

WELCOME IN THE NAME OF JESUS!

LIVING SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH welcomes you as you join with us in worship this day. May the Holy Spirit bless you with the message you hear from God's Word, the prayers, the hymns, and the fellowship we share with you. Here is some information you might find helpful:

- Children of all ages are welcome in our worship services. If you need to step out for a moment with your child, a Family Room is located right outside the Sanctuary doors.
- Changing Tables are located in the Restrooms.
- Please fill out an attendance sheet in the pad on the chairs and place it in the offering plate or hand to an usher. We ask guests and members to fill them out each week. Guests: We promise we will not bombard you with emails or calls, but this information is helpful for staying in touch.
- Please let us know if we can help you in any way.

HOLY COMMUNION: *We are very glad that you have joined us today for this worship service as we hear the Word of God and receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. This church is in fellowship with other congregations of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. As such, we believe and practice the biblical teaching that we receive the true Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in, with and under the bread and the wine of the Sacrament (Matthew 26, Mark 14 and Luke 22). If you have a different understanding of Communion or are still learning about this biblical teaching, we love you enough to ask you not to receive Holy Communion this day (1 Corinthians 11). However, you are welcome to come forward for a blessing at the time of Communion. If later you have questions about this or any other teachings, the pastor would be very pleased to talk with you.*

<u>OUR CONTACT INFORMATION</u>		
Living Savior Lutheran Church 309 Pond Street, Montgomery, TX	www.livingsaviortexas.org Church Phone: 936-597-8013	Prayer Chain Requests under "Contact Us" tab on website
Pastor David R. Bailes	936-521-9389 (cell)	drbailes@livingsaviortexas.org
Joshua Pillows	Director of Worship Arts	piljo12@gmail.com
Cheryl G. Bailes	Director of Christian Education	cgbbailes@livingsaviortexas.org
Lindsay Oneto	Church Office Administrator	office@livingsaviortexas.org
<u>ELDERS OF LIVING SAVIOR</u>		
Roger Bartel	936-537-0011	omro_fox@yahoo.com
Mark Dinning	713-429-1273_	madinning@spectraenergy.com
Clay Hegar	903-275-8413	clay.hegar@icloud.com
Doug Krenz	713-248-9892_	dougkrenz87@gmail.com
Doug Lee	281-744-0448_	adouglaslee@yahoo.com
Butch Nye	936-522-7464	jandmnye@yahoo.com
Bruce Shutt	346-273-5594_	bruceshutt@yahoo.com
Earl McCaleb	936-445-8923	jmccaleb@consolidated.net
– President	<u>CHURCH COUNCIL OF LIVING SAVIOR</u>	Jack & Peggy Heintschel - Evangelism
Chris Cheatham – Vice President		Mike Newman – Head Trustee
Lisa Schoppa – Secretary		Lee Wernli - Youth
LeAnn Way – Treasurer		Andrea Mascardo - Christian Growth
Mark Lamprecht – Financial Secretary		Joyce Knighten - Family Life
Butch Nye - Presiding Elder	Contact information available upon request.	Clay & Kate Hegar - Stewardship

In View of God's Mercy
Ash Wednesday: Mercy in Ashes
March 2, 2022

Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. Joel 2:13

Pre-Service Music

Welcome/Announcements

Call to Worship

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C Amen.

P Return to the Lord your God.

C Christ crucified, I come.

P Behold his miracle of mercy.

C Christ crucified, I come.

P Receive his gift of grace.

C Christ crucified, I come.

P Abide in his steadfast love.

C Christ crucified, I come.

P Rest in his unfailing faithfulness.

C Christ crucified, I come.

Hymn: "Drawn to the Cross, Which Thou Hast Blessed"

LSB 560

**Drawn to the cross, which thou hast blessed with healing
gifts for souls distressed, To find in thee my
life, my rest, Christ crucified, I come.**

**Thou knowest all my griefs and fears, thy grace a
bused, my misspent years; Yet now to thee with
contrite tears, Christ crucified, I come.**

**Wash me and take away each stain; let nothing
of my sin remain. For cleansing, though it
be through pain, Christ crucified, I come.**

**And then for work to do for thee, which shall so
sweet a service be That angels well might
envy me, Christ crucified, I come.**

Confession and Forgiveness

P “Yet even now,” declares the Lord, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; and rend your hearts and not your garments” (Joel 2:12-13). As our Lord summons us to return to him with repentant hearts, we confess our sins and sorrow over them.

C **Almighty God, we are unclean before you. We are marred and marked by the filth of sin. We have turned away from you by disobeying your commandments. We have rebelled against you by seeking our own way rather than following your will. Forgive us.**

P We cry out to you for mercy!

C **Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

(Please silently reflect on the fact that though our sin is great, God’s mercy is greater.)

P Hear the good news! God’s Word declares that “he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love” (Joel 2:13). In the mercy of Almighty God, his Son Jesus was given to die for you to remove the stain of your sin. For Christ’s sake God forgives you all your sin and renews a right spirit within you. His mercy endures forever because his love for you is steadfast.

C **Amen.**

Imposition of Ashes: “Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.”

Prayer of the Day

P Almighty and everlasting God, as we begin our Lenten pilgrimage, we do so in a spirit of repentance. We are sinful and depend completely upon your mercy. Strengthen us by your Holy Spirit so that we might follow you in paths of righteousness. We pray through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

God Speaks to Us Through His Prophet

Joel 2:12-18

P “Yet even now,” declares the Lord, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; and rend your hearts and not your garments.” Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over disaster. Who knows whether he will not turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind him, a grain offering and a drink offering for the Lord your God? Blow the trumpet in Zion; consecrate a fast; call a solemn assembly; gather the people. Consecrate the congregation; assemble the elders; gather the children, even nursing infants. Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her chamber. Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep and say, “Spare your people, O Lord, and make not your heritage a reproach, a byword among the nations. Why should they say among the peoples, ‘Where is their God?’” Then the Lord became jealous for his land and had pity on his people.

Video Song: “Lord, I Need You”

Kristian Stanfill and Matt Maher

God Speaks to Us Through His Apostle

1 John 1:8-9

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

God Speaks to Us Through His Son

Matthew 6:16-18

P And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may

be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

Sermon Hymn: “Today Your Mercy Calls Us”

LSB 915

**Today your mercy calls us to wash away our sin.
However great our trespass, whatever we have been,
However long from mercy our hearts have turned away,
Your precious blood can wash us and make us clean today.**

**Today your gate is open, and all who enter in
Shall find a Father’s welcome and pardon for their sin.
The past shall be forgotten, a present joy be giv’n,
A future grace be promised, a glorious crown in heav’n.**

**Today our Father calls us; his Holy Spirit waits;
His blessed angels gather around the heav’nly gates.
No question will be asked us how often we have come;
Although we oft have wandered, it is our Father’s home.**

**O all-embracing Mercy, O ever-open Door,
What should we do without you when heart and eye run o’er?
When all things seem against us, to drive us to despair,
We know one gate is open, one ear will hear our prayer.**

God Speaks to Us Through Pastor Bailes: “Encountering the Ashes of Repentance”

Joel 2:12-18

We Worship God with Our Offerings

(Our offerings give us an opportunity to give thanks to God for the many ways He has blessed us. Members and regular attendees support God’s mission and ministry as He works through this congregation. Guests are welcome to give an offering, but are not expected to do so. Psalm 54:6; 116:12-14, 17)

Prayers

Psalm 51

P Almighty and merciful God, we approach your throne of grace today as sinners who require your cleansing.

C Lord, have mercy.

P Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love, according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

C Lord, have mercy.

P Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

C Lord, have mercy.

P Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

C Lord, have mercy.

P Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

C Lord, have mercy.

P Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

C Lord, have mercy.

P Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

C Lord, have mercy.

P Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit.

C Lord, have mercy.

P Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you.

C Lord, grant me your grace both to will and to do what pleases you.

P All these things we pray in the name of Jesus, who cleanses us from all unrighteousness.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

C 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.

Holy Communion

P The Lord be with you.

C And with your spirit.

Words of Our Lord

Mt 26:26–28; Mk 14:22–24; Lk 22:19–20; 1 Cor 11:23–25

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Distribution

As the Body and Blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ are distributed, please meditate upon the heavenly peace that comes to us through this Sacrament.

Distribution Hymn: “Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord”

LSB 637

**Draw near and take the body of the Lord,
And drink the holy blood for you outpoured;
Offered was he for greatest and for least,
Himself the victim and himself the priest.**

**He who his saints in this world rules and shields,
To all believers life eternal yields;
With heav'nly bread he makes the hungry whole,
Gives living waters to the thirsting soul.**

**Come forward then with faithful hearts sincere,
And take the pledges of salvation here.
O Lord, our hearts with grateful thanks endow
As in this feast of love you bless us now.**

Blessing

[P] May the merciful God, who is faithful and just to forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness, empower you to live according to his good and gracious will, through Jesus Christ to whom be the glory forever.

[C] Amen.

Closing Hymn: “Renew Me, O Eternal Light”

LSB 704

**Renew me, O eternal Light, and let my heart and soul be bright,
Illumined with the light of grace that issues from your holy face.**

**Remove the pow’r of sin from me and cleanse all my impurity
That I may have the strength and will temptations of the flesh to still.**

**Create in me a new heart, Lord, that gladly I obey your Word.
Let what you will be my desire, and with new life my soul inspire.**

**Grant that I only you may love and seek those things which are above
Till I behold you face to face, O Light eternal, through your grace.**