



*The word
is near you*

Romans 10:8b

First Sunday in Lent

March 9, 2025

BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

3210 Maple Drive, Plover, Wisconsin 54467

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Guest Pastor Gary Schultz

Our Mission

“To Know Jesus and to Make Him Known”

Our Vision

Educate, Equip and Encourage ourselves and our families through worship and study, and engage our community through discipleship, example and Acts of Kindness, using the unique gifts bestowed on each member of our congregation by the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Worship Information

Parents with Young Children: We encourage families to worship together.

Worship Bulletin: Our order of service is printed out in your worship folder.

Worship Form: There are 5 “Movements” in our Worship.

- God grants us the gift of forgiveness.
- God speaks to us from His Word.
- God receives our offerings and prayers.
- God offers us His real presence in Holy Communion.
- God blesses us and sends us out.

Communion: Please read the Statement of Communion below.

(If you are **gluten intolerant** please speak with Pastor or an elder prior to the worship service so we can accommodate you.)

STATEMENT OF COMMUNION

BECAUSE THE WORD OF GOD TEACHES THAT:

- We are all sinners in need of forgiveness.
- Jesus is our only Savior from sin through His death and resurrection.
- The True Body and Blood of Christ is present in the Sacrament of the Holy Communion



Please see Pastor if you have any questions about this or do not believe in the Lord's Supper in this way. You are welcome to come forward for a blessing if you are not communing.

- **Please see Pastor if there is something going on in your life that needs the attention of Christ in private confession and absolution.**

AS WE GATHER-- “Great indeed, we confess, is the mystery of godliness” (1 Timothy 3:16). As we have now entered the forty-day pilgrimage of Lent, we approach the most climactic event of our Lord’s earthly ministry, the one that confused and frightened the first followers of Jesus and perhaps even some to this day. The expectation of the establishment of the kingdom of God with Jesus, the Son of God, seated on a royal throne as ruler was demolished as they witnessed their Rabbi, Master, and Lord taken captive, convicted, tortured, and executed on that Passover in Jerusalem.

The cross has always been an offense. To this day, the same mystery stands: His royal throne is but a frightful cross of crucifixion—His kingdom hidden to the eyes. When confronted with the facts of God’s Word, many cannot see past this mystery. Yet it is the power of God’s Word that gives people the gift of faith and new eyes to see what was incomprehensible and secret now revealed by the Spirit of God. God’s truth is that in the death of Christ, redemption and forgiveness of sin now avails for the entire world. Sinners are delivered, justified before God by faith in the blood of Jesus shed on the cross and given the ability to repent and believe and become children of God for eternity. For sinful mankind, this life-giving truth is impossible to believe or understand. Only because of the mighty Word of God proclaimed to the world by His church and by the power of the Spirit is that otherwise mysterious Word actually easy and powerful to understand and to believe.


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WITNESS AND OUTREACH-- Luke 4:1-13: Satan is alive and well in the world around us. Is this reason to fear? No! It’s reason to trust with all our hearts that God is indeed our Refuge and Fortress. He alone is our Safe Haven. The world in which we live needs to hear the Good News that Satan is defeated in Christ and that he is crushed with the truth of God’s Word and the sustaining power of the Holy Spirit. Instead of despair, share the Good News with your whole heart and then may your heart overflow to those around you with the saving message of the Good News of Christ.

WELCOME to GUESTS & VISITORS

Hymns will be from the Lutheran Service Book (LSB).

✠ PREPARATION ✠

 **HYMN** “God Loved the World So That He Gave” LSB 571

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 124:8; Romans 10:13, 10*

Pastor: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

People: who made heaven and earth.

Pastor: Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

**People: For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with
the mouth one confesses and is saved.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Psalm 91:9*

Pastor: Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith
and confess our sins unto God our Father, that we may
receive His forgiveness.

**People: O God, we believe Your Word is true for it reveals our sin
for which we deserve Your rebuke and judgment. Yet
even more, we believe in Your promise of mercy and
forgiveness for the sake of Christ. We therefore confess to
You all our sins. We plead the suffering and sacrifice of
Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, as the all-sufficient
price of our redemption, and beg Your grace and
forgiveness for the sake of faith in our Savior alone. Hear
us in Your mercy and according to Your promise in
Christ, our Lord.**

Pastor: “Because you have made the Lord your dwelling place—the
Most High, who is my refuge,” upon this, your confession, I,
by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the
Word, announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the
stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive
you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son
and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

✠ WORD ✠



KYRIE LSB 186

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the Promised Land. Guide the people of Your church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

FIRST READING *Deuteronomy 26:1–11* (Moses prepares Israel for entrance into the Promised Land.)

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM *Psalms 91:1–13* (My Refuge and my Fortress)

EPISTLE *Romans 10:8b–13* (The message of salvation to all)

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 4:1–13* (The temptation of Jesus)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fourth chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

(The Gospel is read.)

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

 **HYMN** “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” LSB 656

SERMON “A Stone’s Throw” Luke 4:1-13

CREED *Nicene Creed*

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of

the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Lord God, almighty Father, we give You thanks for Your clear and mighty Word by which You brought the entire universe into being and also ourselves as individual members of the human family. More than that, however, we praise You for re-creating us by faith in Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, to be numbered among those counted already now as citizens of Your heavenly, eternal kingdom. Continue to form, guide, and direct us that we may be salt and light in this world, witnesses of Your eternal grace and glory. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: We pray for Your whole church of every time and every place—all those who rejoice with us in the truth of Your Holy Word as well as those living amid the suppression of Your truth who are challenged for their faith in the clarity of Your Word by the lies and confusion of unbelief. Enlighten the testimony of steadfastness of faith in the face of all falsehood. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Enable all who preach and teach Your Law and Gospel, those called to administer Your Holy Sacraments, and every servant of Your people with the stamina and conviction required to faithfully convey Your Word of truth both in season and out of season so as to convince, rebuke, and exhort with all longsuffering and patience. For Beautiful Savior and the next Pastor you will lead to us, we pray, Lord, that you will bless his current ministry and give us patience and faith while we wait. Lord, be with our call committee and congregation throughout the process. Lord, in Your mercy.

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Graciously grant to our nation, our people, and those who lead and serve in public office wisdom to seek and acknowledge Your divine will, that justice and peace may prevail among all. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Grant Your healing and comfort to all who are sick or hospitalized, those cast down by sorrow or fear, and all who are in any need of body or spirit. Bless all who administer Your love in any way. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: We give thanks to You for all who have died with the sign of faith and are with You. As together we await the glorious day of the resurrection of all flesh and our entry into Your eternal kingdom, grant the peace of faith and trust in Your abiding presence to us who still contend for Your truth. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us, Father, for the sake of Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

OFFERTORY (in offering plate at entrance to sanctuary)



HYMN

“We Give Thee But Thine Own” LSB 781, vs.1-2

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE *2 Timothy 4:22*

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.



SANCTUS “Holy, Holy, Holy” LSB 161

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might:

Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.

Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD *Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24;
Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

Pastor: 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.”

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST *1 Corinthians 11:26; Rev. 22:20*

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

People: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Pastor: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD’S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

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.

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **And also with you. Amen.**



AGNUS DEI “Lamb of God” LSB 163

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

See LSB 329: Christian Questions with Their Answers prepared by Dr. Martin Luther for those who intend to go to the Sacrament.



NOTE: Pastor will come around again, offering the COMMON CUP.



DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“Christ, the Lord of Hosts, Unshaken” LSB 521
“O Lord, throughout These Forty Days” LSB 418
“Once He Came in Blessing” LSB 333

COMMUNION DISMISSAL

Pastor: Now this, the Body and Blood of Christ, crucified, risen and ascended, strengthen you, nourish you and keep you steadfast in the true faith to life everlasting. Depart in peace.

People: **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

People: **and His mercy endureth forever.**

Pastor: We give thanks to You, almighty God, both for Your command to believe and for the faith to receive this salutary gift, and we pray that as Christ’s redeemed people we may show forth the light of Your grace and love to our neighbors; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: **Amen.**



HYMN

“Who Trusts in God a Strong Abode”

LSB 714

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING

Pastor: Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 2.

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NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

(the second listed are lined up with the Lent sermon series being used):

OLD TESTAMENT READING Jeremiah 26:8-15; Isaiah 44:1-5

EPISTLE

Philippians 3:17-4:1; Hebrews 4:15-5:6

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 13:31-35; Matthew 9:9-13

TITHE & OFFERING – our sacrifice of thanksgiving to the Lord

Our “**tithes**” are our first fruits returned to God in proportional, joyful, thankful and faithful response to His grace. “**Offerings**” are special gifts for ministries, memorials and needs over and above the tithe.

(If you are a guest, we welcome you as a guest. Please do not feel obligated to give an offering unless you feel moved to do so by the Spirit.)

February Financial Recap:

February Givings (Thank you!) \$27,050.29

Monthly Need: \$17,812.08

Overage: \$ 9,238.21

Parking Lot Project:

\$66,878.00

Goal: \$100,000

Scrap profit from 2/24/25 – 3/2/25: \$12.60

LWML loose change from 3/2/25: \$29.65

Life Quotes: March 9 “Brothers and sisters, in Christ you are God’s masterpiece. You were created for a purpose. You are the hands and feet of Christ demonstrating His love in a world that desperately needs it. Live out that purpose in the strength that comes from Him and wait joyfully for the day where we get to see His finished product.” *Rev. Adam Osier, Dean, Free Lutheran Bible College, Plymouth, Minnesota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

CALENDAR:

Tuesdays—9am Orphan Grain Train packing

Fridays—10-11:30am, Friday morning Bible study

Wednesdays—Lent Meals and Bible Study, 5:30-7pm

March 11—6:30pm Governance Board Mtg.

March 16—Congregational Call Meeting following church

March 23—1pm Doll Makeover Part



Friday Study: Pastor Dan will lead “You are Never Alone” based on the book by Max Lucado. This study explores Christ’s miracles and how He is still at work in our lives. March 14: He Will Replenish What Life Has Taken.

Call Process:

Thank you to the volunteers serving on our Call Committee:
Karol Harris, Marv Hopp, Lee Loomis, David Lutz, Kristi Philhower

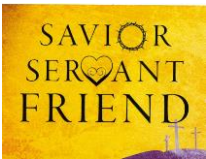
Update: We will hold a Congregational Call Meeting on Sunday, March 16th following church. Names of the top candidates are available in the office.

Help for the Homeless Hygiene Drive: Feb. 23-March 16. There is a box in the narthex for your donations (all of which will remain in the Stevens Point/Plover area helping those here). Most needed items include deodorant, dental care items, feminine care products, soap, diapers, trash bags, laundry detergent, and other items listed on the poster. Small sized items found at a Dollar Store are perfect. We are also collecting **sweatshirts and sweatpants** (sizes L or XL preferred) for the mental health unit. Thank you for your donations.

Grief Share Classes: Tuesdays, 4:30-6pm through May 27. These sessions make it possible for individuals to begin or continue the healing process after the loss of a loved one or dear friend. Pastor Dan will be facilitating. Pamphlets are available in the narthex.



North WI District LWML Spring Retreat: Ready, Set, Rejoice! **Saturday, March 29** (with optional overnight on Friday, March 28) at Camp Luther. All ladies are welcome! You are invited to come ready to relax, laugh, study His Word, and enjoy the rest and retreat of Camp. \$40 per person for Saturday only; Friday and Saturday is \$85 per person. Registration is due by March 15th. Please see Heidi Gross or Teresa Barthel for more information and the registration form.



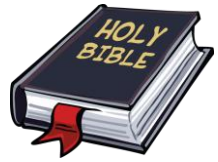
Wednesday Lenten Meals and Bible Study: 5:30-6pm, dinner; 6-7pm Bible Study. March 12th we will be having Lasagna and focusing on Jesus as our Forgiver. How can you help? There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex (dessert, clean-up, host on March 19 or 26). We look forward to growing together this Lenten season.

OGT Doll Makeover Party: March 23rd, 1-3pm. Come help us makeover the many dolls donated to Orphan Grain Train. We will wash faces, comb hair, pick out clothing, and add accessories. Help us give these dolls a little love before they travel to new places and waiting children. All are invited!



March 9-15, 2025

Week 11 “Bible in a Year” Questions:



Exodus 20-26:

1. In ch. 21, what does God declare concerning servants (consider the six year timeframe and what that might signify)?
2. Describe a couple of the “social responsibilities” in ch. 22:16-31. Do any of these stand out to you in light of society today?
3. What do the Israelites declare in 24:3 and again in 24:7?
4. What was the Tabernacle and what was its purpose? Where do you think the offerings came from to furnish it? (ch.25-26)

Job 38-42; Proverbs 1-2:

1. How did Job feel when God spoke to him at last (see 40:4-5 and ch.42)?
2. Did the Lord condemn him?
3. What happens to Job after all of this (42:10-17)?
4. Who wrote the book of Proverbs?

Luke 23-24; John 1-5:

1. When Jesus appears to the disciples (after the resurrection), He asks for something to eat. What is the significance of this request (Luke 24:41-43)?
2. Compare Luke 24:46-49 with Isaiah 53. What do you conclude?
3. Who was the evangelist John and what are some characteristics of his gospel?

General Questions to consider:

1. What did you learn from this week’s readings?
2. Is there something in these readings that surprised you?
3. What is one passage that encourages or challenges you? How?

Beautiful Savior Lutheran Prayer List : 3/9/2025 – 3/15/2025

Ongoing prayers for Grief & Loss: (Named & Not Named):

Family of Art Holford; Schultz Family; Kubisiak family (Roy's mother passed away); Karen Holman (mother, Rose Janke, passed away); Charlene Kawleski (sister, Kathy, passed away); Family of Sharon Hughes

Situations:

Suicide Attempts, Cancer, Christian Parenting, Caregivers, AODA (those struggling with alcohol and other substance abuse), those struggling with mental health

Military: Devante; Emily; Nick

Pending Diagnosis & Treatment:

Ken Resch (Father of Julie Barge); Phil Idsvoog; BSLC friend, Sarah, cancer; Jane Dubois; Lynda Helmrick

Hospitalized/Recovering:

Circuit 17:

St Luke-Rapids (continuing the Call process for a Pastor); Bethlehem-Nekoosa (continuing the Call process for a Pastor); **Beautiful Savior as we are in the Call process**

Shut-ins: Mary S.; Anita C.

Birthdays:

3/9 Dene Mueller

3/10 Blake Carroll

3/14 Donna Baumhofer

3/15 Keith Metz

Baptism Birthdays:

Anniversaries:

3/15 Alivia & Philip Jagielo (12 yrs)

Missions:

First Choice Resource Center

Camp Luther

Peace Campus Center & Pastor Andy Weden

St. Paul Lutheran Elementary School

Immanuel Lutheran School

Future Lutheran High School

Wycliffe & Lutheran Bible Translators & Linda Jordan

J.P. & Aimee Cima & Family

Orphan Grain Train Center

Christ Care / Carpenter's Crew

***Please let us know if you
have any prayer requests –
Thank you! ***

Old Testament Reading: Deuteronomy 26:1–11

¹“When you come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you for an inheritance and have taken possession of it and live in it, ²you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from your land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket, and you shall go to the place that the LORD your God will choose, to make his name to dwell there. ³And you shall go to the priest who is in office at that time and say to him, ‘I declare today to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our fathers to give us.’ ⁴Then the priest shall take the basket from your hand and set it down before the altar of the LORD your God.

⁵“And you shall make response before the LORD your God, ‘A wandering Aramean was my father. And he went down into Egypt and sojourned there, few in number, and there he became a nation, great, mighty, and populous. ⁶And the Egyptians treated us harshly and humiliated us and laid on us hard labor. ⁷Then we cried to the LORD, the God of our fathers, and the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. ⁸And the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with great deeds of terror, with signs and wonders. ⁹And he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. ¹⁰And behold, now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground, which you, O LORD, have given me.’ And you shall set it down before the LORD your God and worship before the LORD your God. ¹¹And you shall rejoice in all the good that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house, you, and the Levite, and the sojourner who is among you.”

Epistle: Romans 10:8b–13

⁸“The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead,

you will be saved. ¹⁰For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. ¹¹For the Scripture says, “Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.” ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. ¹³For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

Holy Gospel: Luke 4:1–13

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness ²for forty days, being tempted by the devil. And he ate nothing during those days. And when they were ended, he was hungry. ³The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread.” ⁴And Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone.’” ⁵And the devil took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time, ⁶and said to him, “To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will. ⁷If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.” ⁸And Jesus answered him, “It is written,

“‘You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve.’”

⁹And he took him to Jerusalem and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, ¹⁰for it is written,

“‘He will command his angels concerning you, to guard you,’

¹¹and

“‘On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.’”

¹²And Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.’” ¹³And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from him until an opportune time.



About the Cover: As we begin the season of Lent, there is great joy in knowing that God has not withdrawn His Word from us. It is near—in our mouths and hearts. Even if everything around us gets stripped away, the Word will remain. It remains because it has come from God Himself through the preaching of the Word. The Word of God says Jesus, our Savior, has overcome all trials and temptations, going all the way to the cross, dying, and rising to redeem us to everlasting life.