

Our Saviour

Lutheran Church



Saturday Worship + 5:30 pm + 15 March 2025
The Second Saturday in Lent + Year C

6194 Dumfries Rd. Warrenton, VA 20187 + 540.347.3224. +
www.oslc-warrenton.org

About Tonight's Service:

Pastor Terri and pastor Michael are on vacation, so instead of Holy Communion, we will praise God tonight with a lay-led service of Evening Prayer.

This service follows the traditional pattern, but the music and style are pure Saturday night!

❧ THANKSGIVING FOR LIGHT ❧

Voices of Praise plays to signal the start of worship.

Welcome and Announcements

Dialogue

L Jesus Christ is the light of the world,
C the light no darkness can overcome.
L Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening,
C and the day is almost over.
L Let your light scatter the darkness
C and illumine your church.

Gathering Song

Gather Us In

ELW532

As we sing, a large lighted candle, already lit, is carried to its place.

Other candles, on the altar and especially beside the pulpit, may be lit as the song continues.

Here in this place the new light is streaming,
now is the darkness vanished away;
see in this space our fears and our dreamings
brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken,
gather us in, the blind and the lame;
call to us now, and we shall awaken,
we shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young, our lives are a myst'ry,
we are the old who yearn for your face;
we have been sung throughout all of hist'ry,
called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty,
gather us in, the proud and the strong;

give us a heart, so meek and so lowly,
give us the courage to enter the song.

Here we will take the wine and the water,
here we will take the bread of new birth,
here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
call us anew to be salt for the earth.
Give us to drink the wine of compassion,
give us to eat the bread that is you;
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

Not in the dark of buildings confining,
not in some heaven, light years away—
but here in this place the new light is shining,
now is the kingdom, and now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever,
gather us in and make us your own;
gather us in, all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

❧ PSALMODY ❧

Psalm 141

Let My Prayer

W&P 86

Refrain

Let my prayer be a fragrant offering, as incense to you arise.
Let my prayer be a fragrant offering, my hands lifted up in praise.

O Lord, I call to you, come quickly to my side.
O Lord, please hear my voice; listen when I cry. *Refrain*

Please watch my lips, O Lord, and guard the words I say.
Please turn my heart to you; chase my sin away. *Refrain*

My eyes are turned to you, O Lord, my living God.
I look to you for help; be my faithful rock. *Refrain*

Psalm 27: 1-5, 14

Spoken

- ¹ The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?
The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?
- ² **When evildoers close in against me to devour my flesh,
they, my foes and my enemies, will stumble and fall.**
- ³ Though an army encamp against me, my heart will not fear.
Though war rise up against me, my trust will not be shaken.
- ⁴ **One thing I ask of the LORD; one thing I seek;
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my
life; to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek God in
the temple.**
- ⁵ For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter, hide me in the
hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high upon a rock.
- ¹⁴ **Wait for the LORD and be strong.
Take heart and wait for the LORD!**

❧ WORD ❧

First Reading: Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

God promises a childless and doubting Abram that he will have a child, that his descendants will be as numerous as the stars, and that the land of Canaan will be their inheritance. Abram's trust in God is sealed with a covenant-making ceremony, a sign of God's promise.

A reading from Genesis.

- ¹ After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, “Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.”
- ² But Abram said, “O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?”
- ³ And Abram said, “You have given me no offspring, so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.”
- ⁴ But the word of the Lord came to him, “This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.” ⁵ He brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall

your descendants be.”⁶ And he believed the Lord, and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

⁷ Then he said to him, “I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess.”

⁸ But [Abram] said, “O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?”

⁹ He said to him, “Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon.”¹⁰ He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other, but he did not cut the birds in two.¹¹ And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

¹² As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.¹⁷ When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces.

¹⁸ On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, “To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the River Euphrates.”

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: Philippians 3:17–4:1

Although Paul’s devotion to Christ has caused him to be persecuted, he does not regret the course he has taken. Writing from prison, he expresses confidence in a glorious future and encourages other Christians to follow in his footsteps.

A reading from Philippians.

¹⁷ Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us.¹⁸ For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears.¹⁹ Their end is destruction, their god is the belly, and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things.

²⁰ But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. ²¹ He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself.

^{4:1} Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation *My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less* ELW 596

My hope is built on nothing less
than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
no merit of my own I claim,
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Refrain: On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand,
all other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness veils his lovely face,
I rest on his unchanging grace;
in ev'ry high and stormy gale
my anchor holds within the veil. **(Refrain)**

His oath, his covenant, his blood
sustain me in the raging flood;
when all supports are washed away,
he then is all my hope and stay. **(Refrain)**

When he shall come with trumpet sound,
oh, may I then in him be found,
clothed in his righteousness alone,
redeemed to stand before the throne! **(Refrain)**

Gospel: Luke 13:31-35

Neither Herod's plotting nor Jerusalem's resistance will deter Jesus from his sacrificial mission.

A reading from St. Luke.

³¹ At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus], "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you."

³² He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. ³³ Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.' ³⁴ Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! ³⁵ See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.' "

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Reflection on the Readings

Gospel Song:

Canticle of the Turning

W&P 26

1 - My soul cries out with a joyful shout
that the God of my heart is great,
and my spirit sings of the wondrous things
that you bring to the ones who wait.
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight,
and my weakness you did not spurn,
so from east to west shall my name be blest.
Could the world be about to turn?

2 - Though I am small, my God, my all,
you work great things in me,
and your mercy will last from the depths of the past
to the end of the age to be.
Your very name puts the proud to shame,

and to those who would for you yearn,
you will show your might, put the strong to flight,
for the world is about to turn.

Refrain: My heart shall sing of the day you bring.
Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,
and the world is about to turn.

3 - From the halls of pow'r to the fortress tow'r,
not a stone will be left on stone.
Let the king beware for your justice tears
ev'ry tyrant from his throne.
The hungry poor shall weep no more,
for the food they can never earn;
there are tables spread, ev'ry mouth be fed,
for the world is about to turn.

4 - Though the nations rage from age to age,
we remember who holds us fast:
God's mercy must deliver us
from the conqueror's crushing grasp.
This saving word that our forebears heard
is the promise which holds us bound,
till the spear and rod can be crushed by God,
who is turning the world around. **Refrain**

❧ PRAYER ❧

Prayer of the Day

L Let us pray. [*Silence for reflection*]

O Lord God, you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that, following your Son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Prayers of the People

L Beloved, let us lift prayers to our friend, Jesus, either out loud or in silence. Before and after we pray, we sing together.

Prayer Song ***Creator of the Stars of Night*** ELW245, verse 1

Creator of the stars of night,
Your people's everlasting light,
O Christ, redeemer of us all,
We pray you hear us when we call. Amen.

The people are invited to offer their individual petitions.

The prayers conclude with:

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

C Amen.

The Prayer Song is repeated at the conclusion of our prayers.

Creator of the Stars of Night ELW245, verse 3

At your great name, O Jesus, now
All knees must bend, all hearts must bow:
All things on earth with one accord,
like those in heav'n, shall call you Lord. Amen.

Sharing Our Gifts

- L Let us offer back to God what God has first given us: ourselves, our time and our possessions, signs of his gracious love.

Our offerings support the work of the church here and around the world. Please pass the baskets from front to back. You may also make an offering online at www.oslc-warrenton.org by clicking the "DONATE" tab on the homepage. Thank you!

Offertory *Creator of the Stars of Night* ELW245, verse 5

To God the Father, God the Son,
And God the Spirit, Three in One,
Praise, honor, might, and glory be
From age to age eternally. Amen.

Offering Prayer

- L Let us pray together.
C God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

- L O Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:
C 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.

Hymn for Silent Prayer

Still

Hide me now under Your wings.
Cover me within Your mighty hand.

Refrain:

When the oceans rise and thunders roar,
I will soar with You above the storm.
Father, You are King over the flood.
I will be still and know You are God.

Find rest, my soul in Christ alone.
Know His pow'r in quietness and trust.

(Refrain)

❧ SENDING ❧

BLESSING

L Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

L The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep our hearts and our minds in Christ Jesus.

C **Amen.**

Sending Song

Everlasting God

Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord,
We will wait upon the Lord, we will wait upon the Lord.
Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord,
We will wait upon the Lord, we will wait upon the Lord.

Our God, You reign forever.
Our Hope, our strong Deliv'rer.

You are the everlasting God, the everlasting God,
You do not faint, You won't grow weary.
You're the defender of the weak,
You comfort those in need.
You lift us up on wings like eagles.

(Repeat song)

Dismissal: Sharing the Peace

L The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

The people may share a sign of peace as they disperse.

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Music

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Thanksgiving at the Table: *With One Voice*