing - place shall be.

Text: *Psalter*, Edinburgh, 1650

Music: BROTHER JAMES' AIR, J. L. Macbeth Bain, c. 1840–1925; arr. Gordon Jacob, 1895–1984

Arr. © Oxford University Press

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Lead Me, Guide Me

768



Lead me, guide me, a - long the way;



for if you lead me, I can - not stray.



Lord, let me walk each day with thee.



Lead me, O Lord, lead me.



1 I am weak and I need thy strength and pow'r
2 Help me tread in the paths of righ - teous - ness,
3 I am lost if you take your hand from me,



to help me o - ver my weak - est hour.
be my aid when Sa - tan and sin op - press.
I am blind with - out . . . thy light to see.



Help me through the dark - ness thy face to see.
I am put - ting all . . . my trust in thee.
Lord, just al - ways let me thy ser - vant be.



Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Text: Doris Akers, 1922-1995

Music: Doris Akers

Text and music © 1953 Doris Akers, admin. Unichappell Music, Inc.

LEAD ME, GUIDE ME
Irregular

THOSE SERVING TODAY

3/15/2026

Presiding Minister Rev. Amalia Vagts
Assisting Minister Scott Koenig
Communion Assistants Bonnie Phelps, Nilu Dorschner,
Deacon Wendi Van Beek
Acolyte Bonnie Phelps
Keyboard Betsy Dunlap
Cantor Joy Bulawa
Music Bell Choir
Usher Patty Sirls, Diane Siefkes
Greeter Gene and Deb Elhard
Cross Bearer Scott Koenig
Coffee Host Fred and Donna Hudson
Treats Gloria Schmidt
Tech Team Pflibsen/Bustamante
Scripture Background John Indermark

THOSE SERVING SUNDAY

3/22/2026

Presiding Minister Rev. Amalia Vagts
Assisting Minister John Indermark
Communion Assistants Bonnie Phelps, Bill DeVinney,
Deacon Wendi Van Beek
Acolyte Jennifer Strand
Keyboard Betsy Dunlap
Cantor Tim Tully
Music Bell Choir
Usher Judy Indermark, Diane Siefkes
Greeter Donna Lounsbury, Daphne Myers
Cross Bearer Bonnie Phelps
Coffee Host David Lester
Treats ?
Tech Team Pflibsen/Bustamante
Scripture Background John Indermark

Online Offering

We have partnered with the ELCA and Tithely to offer secure online giving. Scan the image below using your smart phone to make your offering. Or, contact the church office to set up regular online giving.



Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

1200 N. Campbell Ave.
Tucson, Arizona 85719
Phone: (520) 327-6521

Website: lutherantucson.org
E-Mail: oslc@lutherantucson.org

Sunday Worship Times

9:00 - Sanctuary
Coffee following

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday
8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Ministry Team

Rev. Amalia Vagts (ex 1004)
pastoramalia@lutherantucson.org

Michele Ruttinger
Parish Administrator
Michele@lutherantucson.org

Dr. Aysen Millioğullari
Music Director
Aysen@lutherantucson.org

Betsy Dunlap
Interim Collaborative Musician

Paula Miller
Minister of Community
Engagement

David Zezulka
Campus Caretaker

Lutheran Campus Ministry

Deacon Wendi Van Beek
Interim Director
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520-771-9742 (LCM Office)