

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 of Wholeness

Who is Jesus?

“The Bread of Life”

11:15 a.m.— January 14, 2024

Jesus is The Bread of Life, and we receive spiritual nourishment from him. This week, we will consider how we encounter Jesus in Holy Communion, and how he becomes a spiritual blood transfusion for us in order that we might live eternally.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

GATHERING WORSHIP MUSIC

“Gratitude”

Brandon Lake

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

written by Martin Luther King, Jr.

P: Eternal God, out of whose absolute power and infinite intelligence the whole universe has come into being,

C: we humbly confess that we have not loved you with our hearts, souls, and minds, and we have not loved our neighbors as Christ loved us. We have all too often lived by our own selfish impulses rather than by the life of sacrificial love as revealed by Christ. We often give in order to receive. We love our friends and hate our enemies. We go the first mile but dare not travel the second. We forgive but dare not forget. And so as we look within ourselves, we are confronted with the appalling fact that the history of our lives is the history of an eternal revolt against you. But you, O God, have mercy upon us. Forgive us for what we could have been but failed to be. Give us the intelligence to know your will. Give us the courage to do your will. Give us the devotion to love your will. In the name and spirit of Jesus we pray. Amen.

P: The voice of the Lord is upon the waters. God has spoken: The time of grace is now. In Jesus, the reign of God has come near. By the authority of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are God’s beloved.

C: Amen.

GATHERING SONGS

“You’re Worthy of My Praise”

“His Mercy is More”

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. Gracious God, your blessed Son came down from heaven to be the true bread that gives life to the world. Give us this bread always, that he may live in us and we in him, and that, strengthened by this food, we may live as his body in the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

MISSION MOMENT

Mission Statement

Tom Barlow

READING

Ephesians 5:15-20

Annette George

A: The reading is from the book of Ephesians, the fifth chapter.

¹⁵ Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, ¹⁶ making the most of the time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷ So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. ¹⁸ Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹ as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among

yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, ²⁰ giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

A: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL

John 6:47-59

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

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said,] ⁴⁷ “Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. ⁴⁸ I am the bread of life. ⁴⁹ Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. ⁵⁰ This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. ⁵¹ I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.” ⁵² The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, “How can this man give us his flesh to eat?” ⁵³ So Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. ⁵⁴ Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; ⁵⁵ for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. ⁵⁶ Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷ Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. ⁵⁸ This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live for ever.” ⁵⁹ He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pr. Jen Kiefer, Asst. to the Bishop

SONG OF THE DAY

“Jesus Messiah”

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Annette George

A: As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God’s blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

A: Encourage the ministry and mission of the church, God of truth. Let the leaders of our church be trustworthy and accountable stewards, that all its resources and outreach bring hope and healing to communities. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Delight in the goodness of your creation, God of fig trees and fertile soil. Heal areas of the world harmed by human greed. Restore those recovering from natural disaster. Protect our forests and waterways and all the creatures that live in them. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Call the leaders of every neighborhood and nation to serve faithfully, God of wisdom. Give them visions of justice and unity. Lead them to action that promotes equitable partnership and uplifts those on the margins of society. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Hold in your care any who suffer and struggle, God of compassion. You who know our inner hearts, be present with any who are oppressed, victims of racism or cultural bias, and all who long for respite or restoration (*especially those we now name aloud or in the quiet of our hearts*). God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Give this congregation the anticipation and excitement of Samuel, so inspired and empowered to do your work in the world, God of unity. Make us faithful as we build communities of inclusion and mutual care. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Trusting God who raised Jesus and will also raise us in spirit and truth, we remember all who have died and are at peace among the saints God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

STEWARDSHIP READING

Proverbs 22:9

Those who are generous are blessed, for they share their bread with the poor.

OFFERING

"In the Secret"

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you. In bread and cup you open heaven to us. Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray.

C: Amen.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

LORD'S PRAYER

HOLY COMMUNION

POST HOLY COMMUNION BLESSING

BLESSING

SENDING SONG

"Hallelujah"

DISMISSAL