

Our Saviour Lutheran Church 300 West Fowler Ave., West Lafayette 743-2931 www.osluth.org Pastor Randy Schroeder

Purdue Lutheran Ministry
330 West Fowler Ave., West Lafayette
743-2398 www.plm.org
Pastor Kristin Rice

September 24, 2023, 9:00 A.M.

All are welcome here

All people of faith, All people of doubt All people of any origin, race, ability, sexual orientation or gender expression All people who seek a compassionate community

All are welcome here

Welcome to worship, Welcome to pray Welcome to learn, Welcome to give thanks Welcome to serve God and neighbors

All are welcome here

All are redeemed by a gracious God



Introduction

Matthew narrates one of Jesus' controversial parables in which Jesus says that the reign of God is like that of a landowner who pays his workers the same wage no matter what time of day they began to work. When God changes God's mind about punishing Nineveh for their evil ways, Jonah is angry. Yet God is gracious and merciful, abounding in steadfast love. In baptism we receive the grace of God that is freely given to all. As Martin Luther wrote, in the presence of God's mercy we are all beggars.

The Gathering

Prelude Music

The Lord Now Sends Us Forth (setting by Wayne L. Wold, 2018 Augsburg Fortress)

Stand

Call to Worship (inspired by Jonah 3-4, written by Joanna Harader and posted on Spacious Faith. https://spaciousfaith.com/)

PR The word of God came to Jonah

C The word of God comes to us:

PR Go

C Despite your fears

PR Speak

C the truth of God

PR Love

C your neighbor and your enemy

PR Forgive

C as you have been forgiven

PR Receive

C grace upon grace Overflowing from the fullness of God.

Confession and Forgiveness

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

PR Blessed be God, the one who forms us, H Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

C Amen.

PR Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

PR Steadfast and faithful God,

you have revealed the ways of justice, \mathbf{C} vet we fail to follow you. We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering. We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others. For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us. For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

PR Beloved in Christ,
God's justice stretches beyond all understanding.
God's compassion is beyond compare.
In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.
In + Christ, you are already and always forgiven.

C Amen.

Kyrie



Greeting

PR The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

Hymn of Praise



Prayer of the Day

- PR Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C Amen.

Sit

The Word

L A reading from the book of Jonah.

Jonah 3:10-4:11

After Jonah's short sermon in 3:4, the Ninevites all repented and God decided to spare the city. Jonah objected to this and became even more angry when God ordered a worm to destroy a plant that was providing shade. The book ends with a question that challenges any who are not ready to forgive: You, Jonah, are all worked up about a bush, but shouldn't I be concerned about a hundred and twenty thousand Ninevites?

¹⁰When God saw what [the people of Ninevah] did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

^{4:1}But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. ²He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. ³And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." ⁴And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" ⁵Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

⁶The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. ⁷But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. ⁸When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

⁹But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." ¹⁰Then the LORD said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. ¹¹And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

- L The word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Psalm 145:1-8 (Read responsively by whole verse)

The LORD is slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. (Ps. 145:8)

¹I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever.

² Every day I will bless you

and praise your name forever and ever.

³ Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; his greatness is unsearchable.

⁴One generation shall extol your works to another and shall declare your mighty acts.

⁵ They will recount the glorious splendor of your majesty, and on your wondrous works I will meditate.

⁶ They will proclaim the might of your awesome deeds, and I will declare your greatness.

⁷ They shall celebrate the fame of your abundant goodness and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.

⁸ The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

L A reading from the book of Philippians.

Philippians 1:21-30

Paul writes to the Philippians from prison. Though he is uncertain about the outcome of his imprisonment, he is committed to the ministry of the gospel and calls on the Philippians to live lives that reflect and enhance the gospel mission.

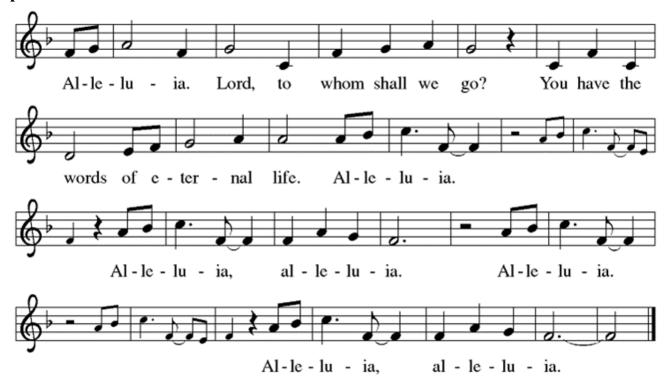
²¹For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²²If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. ²³I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; ²⁴but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

²⁷Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. ²⁹For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well—³⁰since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

- L The word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation



PR The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the twentieth chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

Matthew 20:1-16

Jesus tells a parable about God's generosity, challenging the common assumption that God rewards people according to what they have earned or deserve.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹"The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; ⁴ and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. 5When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. ⁶And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' ⁷They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' 8When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first. When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. ¹¹And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹²saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' ¹³But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. 15Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

PR The Gospel of our Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Pastor Randy Schroeder

Stand

Hymn of the Day, ACS, hymn 1004: Faith Begins By Letting Go



Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: RATISBON, J. G. Werner, Choralbuch, 1815

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PR Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;

he ascended into heaven,

he is seated at the right hand of the Father,

and he will come 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

A Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors. (*A brief silence*.) God who is gracious and merciful, teach your church to invite and welcome all. Lead us to be grateful for the blessing of community. We pray for gatherings and conversations of interfaith partnerships and community groups dedicated to fostering dialog and understanding. Challenge your church to choose equity and compassion over judgment. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A God who sends the wind and the sun, you know every worm and bush by name. Help us remember that even the humblest parts of creation are precious to you. Show us how best to care for the earth and its creatures. We pray for the people of Morocco and Libya in the aftermath of devastating flooding. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A God who is ready to relent from punishing, impart your compassionate wisdom to legislators, judges, members of the military, and law enforcement. Give them courage to serve their communities in times of uncertainty, stress, or exhaustion. We pray for the work of the UN General Assembly; the Lutheran World Federation's new president, the Rev. Henrik Stubkjær, and the partnering work of the Lutheran World Federation as delegates travel home from LWF Thirteenth Assembly in Krakow, Poland. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A God who saves, direct your people in areas around the world experiencing violence and unrest, including Ukraine and Niger. Protect your children from calamity and disaster. Strengthen all who are incarcerated, those struggling with addiction, those in recovery programs, and bring peace to those celebrating sobriety. Encourage all who are in despair or pain of any kind (*especially*) Steve & Deb, Janet, Jason, Fil, Shirley, Linda, Adele, Denise, Victoria, Jennifer, Jeanette, Suzanne, Shelby, Kevin, Nancy, Ann, Mary, Sean, Mayor Dennis, Jane, Robert M, Tom, Peter H, Ruth, Megan, and Crystal. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

- A God who is slow to anger, may we boast about the goodness of Jesus with the confidence of Paul in prison. Inspire us to find abundance in whatever vocation we are called to in the world and in service to our congregation. We pray for the recent assembly of the Sierra Pacific Synod and for Bishop-Elect Jeff Johnson and the attendees of the WELCA Triennial Gathering in Phoenix, AZ. Merciful God,
- C receive our prayer.
- A God who abounds in steadfast love, we give thanks for the saints called to the kingdom of heaven. United with them in spirit, hold us firm as we labor in this life and look to the life to come. Merciful God,
- C receive our prayer.
- PR Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our heart, trusting in your compassion made known through Jesus Christ.
- C Amen.

Peace

PR The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

The Meal

As we prepare to receive Holy Communion, please read the following:

For today's distribution of Holy Communion, after the Invitation to the Table, the presiding pastor will invite the worship assistants (lector, assisting minister, usher) to commune behind the altar. The presiding pastor will then commune those worshiping online and those in the sanctuary who wish to commune in their pews. Then the presiding pastor will commune those who wish to come up to the altar while the Lamb of God is played.

Offering

Please feel free to send your regular tithe in the mail, drop it off to the church office or if you have not checked out our website and the "Your Offering Made Easy" tab, this could be your opportunity. (Ted Heise is available to answer any questions about the Vanco Online giving option. His email address is **theise@panix.com**)

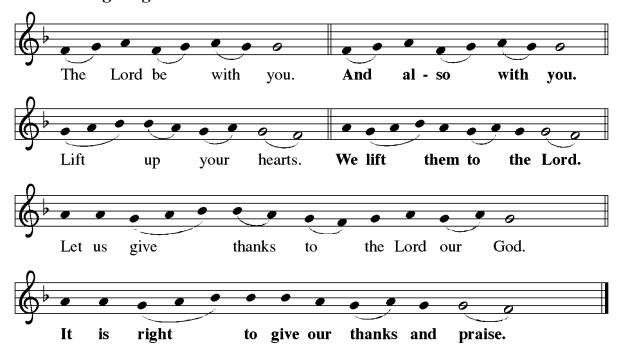


Stand

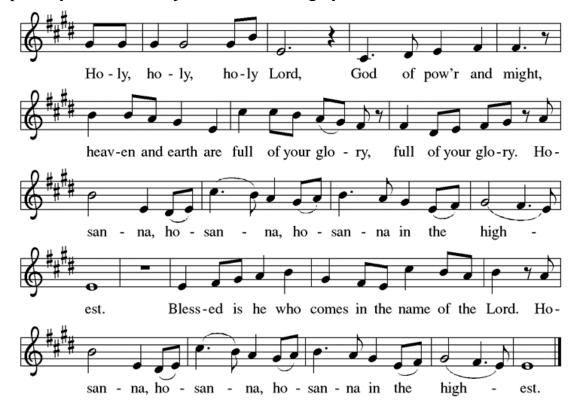
Offering Prayer

- A God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you.
 We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed.
 Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior.
- C Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving



PR It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



PR Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

Amen.

 \mathbf{C}

The Lord's Prayer

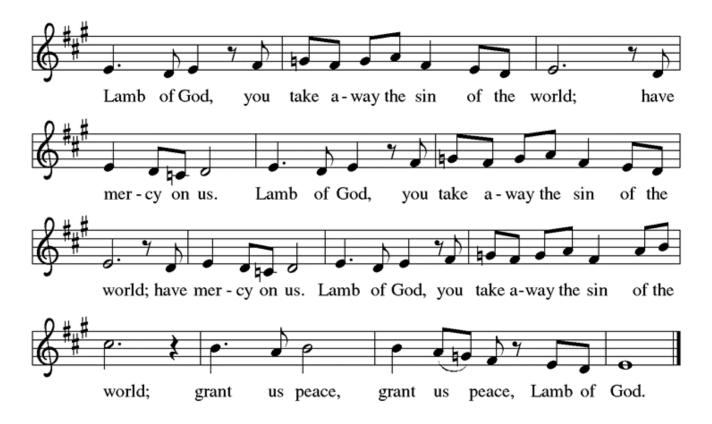
Invitation to Communion

PR So come to this table, which now extends into our homes, you who have faith and you who would like to have faith; you who have been here often and you who have not been for a long time; you who have tried to follow Jesus and you who have failed; come. It is Christ who invites us to meet him here.

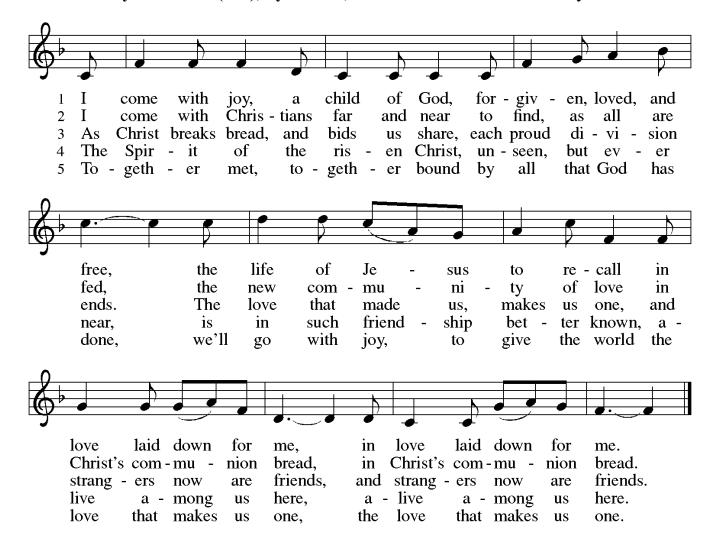
Distribution

There are gluten-free wafers and grape juice. Please indicate your need to the server.

Lamb of God



Communion Hymn: ELW (red), hymn 482, verses 1 & 4: I Come with Joy



Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

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Music: DOVE OF PEACE, W. Walker, Southern Harmony, 1835

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Stand

PR The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us, now and for ever.

C Amen.

Prayer after Communion

- A Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray.
- C Amen.

The Sending

An Invitation

Sending Hymn: ELW (red), Hymn 538: The Lord Now Sends Us Forth



Text: Anonymous, Central America; tr. Gerhard M. Cartford, b. 1923 Music: ENVIADO, anonymous, Central America English text © 1998 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Used with permission. under OneLicense.net, License # A-702953

Blessing

PR The God of glory,

☐ Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

Dismissal

- A Go in peace. God is at work in you.
- C Thanks be to God.

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Worship Assistants Today: Beth Dana (Musician), Mark Hermodson (Cantor), Missy Schroeder (Assisting Minister), Dick Rahdert (Lector), Carl Heutteman (Usher), Mike Williams (A-V Specialist), Jesse Grogan (Assistant to Mr. Williams)

Pastor Randy is available for pastoral care. Please contact him at: 260-402-4476 or by email: randy@osluth.org

Pastor Kristin is available for campus ministry-related care and support. Please contact her at: 262-758-1235 or by email: plmpastorkristin@gmail.com

We collect toiletries (travel size) to donate to the homeless shelter. The basket for your donations is in the narthex. (Look beneath the buffet.)

Our sanctuary is served by a hearing loop. Wearers of hearing aids should turn their aids to the setting marked T, or T-coil, or Telephone.

Kid's Worship Bags and Family Room: The kids' worship bags have been updated with new items that help children follow along with the worship service, storybook Bibles and fun activities to do. For little ones there are quiet toys, books, and activities in the family in the back of the church for the children to play with during the service. Please feel free to let your children explore.

Sunday School

Sunday School is from 10:20 am to 11:05 am. We have classes for children ages 2-5 in the Nursery with Crystal. Elementary school age class for children in grades K-5th and confirmation class for children grades 6th -8th. Everyone is invited to the Fellowship Hall for coffee hour beginning around 10:00 am and the teachers will gather the students at 10:20 to take them to their classrooms. If you have any questions or would like more information, contact Missy Schroeder at missy@osluth.org or at 260-402-4477.

Adult Forum

We are excited for the new semester of Adult Forum! Adult Forum begins in the Fellowship Hall at 10:20 am in person and on zoom. We conclude at 11:05 am. We welcome ideas for topics and guest speakers. Please contact Missy Schroeder at missy@osluth.org or Mark Hermodson@comcast.net if you have any suggestions.

October Schedule:

October 1st- Servant Sunday- no Adult Forum

October 8th- TBD

October 15th- Pastor Kristin sharing about PLM

October 22nd- TBD

October 29th- Video of "The Working Hungry" 30 minute video in advance of Kier Crites from Food Finders on 11/12

Confirmation

All Students in the 6th grade or above are invited to attend Confirmation Classes beginning today. Pastor Randy Invites the students to meet in the Fellowship Hall for the adult forum to hear about Mission Guatemala.

Centering Prayer Group

Join us every Monday morning for Centering Prayer at OSLC in the fellowship hall and online via zoom from 9:00 - 9:30 am. The zoom link will be sent out on Fridays with the worship zoom link.

Fundraiser for Family Promise

Wings Etc., located in both Lafayette and West Lafayette, will be partnering with Family Promise by hosting DINE to DONATE all day on the 3rd Wednesday of each month through the end of 2023. Wings Etc. is donating 15% of pre-tax food and soft drink sales to Family Promise. Bring the DINE to DONATE flyer and show it to the server to support the cause. http://www.fpglinc.org/

On Facebook - Family Promise of Greater Lafayette

School Kits

We are collecting supplies for Lutheran World Relief School Kits. These supplies help children and adults keep education going during a crisis or learn a new vocation, LWR Kits provide dignity and hope in the direst situations. We have a lot scissors and pencils! Thank you for those. We still need notebooks, pens, rulers, erasers, pencil sharpeners and crayons. Thanks again for supporting this project! Drop off your items in the basket located under the table near the office door. Thank you for your help!

Purdue Football Game Parking

It is that time of year again, Football season! That means we need parking attendant volunteers. Volunteers arrive three hours before the game, collect funds for the parking and park the cars. (There are detailed instructions for the attendants.) Funds raised from the parking proceeds go to fund our youth gathering event fund and PLM. The next youth gathering is July 2024. PLM is taking the September 30th game. OSLC will need to fill the slots for the rest of the home games. Please click on the link to the Sign Up Genius to find a date that you can help. I will have a paper copy on the table near the office door. The first three games listed have times, the rest of the game times are TBD. As soon as I find out the times I will update the Sign Up Genius. Thank you! Purdue Football Parking Sign Up

Luncheon Divina- Praying with Scripture

Join us every Wednesday at noon via zoom for Lectio Divina. The zoom link will be sent on Fridays with the worship zoom link.

Exploration Acres Outing- October 22nd from 3:30-6:30 ALL ARE WELCOME!

Please join us for a fun afternoon exploring, playing and enjoying God's creation at Exploration Acres. OSLC has rented fire pit #7 and will provide hot dogs, chips, carrots, apple sauce, bottled water and of course smores! The cost to get into Exploration Acres is \$12/adult, \$9/child. Five and under are free. Please bring chairs for sitting around the campfire. We will meet at the admission building at 3:30 then head to our fire pit. Here is the link for Exploration Acres and if you have any questions please contact me at missy@osluth.org or at 260-402-4477

Women, Wine (or whatever your preferred beverage) & Feminine Spirituality-

Our first Women, Wine and Feminine Spirituality will be Sunday, October 15th from 2:00-4:00 pm at Wildcat Creek Winery. (You do not need to be 21 to go to the winery and they sell soft drinks along with wine.) We will meet on the third Sunday of every month. During our first gathering, I will be introducing what Feminine Spirituality is and offering several ideas/books for us to choose from for our time together. Space is limited at the winery please contact Missy at missy@osluth.org to let me know if you are planning to attend.

Pet Pictures Wanted!

October 4th is St. Francis of Assisi's feast day. He is the patron saint of animals and the environment. Following in his example to bless and honor all of God's creatures, we will be holding a pet blessing during the children's sermon time on Sunday, October 1st. During this time we will display your pet's pictures on the screens in the sanctuary and online and offer a blessing for them. Please send your pet's picture and name to Missy at missy@osluth.org by September 24th so we can get them ready to view by October 1st. Any children who would like to bring their stuffed animals to receive a blessing are more than welcome to do so!



About Our Nave

Against the north wall is the Tree of Life, designed by the late liturgical designer Charles Pohlmann and constructed in 1996 by then-OSLC member Ted Marshall. The processional cross was given to OSLC in memory of Jennie Dana. Many of our paraments were designed and hand-woven by OSLC member Bea Stromberg. The west wall is lined with seven wood carvings depicting the life of Christ commissioned from the late Nigerian carver Lamidi Fakeye. At the center of the nave stands a marble baptismal font, a gift from members of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. The prints of paintings on the east wall are by nationally known liturgical artist He Qi. The center piece is given by the Church Council in honor of Sam Rasmy for his long-time service as Financial Secretary of OSLC. The Last Supper, by Guatemalan artist Angelina Quic Ixtamer, was purchased by the 2014 Guatemala Mission Team. The OSLC logo was redesigned in 2022 with elements reflecting the unique architecture of the sanctuary, the 2019 addition of the south stained-glass window, our affiliation with the ELCA, and the eternal presence of our Lord and Saviour.

References to the Tree of Life are found in both the Old and New Testaments. It has both literal and symbolic meaning for Christians: it is the literal tree of life in Genesis, and in Revelation it represents everlasting life granted to those who display fruits of the spirit and of right-eousness aligned with God's principles.

Our Saviour's Vision, Mission, and Values (October 4, 2018)

Vision God calls us to be a community of discipleship for all,

making Christ's love real in our daily lives.

Mission Grow in faith and Christian calling

Love and serve God and neighbor Proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ

Values Centered in liturgical worship

Outreach to campus and partnership with Purdue Lutheran Ministry

Education and mentoring for all ages Responsible stewardship of resources

Care, compassion and service in the local and global community