

# Welcome to Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church

5631 N Adams Road  
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304  
Phone: 248.646.5041 Website:  
[www.blscmi.org](http://www.blscmi.org)

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

## Who is Jesus?

*“The True Vine”*

9:00 am—February 11, 2024

Jesus is The True Vine, and being connected to him is a source of life. This week, we will look at the things of our lives that need to be pruned and discarded in order that our lives may be more fruitful, and we will see how the Holy Spirit gives us strength to make those difficult decisions.

### ORDER OF WORSHIP

GATHERING WORSHIP MUSIC     *“O Wondrous Image, Vision Fair”*     Kristina Langlois

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, creator of darkness and light, word of truth, wind sweeping over the waters.

**C: Amen.**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: God, our rock and refuge,

**C: we pour out our hearts before you. We have known you but have not always loved you. We have wounded one another and sinned against you. We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit dwelling in each of us. Remember your covenant. Renew your creation. Restore us, that we might proclaim your good news to all. 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 HYMN     *“Christ, Be Our Light”* v. 1, 2, 5     ELW 715

- |   |  |   |  |
|---|--|---|--|
| 1 | Longing for light, we wait in darkness.<br>Longing for truth, we turn to you.<br>Make us your own, your holy people,<br>light for the world to see.<br>Christ, be our light!<br>Shine in our hearts.<br>Shine through the darkness.<br>Christ, be our light!<br>Shine in your church gathered today. | 2 | Longing for peace, our world is troubled.<br>Longing for hope, many despair.<br>Your word alone has pow'r to save us.<br>Make us your living voice.<br>Christ, be our light!<br>Shine in our hearts.<br>Shine through the darkness.<br>Christ, be our light!<br>Shine in your church gathered today. |
| 5 | Many the gifts, many the people,<br>many the hearts that yearn to belong.<br>Let us be servants to one another,<br>signs of your kingdom come.<br>Christ, be our light!<br>Shine in our hearts.<br>Shine through the darkness.<br>Christ, be our light!<br>Shine in your church gathered today.      |   |  |

## THE GREETING

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through 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

*Trinity Seminary*

#### CHORAL ANTHEM

*"You Are the Vine"*

Joseph Martin

#### READING

*1 John 4:7-21*

Ann Hussar

A: The reading is from the first book of St. John, the fourth chapter.

<sup>7</sup> Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup> Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. <sup>9</sup> God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup> In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. <sup>11</sup> Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup> No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. <sup>13</sup> By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup> And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup> God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. <sup>16</sup> So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. <sup>17</sup> Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this world. <sup>18</sup> There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. <sup>19</sup> We love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup> Those who say, "I love God", and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. <sup>21</sup> The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

A: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

### GOSPEL VERSE

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

### GOSPEL

*John 15:1-11*

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

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

(Jesus said) "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. <sup>2</sup> He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup> You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup> Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. <sup>5</sup> I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup> Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup> If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup> My Father

is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples. <sup>9</sup> As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. <sup>10</sup> If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. <sup>11</sup> I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Karyn Parker, Children's Ministries Coordinator

### SERMON

Pr. Elizabeth Friedman, Lutheran Campus Ministry of Ann Arbor

### HYMN OF THE DAY

"Beautiful Savior" v. 1, 2, 4

ELW 838

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1 Beautiful Savior,<br>King of creation,<br>Son of God and Son of Man!<br>Truly I'd love thee,<br>truly I'd serve thee,<br>light of my soul, my joy, my crown. | 2 Fair are the meadows,<br>fair are the woodlands,<br>robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;<br>Jesus is fairer,<br>Jesus is purer,<br>he makes our sorrowing spirit sing. |
| 4 Beautiful Savior,<br>Lord of the nations,<br>Son of God and Son of Man!<br>Glory and honor,<br>praise, adoration,<br>now and forevermore be thine!           |  |

### 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

Ann Hussar

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: We pray for the church, that the transformational power of God enters the hearts of all people. May its leaders serve as examples of your grace and healing across time and space. God of grace,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: We pray for the creation, that we will humbly observe the swirl of wind and the heat of the bright sun. Teach us to honor all you have made and to care for the animals, plants, air, and bodies of water of this planet. God of grace,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: We pray for those charged with leadership, lawmaking, and governance of our towns, states, and countries, that they will strive for goodness and justice all the days of their lives and callings. God of grace,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: We pray for any who are sick and suffering (*especially those we now name aloud or in the quiet of our hearts*). Guide us to offer hospitality, shelter, friendship, and care to any in need. God of grace,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: We pray for this congregation and its ministry in the wider community. May we share the transforming beauty and love of God in ways that honor the dignity of all whom we encounter. God of grace,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: Trusting that all the saints, prophets, and those who die in faith are held in your care, we remember in thanksgiving those who have died (*especially those we now name aloud or in the quiet of our hearts*). Grant us your gift of salvation as we await your coming again in glory. 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

*1 Corinthians 16:1-2a*

Now concerning the collection for the saints: you should follow the directions I gave to the churches of Galatia. On the first day of every week, each of you is to put aside and save whatever extra you earn...

### OFFERING

*"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"*

David Lasky

### OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray. 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

*"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"*

M. Burkhardt/A. Fedak

### POST HOLY COMMUNION BLESSING

### PRAYER AFTER HOLY COMMUNION

P: Together let us pray:

**C: Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever. Amen.**

### BLESSING

P: God who names you, Christ who claims you, and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you, ✠ bless you and remain with you always.

**C: Amen.**

### SENDING HYMN

*"Alleluia, Song of Gladness"* v. 1, 3, 4

**ELW 318**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 Alleluia, song of gladness,<br>voice of joy that cannot die;<br>alleluia is the anthem<br>ever dear to choirs on high;<br>in the house of God abiding<br>thus they sing eternally.             | 3 Alleluia cannot always<br>be our song while here below;<br>alleluia our transgressions<br>make us for a while forgo;<br>for the solemn time is coming<br>when our tears for sin shall flow. |
| 4 In our hymns we pray with longing:<br>Grant us, blessed Trinity,<br>at the last to keep glad Easter<br>with the faithful saints on high;<br>there to you forever singing<br>alleluia joyfully. |   |

## DISMISSAL

### POSTLUDE

*"Fugue in C Minor"*

John Christmas Beckwith  
(1759-1809)