Welcome to Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church

5631 N Adams Road
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304
Phone: 248.646.5041 Website:
www.blscmi.org

Sunday Worship Schedule
9:00 – Traditional
11:15 – Contemporary style
3rd Sunday of the month at 10:15—
Service of the Word for Wholeness

Journeying into Eternal Life

"Eternal Peace"

9:00—April 27, 2025

Today we recount the times Jesus appeared to his disciples who were huddled in fear in the Upper Room. They were afraid of the authorities, and when they saw Jesus alive again, probably afraid of his reaction to their betrayal. Jesus showed them the power of a peace eternally deep enough to pass all understanding.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

GATHERING WORSHIP MUSIC

"Awake, My Heart, with Gladness" Robert A. Hobby

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

P: Merciful God,

C: you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.

P: You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of ☩ Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.

C: Amen.

HYMN OF THE DAY *"We Walk by Faith"* v. 1-4 **ELW 635**

1 We walk by faith and not by sight;
with gracious words draw near,
O Christ, who spoke as none e'er spoke:
"My peace be with you here."

2 We may not touch your hands and side,
nor follow where you trod;
but in your promise we rejoice,
and cry, "My Lord and God!"

3 Help then, O Lord, our unbelief;
and may our faith abound
to call on you when you are near
and seek where you are found:

4 For you, O resurrected Lord,
are found in means divine:
beneath the water and the word,
beneath the bread and wine.

THE GREETING

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. O God of life, you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit's breath revive our faith in your mercy, and strengthen us to be the body of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR MISSION STATEMENT

P: Although as individuals we are unique in many and various ways, we gather as a congregation for a common mission.

C: Beautiful Savior is a biblically grounded community who unites to follow and share the way of Jesus.

CHORAL ANTHEM *"And the Father Will Dance"* Mark Hayes

MEMORY VERSE *John 5:24* Janet Gehrke

A: Together, let us recite the memory verse:

C: (Jesus said), "Very truly, I tell you, anyone who hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life, and does not come under judgement, but has passed from death to life."

FIRST READING *Acts 5:12–20*

A: The first reading according to Acts, the fifth chapter.

12 Now many signs and wonders were done among the people through the apostles. And
they were all together in Solomon's Portico. 13 None of the rest dared to join them, but the
people held them in high esteem. 14 Yet more than ever believers were added to the Lord,
great numbers of both men and women, 15 so that they even carried out the sick into the
streets, and laid them on cots and mats, in order that Peter's shadow might fall on some of
them as he came by. 16 A great number of people would also gather from the towns around

Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those tormented by unclean spirits, and they were all cured. [17] Then the high priest took action; he and all who were with him (that is, the sect of the Sadducees), being filled with jealousy, [18] arrested the apostles and put them in the public prison. [19] But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors, brought them out, and said, [20] "Go, stand in the temple and tell the people the whole message about this life."

A: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING *Revelation 1:4-8*
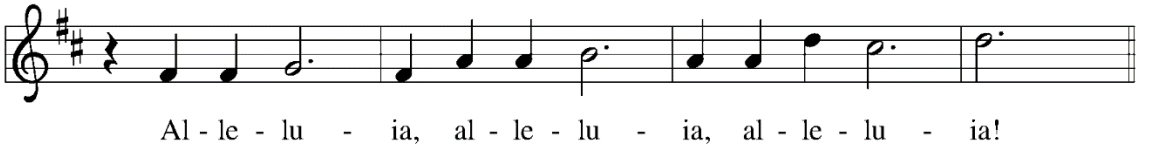
A: The second reading according to Revelation, the first chapter.

[4] John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, [5] and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, [6] and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. [7] Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. [8] "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

A: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL VERSE



GOSPEL *John 20:19-31*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[19] When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." [20] After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. [21] Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." [22] When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. [23] If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." [24] But Thomas

(who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. [25] So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." [26] A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." [27] Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." [28] Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" [29] Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." [30] Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. [31] But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE The Rev. Dr. Niklaus C. Schillack, Senior Pastor

SERMON The Rev. Dr. Niklaus C. Schillack, Senior Pastor

STATEMENTS OF FAITH – VIDEO PRESENTATIONS

Amelia Marie Galdes – *Proverbs 3: 5-6*

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct your paths."

Violet Grace Henry – *Philippians 4:6-7*

"Do not be anxious about anything but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God and the peace of God which surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

William Allen Hutson – *Galatians 6:7*

"Do not be deceived, for one reaps what they sow."

Elizabeth Ann Luck – *Psalms 1:1-3*

"Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or seat in the seat of scoffers; but delight in the law of the Lord, and on his law they meditate day and night. They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruits in season, and they do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper."

Gavin David McGrath – *Psalm 56:4*

"God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord."

Benjamin James Strobel – *Romans 15:13*

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

John Joseph Turowski – *Romans 12:12-18*

"Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your sight. Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with everyone."

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM – CONFIRMATION

P: Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for these people, one with us in the body of Christ, who have been instructed in the Christian faith and are making public affirmation of their baptism.

L: I present the following people who desire to make public affirmation of their baptism.

Amelia Marie Galdes – Daughter of Katie and Kevin Galdes
Violet Grace Henry – Daughter of Becky and Steve Henry
William Allen Hutson – Son of Laura and David Hutson
Elizabeth Ann Luck – Daughter of Michelle and Steve Luck
Gavin David McGrath – Son of Lisa and Eric McGrath
Benjamin James Strobel – Son of Mary and Steve Jarvis and Rev. Ron Strobel
John Joseph Turowski – Son of Margie and Dan Turowski

L: Let us pray. Merciful God, we thank you for these sisters and brothers, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called them to yourself, enlightened them with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished them in the community of faith. Uphold your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ.

C: Amen.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

P: I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church. Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

R: I renounce them.

P: Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

R: I renounce them.

P: Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

R: I renounce them.

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

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

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

C: I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

C: 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.

AFFIRMATION IN THE PRESENCE OF THE ASSEMBLY

P: You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism: to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

R: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

P: People of God, do you promise to support these sisters and brothers and pray for them in their life in Christ?

C: We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

P: Let us pray. We give thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.

P: Father in heaven, for Jesus's sake, stir up in *Amelia Marie … Violet Grace… William Allen … Elizabeth Ann … Gavin David … Benjamin James … John Joseph* the gift of your Holy Spirit; confirm *her/his* faith, guide *her/his* life, empower *her/him* in *her/his* serving, give *her/him* patience in suffering, and bring *her/him* to everlasting life.

L: Let us rejoice with these sisters and brothers in Christ.

C: We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH Janet Gehrke

A: God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

A: Inspire the church with the breath of your Holy Spirit, that we sing the good news of the resurrection. Inspire deacons and pastors, lay leaders and bishops to boldly proclaim your love for all people. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Preserve the earth as a safe home for all creatures. Restore habitats contaminated by pollution or overuse, strengthen efforts to shape more sustainable communities, and make us mindful of the impacts of our daily lives on the well-being of creation. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Kindle in the nations a spirit of cooperation and mutual care. Raise up creative and courageous leaders committed to shaping just solutions to complex challenges in our local and global communities. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Embrace all who carry wounds, that they might know your compassion. Draw near to those with chronic pain or anxiety, and all for whom death is near. Comfort individuals and communities suffering in any way (*especially those we now name aloud or in the quiet of our hearts*). Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Transform our fear into curiosity and love. Unravel stereotypes that lead to discrimination. Destroy systems that oppress vulnerable people. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: We remember the faithful departed from all times and places (*especially those we now name aloud or in the quiet of our hearts*). Confident you are the Alpha and Omega, we pray for your wisdom and guidance until our earthly pilgrimage is complete. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Almighty God, as we continue during this Easter season with the important process of calling additional pastoral support, we humbly ask your wisdom and grace. Guide our hearts and minds, bring discernment, and order our steps. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

C: Amen.

STEWARDSHIP READING *Luke 12:33*

(Jesus said,) "Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys."

OFFERING *"Oceans/You Make Me Brave"* Caleb & Kelsey

Vocalists: Marilyn Lochner and Kelly Newell
Bassist: David Lochner

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray. Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world.

C: Amen.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

LORD'S PRAYER

HOLY COMMUNION *"Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart"* A. D. Miller
"Deck Thyself, My Soul with Gladness" F. Marpung

POST HOLY COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER HOLY COMMUNION

P: Together let us pray:

C: Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world. Amen.

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN *"Let All Things Now Living"* **ELW 881**

1 Let all things now living
a song of thanksgiving
to God the creator triumphantly raise,
who fashioned and made us,
protected and stayed us,
who still guides us on
to the end of our days.
God's banners are o'er us,
God's light goes before us,
a pillar of fire shining forth in the night,
till shadows have vanished
and darkness is banished,
as forward we travel from light into light.

2 God rules all the forces:
the stars in their courses
and sun in its orbit obediently shine;
the hills and the mountains,
the rivers and fountains,
the deeps of the ocean proclaim God divine.
We too should be voicing
our love and rejoicing;
with glad adoration
a song let us raise
till all things now living
unite in thanksgiving:
"To God in the highest, hosanna and praise!"

DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE *"Let All Things Now Living"* Michael Bedford