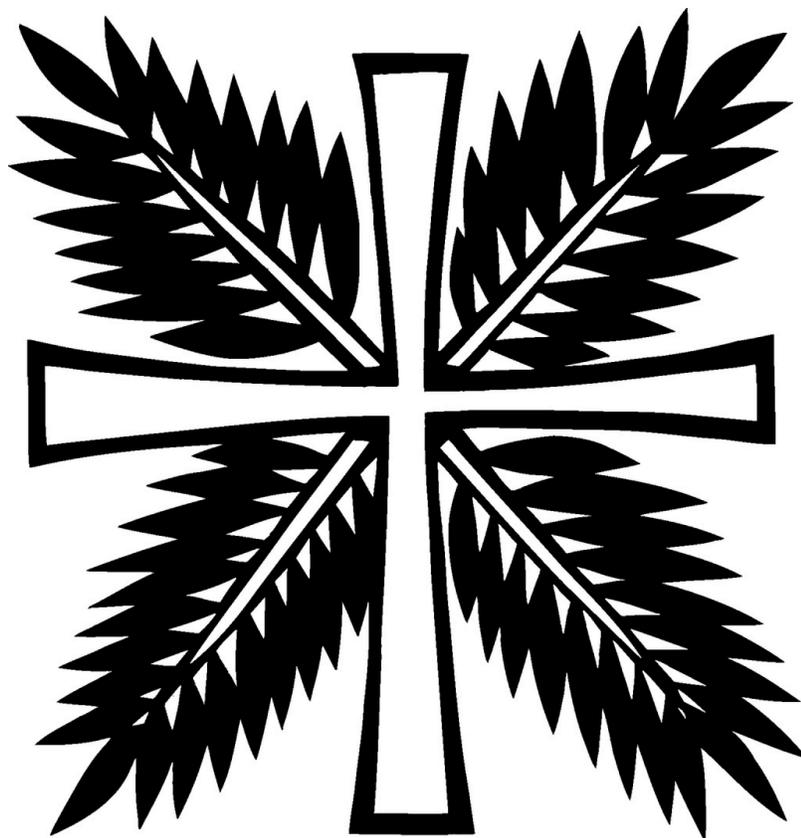


Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

Sunday Worship

March 29, 2026
Palm Sunday



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 + Newcomers + 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 (pray-ground) up front. The joyful sounds and movements of children in worship are the welcome sounds of children growing in faith. Parents, thank you for doing the hard work of worshipping with children. This congregation is here to support you."

Hearing Assistance - headphones are available to assist in hearing the service. Please contact an usher to get set up with one.

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 ELW Setting 10 and Sundays and Seasons.

Prayer Requests: Our Saviour's Community: Sheila and Timothy Bustamante (death of Sheila's father, Melvin); Diane Siefkes (death of her father, Harlan); Mary Wildner-Bassett (daughter's health diagnosis); Corky Ronstadt (at-home care), Mary Neff (memory care), Schatzi Taylor (care facility), Hildi Williams (recovering from injury); Martha Neff Stum (health diagnosis); and all at home and in care facilities.

Our Extended Friends & Family: The family of John Brown (Friends of Bill and Ann DeVinney) 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.

OVERVIEW OF TODAY'S SCRIPTURE:

The readings for this Sunday hold in tension the joy of a Palm-strewn parade with the solemnity of Passion's procession to a cross. Isaiah speaks of one who faces trial and abuse with the conviction of God as helper. In the face of scorn and death, the psalmist raises a prayer of trust in God: "my life is in your hands." The readings from Matthew bridge Sunday's joyful entry into Jerusalem with Friday's execution. This day and its readings bid us to keep this week's vigil.

Today: Sunday Forum

Today we begin our Holy Week journey together through learning and conversation on our way to the cross with Jesus. Please join us following worship for our Sunday Forum, hosted by the Reconciling in Christ team. We'll watch a 55-minute documentary "A Time for Burning" which follows a Lutheran congregation that tried to begin conversations across racial lives in 1966. It remains a challenging and fruitful film to stir up conversation, even 60 years later. We don't do this work alone - Christ our peace breaks down the walls that divide us (Ephesians 2:14).

March 29, 2026

Palm Sunday *Begin outside with the processional reading*

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

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest!

***PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL: Matthew 21:1-11**

The holy gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹ When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ² saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. ³ If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." ⁴ This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet:

⁵ "Tell the daughter of Zion,
Look, your king is coming to you,
humble and mounted on a donkey,
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey."

⁶ The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; ⁷ they brought the donkey and the colt and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. ⁸ A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹ The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting,

**"Hosanna to the Son of David!
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!
Hosanna in the highest heaven!"**

¹⁰ When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, "Who is this?" ¹¹ The crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

BLESSING OF PALMS

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

We praise you, O God,
for redeeming humanity through Jesus Christ...

...through the same Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

Amen.

PROCESSION

Let us go forth in peace, **in the name of Christ. Amen.**

***GATHERING HYMN - ACS#929 Blessed Is The One**

Blessed Is the One

The musical score is written for a soprano and bass voice part. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "Bless-ed is the one who comes in the name, who comes in the name of the Lord. Bless-ed is the one who comes in the name, who comes in the name of the Lord." The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line with chords and some melodic movement.

Text: Psalm 118:26
Music: BLESSED IS THE ONE, Nathan Houge, b. 1977
Music © 2020 Augsburg Fortress

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

FIRST READING

Isaiah 50:7-9a

⁷ The Lord God helps me;
therefore I have not been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like flint,
and I know that I shall not be put to shame;
⁸ the one who vindicates me is near.

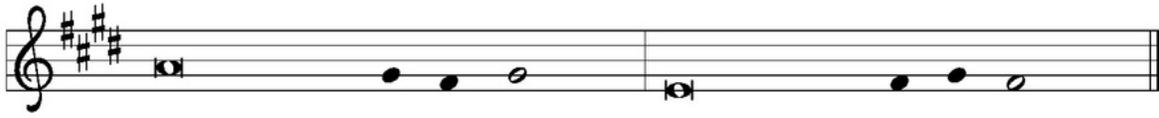
Who will contend with me?
Let us stand in court together.

Who are my adversaries?
Let them confront me.

^{9a} It is the Lord God who helps me;
who will declare me guilty?

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.



PSALM 31:9-16

⁹ Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I | am in trouble;
my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat | and my belly.

¹⁰ **For my life is wasted with grief, and my | years with sighing;
my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones | are consumed.**

¹¹ **I am the scorn of all my enemies, a disgrace to my neighbors, a dismay to | my
acquaintances;**

when they see me in the street | they avoid me.

¹² **Like the dead I am forgotten, | out of mind;
I am as useless as a | broken pot.**

¹³ For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is | all around;
they put their heads together against me; they plot to | take my life.

¹⁴ **But as for me, I have trusted in | you, O Lord.
I have said, "You | are my God.**

¹⁵ My times are | in your hand;
rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who | persecute me.

¹⁶ **Let your face shine up- | on your servant;
save me in your | steadfast love."**

Matthew 27:11-55

⁴⁵ From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. ⁴⁶ And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" ⁴⁷ When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "This man is calling for Elijah." ⁴⁸ At once one of them ran and got a sponge, filled it with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink. ⁴⁹ But the others said, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him." ⁵⁰ Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last. ⁵¹ At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks were split. ⁵² The tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. ⁵³ After his resurrection they came out of the tombs and entered the holy city and appeared to many. ⁵⁴ Now when the centurion and those with him, who were keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified and said, "Truly this man was God's Son!"

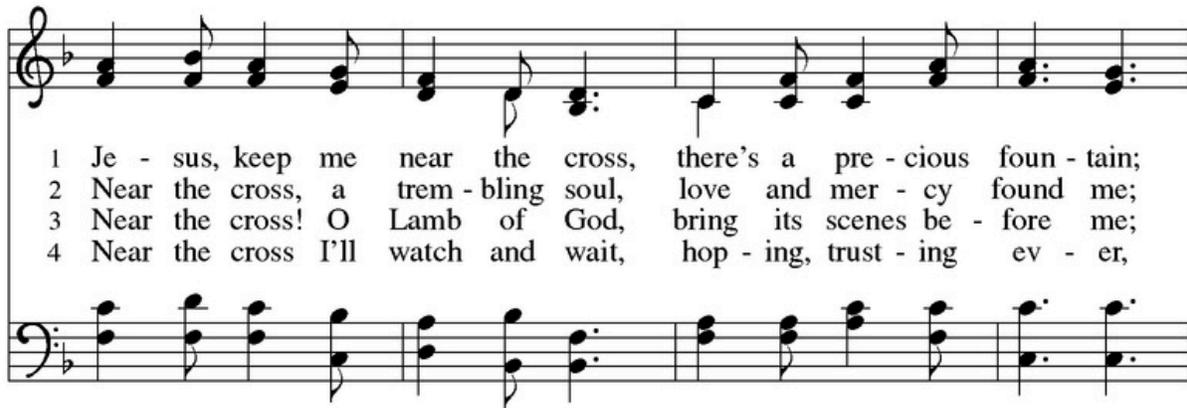
⁵⁵ Many women were also there, looking on from a distance; they had followed Jesus from Galilee, ministering to him.

Word of God, word of life.

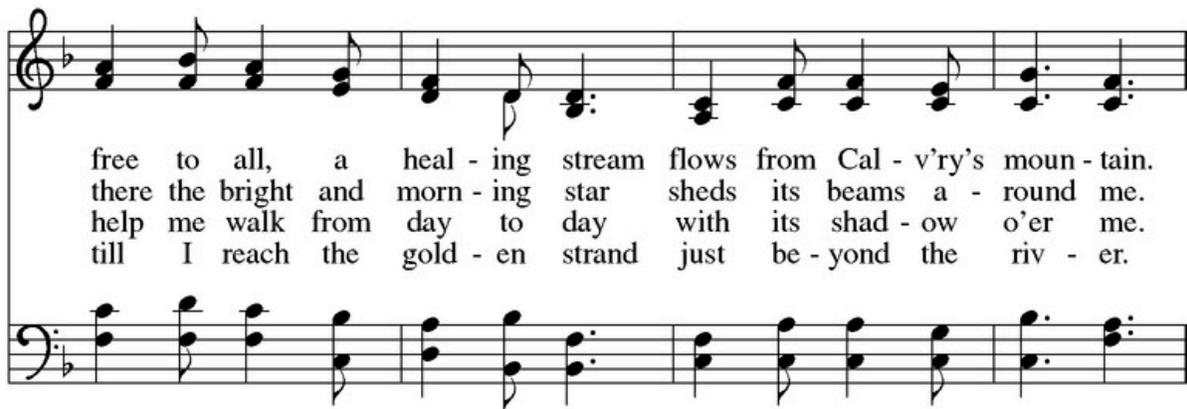
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

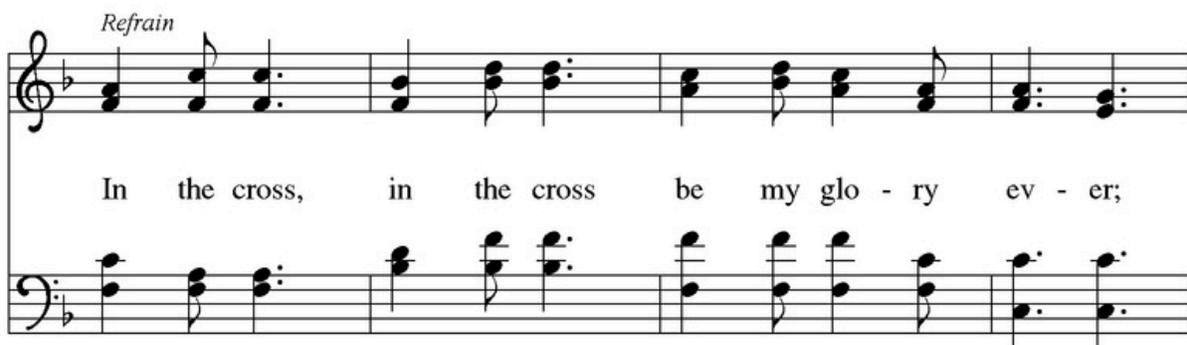


1 Je - sus, keep me near the cross, there's a pre - cious foun - tain;
2 Near the cross, a trem - bling soul, love and mer - cy found me;
3 Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes be - fore me;
4 Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hop - ing, trust - ing ev - er,



free to all, a heal - ing stream flows from Cal - v'ry's moun - tain.
there the bright and morn - ing star sheds its beams a - round me.
help me walk from day to day with its shad - ow o'er me.
till I reach the gold - en strand just be - yond the riv - er.

Refrain



In the cross, in the cross be my glo - ry ev - er;



till my ran - somed soul shall find rest be - yond the riv - er.

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

...Hear us O God. **Your mercy is great.**

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

*EXCHANGE OF PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

OFFERING - *Triumphal Entry*

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
Santo, santo, santo

2x any language

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.

The musical score consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment line on a bass clef staff. The first system contains the first two lines of lyrics. The second system contains the next two lines of lyrics. The piano accompaniment features chords and moving lines in the bass clef.

***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 as you are. 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 #338 Beneath the Cross of Jesus
ELW # 336 Lamb of God (Your Only Son)

p. 10
Hymnal

SENDING PRAYER

SENDING ANNOUNCEMENTS

*BLESSING

*SENDING HYMN ELW #330 Seed That in Earth is Dying
Turn to follow the cross as it passes and leads us to love and service in the world.

p.11

*DISMISSAL

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

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Maundy Thursday April 2 - 6 PM
service for healing, prayer & action

Good Friday April 3
Noon - Procession Downtown
Service - 6:00 PM - Sanctuary

Easter Sunday April 5
7:30 AM - Koch Chapel
9:30 AM - Sanctuary



Our Saviour's Lutheran
www.lutherantucson.org

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

1 Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I long to take my stand;
 2 Up - on the cross of Je - sus, my eye at times can see
 3 I take, O cross, your shad - ow for my a - bid - ing place;

the shad - ow of a might-y rock with - in a wea - ry land,
 the ver - y dy - ing form of one who suf - fered there for me.
 I ask no oth - er sun - shine than the sun - shine of his face;

a home with-in a wil - der - ness, a rest up - on the way,
 And from my con - trite heart, with tears, two won - ders I con - fess:
 con - tent to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,

from the burn - ing of the noon - tide heat and bur - dens of the day.
 the . . . won - der of his glo - rious love and my un - wor - thi - ness.
 my . . . sin - ful self my on - ly shame, my glo - ry all, the cross.

Text: Elizabeth C. Clephane, 1830–1869
 Music: ST. CHRISTOPHER, Frederick C. Maker, 1844–1927

330 Seed That in Earth Is Dying



1 Seed that in earth is dy - ing grows in - to ears of
 2 We were bap - tized in Je - sus, in - to his death and
 3 Seed that in earth is dy - ing ris - es to bear much



grain. Grapes that are crushed in the ves - sel
 grave, to res - ur - rec - tion's prom - ise:
 fruit. Christ, as we meet at your ta - ble,



turn in - to gold - en wine. God, through this mys - ter - y grant us
 praise and e - ter - nal life. Heav - en's own prais - es be - gin here
 give us the bread of life. Lord, we do thank and a - dore you!



faith in our deep - est dark - ness, life in our night and death.
 where you your - self are near us, deep in our night and death.
 Un - ceas - ing praise of the a - ges ris - es from night and death.



BLENMAN-ELM NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION INVITES YOU

Blenman- Elm Neighborhood Home and Garden Tour

Sunday, April 12, 10:30 - 5:00

Self-guided neighborhood tour.

You must have a ticket for this event. See QR code in this article.

One of our 5 areas of focus is "Neighborhood," so we are delighted to be part of this year's tour.

“The Blenman Elm Home Tour is a celebration of how neighbors care for both history and each other,” said a home tour committee member. “It’s a rare opportunity to see how historic spaces evolve through thoughtful, creative living.”



BLENMAN-ELM NEIGHBORHOOD HOME & GARDEN TOUR 2026

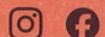
DWELLINGS THROUGH TIME
 A self-guided tour of historic dwellings, casitas, and gardens. Proceeds benefit neighborhood projects and Blenman Elementary School.

04.12.2026
 10:30 AM - 4:30 PM



Tickets at Eventbrite

Visit blenman-elm.org for more information



THOSE SERVING TODAY

3/29/2026

Presiding Minister Rev. Amalia Vagts
Assisting Minister Mary Pflibsen
Communion Assistants Bonnie Phelps, Linda Zizka, Deacon
Wendi Van Beek
Acolyte Scott Koenig
Keyboard Betsy Dunlap
Cantor Aysen Millioğullari
Music Bell Choir
Usher David Lester, Scott Koenig
Greeter Kathy DeVinney
Cross Bearer David Lester
Coffee Host Sharon Reinbott
Treats Mary Havenhill
Tech Team Pflibsen/Bustamante
Scripture Background John Indermark

THOSE SERVING SUNDAY

4/5/2026

Presiding Minister Rev. Amalia Vagts
Assisting Minister Kris Sanchez
Communion Assistants Mary Pflibsen, Patty Sirls, Deacon
Wendi Van Beek
Acolyte Mary Pflibsen
Keyboard Betsy Dunlap
Cantor Aysen Millioğullari
Music Chancel Choir
Usher Kathy DeVinney, Judy Indermark
Greeter Gloria Schmidt
Cross Bearer Mary Pflibsen
Coffee Host Wyatt Family
Treats Wyatt Family
Tech Team Pflibsen/Bustamante
Scripture Background John Indermark

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
wendi.lcmuofa@gmail.com
www.lcmuofa.org
520-771-9742 (LCM Office)

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.

