

The mark of Jesus' cross
will remind us of how you
are all in for us and for
the world. May that
reminder stay with us
even when these ashes are
washed away.

All In: Words for Worship
"Blessing of the Ashes"



Introduction

On Ash Wednesday we begin our forty-day journey toward Easter with a day of fasting and repentance. Marking our foreheads with dust, we acknowledge that we die and return to the earth. At the same time, the dust traces the life-giving cross indelibly marked on our foreheads at baptism. While we journey through Lent to return to God, we have already been reconciled to God through Christ. We humbly pray for God to make our hearts clean while we rejoice that "now is the day of salvation." Returning to our baptismal call, we more intentionally bear the fruits of mercy and justice in the world.

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

February 18, 2026, 7:00 P.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

The Gathering

Prelude Music

Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service (setting by Anne Krentz Organ, 2010 Augsburg Fortress)
Be Thou My Vision (setting by Jerry van der Pol, 2017 Augsburg Fortress)

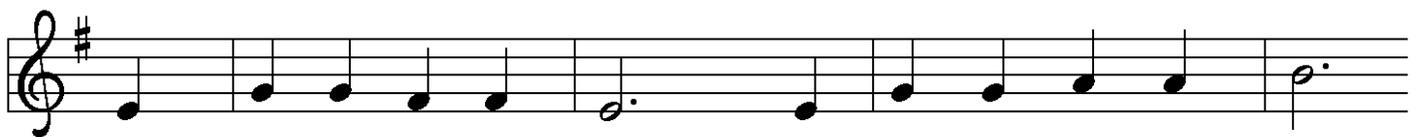
Please stand.

Invocation

PR We gather in the name of God,
who created us,
who was born to be with us,
who guides us still.

C **Amen.**

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!

Greeting

PR The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

PR Gracious God, you call us to repentance, and we have come. This Lent, let repentance be more than a feeling of obligation, a token phrase, or a good intention. Use repentance to draw us back to you, who always meet our wrongdoing with forgiveness and grace. We pray trusting in Jesus' mercy and might.

C **Amen.**

Please be seated.

The Word

L A reading from the book of Joel.

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

¹Blow the trumpet in Zion;
 sound the alarm on my holy mountain!
Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble,
 for the day of the LORD is coming, it is near—
²a day of darkness and gloom,
 a day of clouds and thick darkness!
Like blackness spread upon the mountains
 a great and powerful army comes;
their like has never been from of old,
 nor will be again after them
 in ages to come.

¹²Yet even now, says the LORD,
 return to me with all your heart,
with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;
¹³rend your hearts and not your clothing.

Return to the LORD, your God,
 for he is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love,
 and relents from punishing.

¹⁴Who 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?

¹⁵Blow the trumpet in Zion;
 sanctify a fast;

call a solemn assembly;
¹⁶gather the people.
Sanctify the congregation;
assemble the aged;
gather the children,
even infants at the breast.
Let the bridegroom leave his room,
and the bride her canopy.

¹⁷Between the vestibule and the altar
let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep.
Let them say, "Spare your people, O LORD,
and do not make your heritage a mockery,
a byword among the nations.
Why should it be said among the peoples,
'Where is their God?'"

L Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 51:1-17 (Read responsively by full verse. The odd verses will be read by the Leader, and the congregation will read the even verses **in BOLD**)

¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.
²**Wash me through and through from my wickedness,
and cleanse me from my sin.**
³For I know my offenses,
and my sin is ever before me.
⁴**Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight;
so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.**
⁵Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness,
a sinner from my mother's womb.
⁶**Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me,
and would have me know wisdom deep within.**
⁷Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.
⁸**Let me hear joy and gladness,
that the body you have broken may rejoice.**
⁹Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all my wickedness.
¹⁰**Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.**
¹¹Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
¹²**Restore to me the joy of your salvation
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.**
¹³Let me teach your ways to offenders,
and sinners shall be restored to you.

**14 Rescue me from bloodshed, O God of my salvation,
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness.**

**15 O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

**16 For you take no delight in sacrifice, or I would give it.
You are not pleased with burnt offering.**

**17 The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit;
a troubled and broken heart, O God, you will not despise.**

Please stand.

Gospel Acclamation: ACS, Hymn 921: *Return to God* (Choir will lead, Assembly responds)

Leader

1 In all af - flic - tion
2 With great en - dur - ance
3 In ev - 'ry hard - ship
4 With hum - ble spir - it
5 By speech that's truth - ful
6 To cease op - pres - sion
7 By lov - ing jus - tice
8 With gen - tle kind - ness

Assembly

1 In all af - flic - tion
2 With great en - dur - ance
3 In ev - 'ry hard - ship
4 With hum - ble spir - it
5 By speech that's truth - ful
6 To cease op - pres - sion
7 By lov - ing jus - tice
8 With gen - tle kind - ness

All

re - turn, re - turn to God.

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

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

⁶ “Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven.

² “So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ³ But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴ so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. ⁵ “And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ⁶ But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

¹⁶ “And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ¹⁷ But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, ¹⁸ so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

¹⁹ “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; ²⁰ but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

PR The Gospel of our Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Reflection

Pastor Randy Schroeder

Please stand.

Hymn of the Day, ELW (red), hymn 712: *Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service*



1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser - vice bore the weight of hu-man need,
2 Still your chil - dren wan - der home-less; still the hun - gry cry for bread;
3 As we wor - ship, grant us vi - sion, till your love's re - veal - ing light
4 Called by wor - ship to your ser - vice, forth in your dear name we go,



who up - on the cross, for - sak - en, worked your mer - cy's per - fect deed:
still the cap - tives long for free - dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
in its height and depth and great-ness dawns up - on our quick - ened sight,
to the child, the youth, the a - ged, love in liv - ing deeds to show;



we, your ser - vants, bring the wor - ship not of voice a - lone, but heart;
As you, Lord, in deep com - pas - sion healed the sick and freed the soul,
mak - ing known the needs and bur - dens your com - pas - sion bids us bear,
hope and health, good - will and com - fort, coun - sel, aid, and peace we give,



con - se - crat - ing to your pur - pose ev - 'ry gift which you im - part.
by your Spir - it send your pow - er to our world to make it whole.
stir - ring us to ar - dent ser - vice, your a - bun - dant life to share.
that your ser - vants, Lord, in free - dom may your mer - cy know and live.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984

Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844

Text © Oxford University Press

All rights reserved. Used with permission.
under OneLicense.net, License # A-702953

Invitation to Lent

PR Friends in Christ, the early church spent forty days in preparation before Jesus' passion, death, and resurrection. It was a season of baptismal renewal, of prayer, fasting, and giving.

We gather today in this same tradition to begin the season of Lent together.

We are reminded that as Christians, God calls us to a life of commitment and caring for our neighbors. The events of our lives and of the wider world can be grim, and optimism can be hard to find. It would be easier to detach from the need around us, to go numb and to care less as we try to protect our hearts and our expectations.

But God calls us to go all in, to be fully committed to the well-being of our planet and our neighbors. God knows that this is a challenge, so God goes all in first, showing us what it is like to bet it all on love.

PK God invests in human beings, even though we have a track record of sin that stretches from Adam and Eve to the present day. God invests in creation, even when we are bent on harming it. God commits to the unknown and to wonder when we want certainty and limits. God tends broken relationships. God goes all in on all the highs and lows that life brings, from moments of transcendent beauty to the deepest hopelessness.

And in Jesus, God pours out every last drop of love, all of it for the sake of a world that may never fully understand.

This Lent I invite you into a season of preparation, as always. This Lent in particular is a season of intentional preparation to go all in for the sake of the world. I urge you to commit to this preparation through worship, prayer, fasting, and giving. Even as you prepare to go all in, God has already gone all in for you.

I invite you to commit yourselves, to confess we have missed the mark God set for us. Return to God with all your heart.

Confession of Sin and Imposition of Ashes

An Extended time of silence for self-examination is shared.

You are invited, if able, to kneel, during the confession.

Wherever necessary, please share space, or move to a vacant space.

PR Most holy and merciful God,
C **we confess to you and to one another,
and before the whole company of heaven,
that we have sinned by our fault,**

**by our own fault,
by our own most grievous fault,
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done and by what we have left undone.**

PK We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

C Have mercy on us, O God.

PR We have not been honest about our sin, our shame, or our guilt. We choose to hide in darkness and shame, rather than walk in your light..

C Have mercy on us, O God.

PK We have been disobedient to you, O God. We admit our helplessness this night, and something still fights within us to prove ourselves worthy, rather than admit our failure

C Have mercy on us, O God.

PR We have been deaf to your call to serve others as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

C Have mercy on us, O God.

PK We confess to you our past unfaithfulness; the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience in our lives.

C Have mercy on us, O God.

PR We confess our self-indulgent appetites and ways, our exploitation of other people, our placing the material in life before the love of God, neighbor, or ourselves.

C Have mercy on us, O God.

PK We confess our anger, our frustration, our need to inflict our will on others, our envy of other.

C Have mercy on us, O God.

PR We confess our covetous love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty with that truth in our daily lives.

C Have mercy on us, O God.

PK We confess our negligence in prayer and worship, our unwillingness to yield to your Lordship, and our failure to witness to what we have received from you.

C Have mercy on us, O God.

PR We confess our judgmental hearts, our uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, our refusal to follow your path of peace, our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us.

C Have mercy on us, O God.

PK We confess our blindness to the needs and suffering of others, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty.

C Have mercy on us, O God.

PR We confess our failure to honor your presence among us, to be community to each other, our willingness to share our lives, our hopes and our fears with one another.

C **Have mercy on us, O God.**

A time for additional silent or spoken confession is shared

PK Restore us, O God, for we cannot restore ourselves.

C **Hear us, Lord, and redeem us by your grace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.**

Blessing of the Ashes

PR God of all, bless these ashes and those who receive them.

Let them be a sign of our repentance and of your faithfulness.

The mark of Jesus' cross will remind us of how you are all in for us and for the world.

May that reminder stay with us even when these ashes are washed away.

God of all, bless these ashes and those who receive them.

C **Amen.**

Imposition of Ashes

People may come forward and kneel or stand to receive the ashes.

Ministers mark the forehead of each person with a cross of ashes, saying:

Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

ELW (red), Hymn 793: *Be Thou My Vision*



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,
4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.
thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!



thou my best thought both by day and by night,
 Thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tow'r,
 thou and thou on - ly, the first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
 great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Text: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860–1935, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880–1931
 Music: SLANE, Irish traditional

All rights reserved. Used with permission. under
 OneLicense.net, License # A-702953

After those who desire ashes have received them, all may kneel or sit, and the minister continues.

PK By our dying to self, and returning fully to you, O Lord,
 By our dying with Christ in our baptism,
 By Christ's Death on the cross,
 By your grace alone, O God

C **Bring us with all your saints to the joy of resurrection + and new Life! AMEN!**

The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

PK Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ,
 strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

C **Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

A Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and
 its needs. (*A brief silence.*) Guide your church, O God. Accompany all Christians in this
 season of repentance, and renew our faith in the riches of grace you give to us in baptism.
 Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A Heal this earth, O God. Satisfy the needs of every parched place, every diverse ecosystem,
 every suffering creature. Though all return to dust, grant beauty and purpose to each living
 thing. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

- A Restore the nations, O God. Let your healing spring up quickly across the world, especially in Gaza, South Sudan, Ukraine, Iran, and Venezuela. Give all in authority the will to loose the bonds of injustice and let any who are oppressed go free. Hear us, O God.
- C **Your mercy is great.**
- A Deliver your people, O God. Comfort any whose hearts are rent by grief, uphold any who are sick, bring food to those who hunger, and give housing to all without shelter, especially Dan S., Jacob S., Jake, Mary and Austin M., Jeff, Wayne E., Betty, Jamie J., Megan O., Jennifer, Mike, Fred G., Brittney, Sally, Sheila, Jean, Nathan and Haley, Renee and Sam R. Hear us, O God.
- C **Your mercy is great.**
- A Bless this assembly, O God. Reconcile us to one another and to you. Strengthen our resolve to fast from evil, open our hands in sharing, and quicken our prayer. Hear us, O God.
- C **Your mercy is great.**
- A Hold us forever, O God. We thank you for all who now know their treasure in heaven, and for Martin Luther and all who on earth proclaimed your abounding, steadfast love. Hear us, O God.
- C **Your mercy is great.**
- PK Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.
- C **Amen.**

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 worshipping 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.

Eucharistic Prayer

- PK The Lord be with you.
- C **And also with you.**
- PK Lift up your hearts.
- C **We lift them to the Lord.**
- PK Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

PK We have to praise you,
 we have to thank you, God,
 because the whole universe is filled with your wonders.
 On this very day
 you overcome the powers of death and destruction forever,
 and so, in thankfulness, we join the song of the angels:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Thanksgiving at the Table

PK Creator, you made a wondrous world and called it good.
 You planted a garden, and in it, you crafted your creatures,
 even our ancestors.
 When sin, pain, and death entered the world,
 you did not leave us
 but remained a lover and friend of humanity.
 You made outrageous and hope-filled promises
 to Abram and Sarai,
 you brought water from a rock
 when your people wandered in the wilderness,
 you saw the possibilities
 in least and lowly,
 and you knew that life could come
 even from dry old bones.

When at last the time was right,
you were born to be with us in Jesus
and joined us in the highs and lows of human existence.
You met Nicodemus in his nighttime wondering,
you welcomed the questions of the woman at the well,
you witnessed the rejection of the man born blind,
you wept at the grace of Lazarus,
and you even went through death for us.

On the night of his betrayal and arrest,
knowing it was time to give all of himself,
Jesus took bread, 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.

And so we remind each other and the world:

C Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

PK Pour out your Spirit on us, your gathered people,
and on this meal, your gifts of bread and cup.
Through a holy mystery,
let this become for us the body and blood of Christ.
Let it remind us of the unending feast
for which we are bound.
Let it strengthen us,
that we will become the body of Christ
for the world you so love.

C Amen.

The Lord's Prayer



Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,
your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.
Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we
for-give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al
and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,
and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

Invitation to Communion

PR The table set by Jesus is open to all, and in resurrection Christ is present in this simple food and festive drink. Jesus welcomes friends and strangers to this feast, where the grace of God's love and goodness meet us wherever we are. Here we are welcomed, affirmed, and celebrated with the gifts of God, for us, the people of God.

Distribution

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

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.

Communion Hymn: ELW (red), Hymn 608: *Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling*



- 1 Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing for
- 2 Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing, plead - ing for
- 3 Oh, for the won - der - ful love he has prom - ised, prom - ised for



you and for me. See, on the por - tals he's wait - ing and watch - ing,
you and for me? Why should we lin - ger and heed not his mer - cies,
you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has mer - cy and par - don,

Refrain



watch - ing for you and for me.
mer - cies for you and for me? "Come home, come home!"
par - don for you and for me.



You who are wea-ry, come home.” Ear - nest-ly, ten - der - ly,



Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing, “O sin - ner, come home!”

Text: Will L. Thompson, 1847–1909
Music: THOMPSON, Will L. Thompson

All rights reserved. Used with permission.
under OneLicense.net, License # A-702953

Please 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

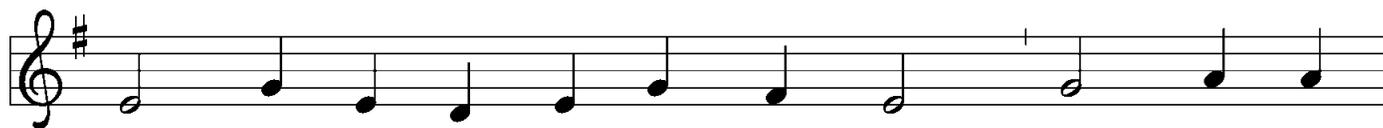
A Let us pray,
God, you have revealed yourself to us again
in the holy mystery of bread and cup.
Strengthen us by your presence,
draw us closer to one another as the Body of Christ,
and send us to reveal you
in our all our words and ways.

C **Amen.**

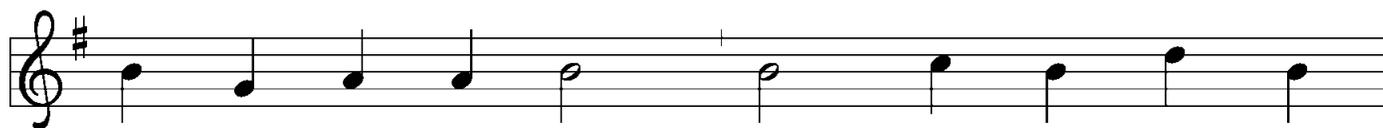
The Sending

An Invitation

Sending Hymn: ELW (red), hymn 320: *The Glory of These Forty Days*



1 The glo - ry of these for - ty days we cel - e -
2 A - lone and fast - ing Mo - ses saw the lov - ing
3 So Dan - iel trained his mys - tic sight, de - liv - ered
4 Then grant, O God, that we may, too, re - turn in



brate with songs of praise; for Christ, through whom all
God who gave the law; and to E - li - jah,
from the li - ons' might; and John, the Bride - groom's
fast and prayer to you. Our spir - its strength - en



things were made, him - self has fast - ed and has prayed.
fast - ing, came the steeds and char - i - ots of flame.
friend, be - came the her - ald of Mes - si - ah's name.
with your grace, and give us joy to see your face.

All rights reserved. Used with permission. under OneLicense.net, License # A-702953

Text: Latin hymn, 11th cent.; tr. Maurice F. Bell, 1862-1947, alt.

Music: ERHALT UNS, HERR, J. Klug, *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543

Outside USA: Text from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906, All rights reserved.

Sending and Benediction

PK As you have met God in this place,
go now to meet God beyond this place.
As you have received the love of Jesus,
go now to give the love of Jesus.
As the Creator has been all in for you,
go now and be all in for the sake of the world.

Gracious God, Parent, Sibling, and Spirit,
bless you as you go.

C **Amen.**

Dismissal

A Go in peace. Share your bread.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Some liturgical words from *Sundays and Seasons.com*. Copyright 2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS000782. New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Invitation to Communion from *Common Prayer Pocket Edition*, © 2012 The Simple Way and School for Conversion

Worship Assistants Today: Julie Huetteman, Adult Choir (Musicians), Beth Dana (Assisting Minister), Pam Miller (Lector), Missy Schroeder (Usher), Mike Williams (A-V Specialist), Matt Ohland (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: pastor@plm.org

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.

PRAYERS

Along with the Indiana Kentucky Synod staff, we lift these faith communities and rostered leaders in our prayers:

Our Saviour – Winchester, IN – Monte Poling, SAM

Pilgrim – Carmel, IN – Rev. Dan Fugate

Pleasant View – Indianapolis, IN – Revs. Sarah and Robert Nowak

Prince of Peace – Merrillville, IN – Rev. Tim Diemer and Rev. Joy Heine, PORs

Prince of Peace – Russell Springs, KY – Rev. Doug Couch

University of Kentucky Campus Ministry – Lexington, KY – Rob Coulston

Rev. Barbara Dahl – Retired – Indianapolis, IN

Deacon Ann Diefenthaler – Retired – Zionsville, IN

Rev. Kelly Nelson – Social Advocacy and Justice Director – IN-KY Synod

Rev. Jack Dixon – Retired – Indianapolis, IN

Rev. Marcus Felde – Retired – South Bend, IN

Bishop Phil Hirsch and the Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod

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 righteousness aligned with God's principles.

Our Saviour's Mission, Vision, and Values (February 10, 2025)

Mission Statement:

Embraced by God's Love to:

- Honor all people
- Share Christ's compassion
- Serve the world

Vision:

Make Christ's love known to all:

- Meet people where they are
- Accompany and encourage one another along the way
- Nurture our roots and foster new growth

Values:

Empathy: Understanding and addressing the needs of others

Growth: Encouraging the development of faith, love, and compassion

Generosity: Giving of time, talents, and assets to care for the community and the world

Belonging: Nurturing a community where all are honored and celebrated

Tradition: Rooted in the Christian faith as members of the ELCA

Caring: managing resources with purpose and integrity.