

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

Jonah - A Man on the Run

“Jesus and Jonah”

9:00—March 17, 2024

Jesus did not mention every prophet in the Hebrew Scriptures, though he did reference Jonah and even compared himself to him. Like Jonah descending into the belly of the fish for three days, Jesus descended to the dead to preach the good news and set free captives of the devil. The verse we hear today from 1 Peter 3 is what we reference in the Apostles’ Creed when we state Jesus “descended to the dead” or in similar words “descended into hell.” It is also one of many verses behind the words of multiple Christian creeds about Jesus ascending into heaven and being seated at the right hand of God.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Flowers given in loving memory of Sue Hoffman

GATHERING WORSHIP MUSIC *“As the Deer Runs to the River”*

Christopher Uehlein

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who writes the law on our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus.

C: Amen.

P: Held in God’s mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Holy God,

C: we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free. We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold. We speak in ways that silence others. We are silent when we should speak up. We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred. For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. Amen.

P: Here is a flood of grace: Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of life through ☩ Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

“O Christ Our Hope” v. 1, 2, 3, 5

ELW 604

- 1 O Christ, our hope, our hearts' desire,
creation's mighty Lord,
redeemer of the fallen world,
by holy love outpoured,
by holy love outpoured:
- 3 But now the bonds of death are burst,
the ransom has been paid;
you reign above at God's right hand,
in robes of light arrayed,
in robes of light arrayed.

- 2 How vast your mercy to accept
the burden of our sin,
and bow your head in cruel death
to make us clean within,
to make us clean within.
- 5 All praise to you, ascended Lord;
all glory ever be
to Father, Son, and Spirit blest
through all eternity,
through all eternity!

THE GREETING

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. O God, with steadfast love you draw us to yourself, and in mercy you receive our prayers. Strengthen us to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, that through life and death we may live in 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

MISSION MOMENT

“Annunciation”

WINGS

CHORAL ANTHEM

“My Faith Looks Up to Thee”
Choral Accompanist: Joe Walters

Brian L. Hanson

MEMORY VERSE

Jonah 4:2d

Bob Hoffman

A: Together, let us recite the memory verse: Jonah said,

C: “...you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing.”

READING

1 Peter 3:17-22

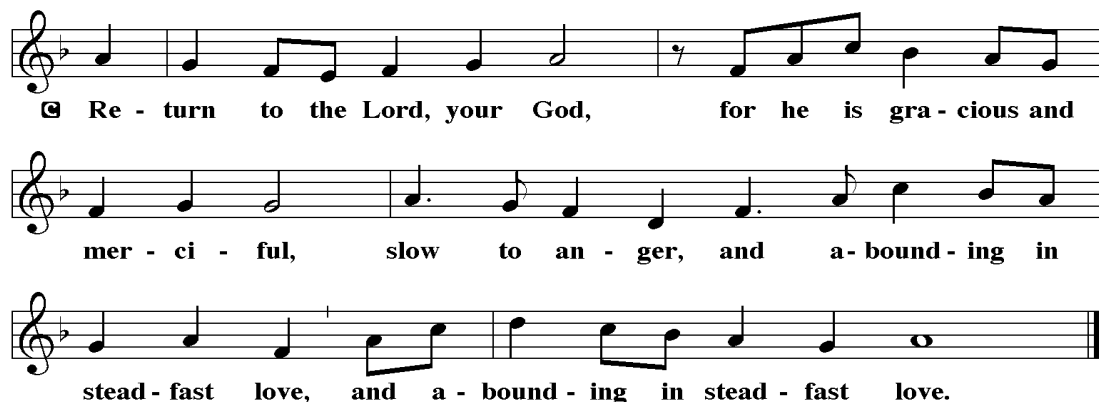
A: The reading according to the first book of Peter, the third chapter.

¹⁷ For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God’s will, than to suffer for doing evil. ¹⁸ For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹ in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰ who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight people, were saved through water. ²¹ And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²² who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

A: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL VERSE



GOSPEL

Matthew 12:38-42

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twelfth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁸ Then some of the scribes and Pharisees said to him, “Teacher, we wish to see a sign from you.” ³⁹ But he answered them, “An evil and adulterous generation asks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. ⁴⁰ For just as Jonah was for three days and three nights in the belly of the sea monster, so for three days and three nights the Son of Man will be in the heart of the earth. ⁴¹ The people of Nineveh will rise up at the judgement with this generation and condemn it, because they repented at the proclamation of Jonah, and

see, something greater than Jonah is here!"⁴² The queen of the South will rise up at the judgement with this generation and condemn it, because she came from the ends of the earth to listen to the wisdom of Solomon, and see, something greater than Solomon is here!"

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Karyn Parker, Children's Ministries Coordinator

SERMON

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

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Thine is the Glory" v. 1, 3

ELW 376

1 Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son; endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won! Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away, kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay. Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son; endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won!	3 No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life; life is naught without thee; aid us in our strife; make us more than conqu'rors, through thy deathless love; bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above. Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son; endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won!
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APOSTLES' CREED

P: God has made us God's own people through our baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith:

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

Bob Hoffman

A: Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

A brief silence.

A: God of the covenant, through the church you draw us into community. We give thanks for the means of grace around which we gather. Inspire writers, musicians, and artists whose creative gifts adorn our worship. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: God of all that exists, you lavish the earth with extravagant beauty. Preserve the rich and complex diversity of living things. Support local, national, and international efforts to protect the environment for future generations. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: God of the nations, you desire peace and plenty for all people. Defend those who challenge oppression and expose corruption. Support advocates for human rights, social justice, and the welfare of children. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: God of good will, you restore what is broken. We pray for any experiencing estrangement, conflict, or abuse in families and intimate relationships. Protect and comfort all who are vulnerable, especially those living in institutions. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: God of every time and place, you are with us. Support ministries of prayer and presence in this congregation. Move us to reach out to any who are homebound, lonely, grieving, in treatment, or ill. Hear us, O God

C: Your mercy is great.

A: God of promise, we give thanks for the saints whose faith inspires us (*especially Patrick, missionary to Ireland, whom we commemorate today*). Grant us faith to trust in your everlasting love. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

STEWARDSHIP READING

Malachi 3:10-11

Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in my house, and thus put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts; see if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing. I will rebuke the locust for you, so that it will not destroy the produce of your soil; and your vine in the field shall not be barren, says the Lord of hosts.

HANDBELL OFFERING

"It Is Well"

Martha Lynn Thompson

Handbell Ringers: Shelley, Beck, Louise Green, Marilyn Lochner,
Mary Reed, Julie Steinmayer, Anita Venola

OFFERING PRAYER

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

LORD'S PRAYER

HOLY COMMUNION

"Beautiful Savior"

Joel Raney

POST HOLY COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER HOLY COMMUNION

P: Together let us pray:

C: Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life. Amen.

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN

"O Christ the Same"

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| 1 O Christ the same, through all our story's pages,
our loves and hopes, our failures and our fears;
eternal Lord, the king of all the ages,
unchanging still amid the passing years:
O living Word, the source of all creation,
who spread the skies and set the stars ablaze;
O Christ the same, who wrought our whole salvation,
we bring our thanks for all our yesterdays. | 2 O Christ the same, the friend of sinners, sharing
our inmost thoughts, the secrets none can hide;
still as of old upon your body bearing
the marks of love in triumph glorified.
O Son of Man, who stooped for us from heaven,
O Prince of life, in all your saving power;
O Christ the same, to whom our hearts are given:
we bring our thanks for this the present hour. |
| 3 O Christ the same, secure within whose keeping
our lives and loves, our days and years remain;
our work and rest, our waking and our sleeping,
our calm and storm, our pleasure and our pain:
O Lord of love, for all our joys and sorrows,
for all our hopes when earth shall fade and flee;
O Christ the same, beyond our brief tomorrows,
we bring our thanks for all that is to be. | |

DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE

"Thine is the Glory"

Karl Osterland