

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.*

OUR CONTACT INFORMATION

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CHURCH COUNCIL OF LIVING SAVIOR

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Mike Newman – Head Trustee
Lee Wernli - Youth
Andrea Mascardo - Christian Growth
Joyce Knighten - Family Life
Clay & Kate Hegar - Stewardship

Chris Cheatham – Vice President

Lisa Schoppa – Secretary

LeAnn Way – Treasurer

Mark Lamprecht – Financial Secretary

Butch Nye - Presiding Elder

Contact information available upon request.

**In View of God's Mercy
Lenten Midweek: March 16, 2022
Mercy in Suffering**

Pre-Service Music

Welcome/Announcements

We Call Upon Our God

L The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
C Amen.

L My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
C Be not far from me, for trouble is near.

L Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning?
C Be not far from me, for trouble is near.

L O my God, I cry by day and by night, but I find no rest.
C Be not far from me, for trouble is near.

L Deliver my soul from the sword, my precious life from the power of the dog.
C O you my help, come quickly to my aid.

L You have rescued me from the horns of the wild oxen.
C O you my help, come quickly to my aid.

L You who fear the Lord, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him.
C O you my help, come quickly to my aid.

L For he has not despised or abhorred the affliction of the afflicted, and he has not hidden his face from him.
C But God has heard when we cried to him. Amen.

Hymn: "Jesus, I will Ponder Now"

LSB 440

**Jesus, I will ponder now on your holy passion;
With your Spirit me endow for such meditation.
Grant that I in love and faith may the image cherish
Of your suff'ring, pain and death that I may not perish.**

**Make me see your great distress, anguish and affliction,
Bonds and stripes and wretchedness and your crucifixion;
Make me see how scourge and rod, spear and nails did wound you,
How for them you died, O God, who with thorns had crowned you.**

**Yet, O Lord, not thus alone make me see your passion,
But its cause to me make known and its termination.
Ah! I also and my sin wrought your deep affliction;
This indeed the cause has been of your crucifixion.**

**Grant that I your passion view with repentant grieving.
Let me not bring shame to you by unholy living.
How could I refuse to shun ev'ry sinful pleasure
Since for me God's only Son suffered without measure?**

Confession and Forgiveness

- L** The people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned, for we have spoken against the Lord” (Numbers 21:7). We likewise confess to God that we have often spoken against him and have sinned.
- C** **Holy God, we confess our sin to you. When adversity and suffering have come our way, we have complained and spoken against you. We have forgotten your many benefits and blessings to us. We have not trusted you through the hard times, but have resented you and resorted to our own strength. Forgive our iniquity, and pardon our sin.**
- L** We cry 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.)

- L** Hear the good news! God's Word declares that “as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life” (John 3:14-15). In the mercy of Almighty God, his Son Jesus was given to die for you to remove the guilt of your sin. For Christ's sake God forgives you all your sin and gives you eternal life. His mercy endures forever because his love for you is steadfast.
- C** **Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

- L** Gracious Lord, as we continue our Lenten pilgrimage we do so in view of your mercy. We encounter many hardships and much suffering in life. Strengthen us by your Holy Spirit so that we may trust you through the trials and take up the cross to follow you. 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

Numbers 21:4-9

L From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom. And the people became impatient on the way. And the people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we loathe this worthless food.” Then the Lord sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died. And the people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned, for we have spoken against the Lord and against you. Pray to the Lord, that he take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, “Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live.” So Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live.

Video Song: “Lord, I Need You”

Kristian Stanfill and Matt Maher

God Speaks to Us through his Apostle

- L** For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

God Speaks to Us Through His Son

Matthew 8:14-17

- L** And when Jesus entered Peter's house, he saw his mother-in-law lying sick with a fever. He touched her hand, and the fever left her, and she rose and began to serve him. That evening they brought to him many who were

oppressed by demons, and he cast out the spirits with a word and healed all who were sick. This was to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah: “He took our illnesses and bore our diseases.”

Sermon Hymn “Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted”

LSB 451

Stricken, smitten and afflicted, see him dying on the tree!
'Tis the Christ, by man rejected; yes, my soul, 'tis he, 'tis he!
'Tis the long-expected Prophet, David's Son, yet David's Lord;
Proofs I see sufficient of it: 'Tis the true and faithful Word.

Tell me, ye who hear him groaning, was there ever grief like his?
Friends through fear his cause disowning, foes insulting his distress;
Many hands were raised to wound him, none would intervene to save;
But the deepest stroke that pierced him was the stroke that justice gave.

Ye who think of sin but lightly nor suppose the evil great
Here may view its nature rightly, here its guilt may estimate.
Mark the sacrifice appointed, see who bears the awful load;
'Tis the Word, the Lord's anointed, Son of Man and Son of God.

Here we have a firm foundation, here the refuge of the lost:
Christ, the Rock of our salvation, is the name of which we boast;
Lamb of God for sinners wounded, sacrifice to cancel guilt!
None shall ever be confounded who on him their hope have built.

God Speaks to Us Through Tim Douglas, Elder

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, 1116:12-14, 17*)

Prayers

- L** Almighty and merciful God, we approach your throne of grace today as those who struggle with hardships and suffer with pain.
- C** Lord, have mercy.
- L** When we encounter the brokenness of this world and the suffering that it brings—such as natural disasters, economic reversals and financial losses—restore us with your healing power so that we might rest secure in you as our mighty fortress.
- C** Lord, have mercy.
- L** When we experience broken relationships and the suffering that these bring—such as estrangement of family members, alienation from friends and conflict within congregations—restore us with your healing power so that we might seek reconciliation and peace.
- C** Lord, have mercy.
- L** When we experience broken bodies and the suffering that it brings—such as illness, injury and disability—restore us with your healing power so that we might live in health once again.
- C** Lord, have mercy.
- L** When we experience broken minds and the suffering that it brings—such as with mental illness, neurosis and

dementia—restore us with your healing power so that we might know of your love.

C Lord, have mercy.

L When we experience broken spirits and the suffering that it brings—such as depression, despair and desperation—restore us with your healing power so that we might have hope.

C Lord, have mercy.

L When we encounter the death of loved ones and the sorrow that it brings, restore us with your abiding comfort so that we might trust in your victory over death.

C Lord, have mercy.

L When we encounter our own death and the terror that it brings, restore us with your resurrection power so that we might live eternally in your glory.

C Lord, grant me your grace to trust you in times of suffering and sorrow.

L All these things we pray in the name of Jesus the Suffering Servant.

C Amen.

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 glorify forever and ever. Amen.

Benediction

L May the merciful God, who suffered the pain of the cross for you and your salvation, strengthen you to trust him through hardship according to his good and gracious will, through Jesus Christ to whom be the glory forever.

C Amen.

Closing Hymn “Alas! And did my Savior bleed”

LSB 437

**Alas! And did my Savior bleed, and did my sov'reign die?
Would he devote that sacred head for such a worm as I?**

**Was it for crimes that I had done he groaned upon the tree?
Amazing pity, grace unknown, and love beyond degree!**

**Well might the sun in darkness hide and shut his glories in
When God, the mighty maker, died for his own creatures' sin.**

**Thus might I hide my blushing face while his dear cross appears,
Dissolve my heart in thankfulness, and melt mine eyes to tears.**

**But drops of grief can ne'er repay the debt of love I owe;
Here, Lord, I give myself away: 'Tis all that I can do.**