

Celebrate

Contemporary Worship Service



OUR SAVIOR'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH
Connecting Faith to Everyday Life.

SUNDAY, MARCH 12, 2023 ♦ 11:00 A.M.

Ask



A Lenten series for anyone who's ever had
a question about their faith.

Lent at Our Savior's

GATHERING

Gathering Song – “The River,” Colby Wedgeworth, Jordan Feliz,
and Joshua Silverberg

1. I know a place where we can go
To lay the troubles down eating your soul
I know a place where mercy flows
Take the stains make you whiter than snow

Pre-Chorus: Like a tide it is rising up deep inside
A current that moves and makes ya come alive
Living water that brings the dead to life
Oh oh

Chorus 1: We're goin' down to the river
Down to the river
Down to the river to pray
Let's get washed by the water
Washed by the water
And rise up in amazing grace
Let's go down down down to the river
You will leave changed
Let's go down down down to the river
Never the same

2. I've seen it move in my own life
Took me from dusty roads into Paradise
All of my dirt, all of my shame
Drowned in the streams that have made me born again (*pre-chorus*)

Chorus 2: We're goin' down to the river
Down to the river
Down to the river to pray
Let's get washed by the water
Washed by the water
And rise up in amazing grace
Let's go down down down to the river
You will leave changed
Let's go down down down to the river
Never the same, let's go down...

Chorus 3: We're goin' down to the river
Down to the river
Down to the river to pray
Let's get washed by the water
Washed by the water
And rise up in amazing grace
Let's go down down down to the river
You will leave changed
Let's go down down down to the river
Never the same, let's go down...
I know a place where we can go
To lay the troubles down eating your soul

Gathering Words

Invocation

Prayer of the Day

WORD

Reading – John 4:1–42

Song for Lent – “Embrace the Question,” Justin Kosec and Gene LeVasseur
Here we can ask the uncomfortable question
Here we can give the unguarded answer
God is with us in the conversation;
God is the Word that draws us together
Embrace the question

Sermon

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Come and serve Jesus,
our Living Water,
who joins you in this place today.

**How can simple water
accomplish that which is holy?**

Jesus used water from a well
to invite a lonely Samaritan
to drink from
God's reservoir of grace.

Jesus used water
from his very own mouth
to anoint the eyes
of a man born blind.

**These stories belong to another people
from a time long ago.**

Why should they matter to me?

In baptism, God pours out goodness
in limitless supply.

But I am not worthy of this goodness.

Does God know what I have done?

Jesus uses water to rescue.
Jesus uses water to heal.
Jesus uses water to drown your sin
so your life might reveal God's glory.

Give me that living water.

It is already yours.

Jesus, you have refreshed us.

**This water cools my soul
as you make me new again.**

Song of the Day – "Holy Water," Andrew Bergthold, Ed Cash,
Franni Cash, Martin Cash, and Scott Cash

1. God, I'm on my knees again
God, I'm begging please again
I need you, Oh, I need you
Walking down these desert roads
Water for my thirsty soul
I need you, Oh, I need you

Chorus: Your forgiveness
Is like sweet, sweet honey on my lips
Like the sound of a symphony to my ears
Like Holy water on my skin

2. Dead man walking, slave to sin
I wanna know about being born again
I need you, Oh, God, I need you
So, take me to the riverside
Take me under, baptize
I need you, Oh, God I need you (*chorus*)

Bridge: I don't wanna abuse your grace
God, I need it every day
It's the only thing that ever really
Makes me wanna change (*repeat 2x, then chorus*)

Ending: Your forgiveness

Is like sweet, sweet honey on my lips
Like the sound of a symphony on my ears
It's like holy water on my skin
It's like holy water on my skin
It's like holy water

Apostles' Creed

For some, the Apostles' Creed is like liturgical muscle memory: You can say it without thinking about it.

Today we ask you to affirm your faith
by answering questions
so you might truly consider
what you believe.
If you feel unable
to affirm
your faith today,
listen to those around you.
Borrow some faith from them
as we share these ancient words.

Do you believe there is a God who made us?

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

Do you believe this God sent a child named Jesus to save this world?

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

Do you believe the Holy Spirit animates our faith and empowers the church today?

**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.**

Prayers of the People

You shaped this world with joy.
And you have placed us here
to lovingly tend
your beautiful,
bountiful,
and wonderful world.

Yet so many people feel divorced from
the goodness in your creation,
the goodness in their neighbor,
and the goodness in themselves.

The earth, your creation, is broken today.

We ask for your healing as we pray.

Like a parent,
you wish
you could
take
our pain as your own.

You invite us to serve you,
so why do we feel unworthy
of the refreshment
you provide?

Hold us closer
when we suffer.
And draw closer to our friends
whose concerns we share with you today...

Come with us to the graveside
where we wait
with our grieving friends
for the day of new life.

Your people, your beloved, are broken today.

We ask for your salvation as we pray.

Thank you for bringing us together
to share your name
and your purpose
and a world to love.

Thank you for your prayers of faithful love
given to Nicholas Torbert and Andy Feng
as they were joined in marriage this past week.

Thank you for healing
our bodies
and our spirits
and our society
and this place.

Be patient with us,
because we judge one another,
even though you are shamelessly gracious.

The Church, your holy people, are ready today.

We ask for your Spirit as we pray.

MEAL

Offering

Invitation

Before we collect
our offering today,
we prepare ourselves
with a moment of prayer.

**God, prepare us to give today,
to each other and to you.**

**Give us boldness
so we might ask
our neighbors
what they truly need.**

**Give us humility
so we might listen to their answers.**

**Give us patience
to tolerate disappointment
as we wait for goodness to grow.**

**Give us generosity
so others can benefit
from the money and food
and other things
the world tells us
to keep to ourselves.**

**Give us abundance
so no one ever leaves here hungry.**

Amen.

Offering

Offering Song – “O Living Water,” Denny Gale

Chorus: Oh living water, wash over me. Oh living water, set my soul free.

Who satisfies me and lives in my heart? Jesus, Jesus.

Oh living water, drown all my sins. Oh living water, healing begins.

Who sanctifies me and grants a new start? Jesus, Jesus.

1. This world is thirsting for the Savior’s good news, the marvelous gospel of Christ.

He asks us all to come to the well and drink the water of life. (*chorus*)

2. Christ came to earth to change our hearts and our lives and wash our transgressions away.

He satisfies the forsaken soul with living water today!

(*instrumental solos, chorus*)

Offering Prayer

**God, what will you do
with these gifts?**

We may never know.

**But we carry a faith
passed to us
through generations.**

**We set the table
with food and drink
harvested by many hands.**

**We break the bread
of answered prayers.**

**Use the gifts we give today
to grow tomorrow's mercy.**

Amen.

Holy Communion

Dialogue

Where is our God?

God is here in this place.

Where are your hearts?

We have given them to God.

What shall we do in the presence of our God?

We shall give our thanks and praise.

Preface

Praise and thanks go to you, Great God,
for at the beginning of time
you wondered what your Spirit
hovering over the water could bring forth:

Sky and sea? Yes.

Sun and moon? Yes.

Land and plants and animals?

People made in your divine image?

Could you make it?

The answer was yes.

And you loved this answer.

Everything you made was good.

Yet humanity
does not always act worthy of your goodness.

And people have wondered:

Could a perfect God

love people who were so deeply flawed?

So you sent Jesus,
whose abundant forgiveness,
humiliating death,
and glorious resurrection
all answered

yes

to the question of your love

Now, humble people,
we respond with our own affirmation.

Is our God loving?

Does our God work for the good of those who wait for justice?

Does our God bring new life to those who have died?

Together we say:

Yes,

yes,

yes.

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

Invitation to the Table

Communion Song – “Revelation Song,” Jenny Lee Riddle

1. Worthy is the Lamb Who was slain
Holy, holy is He
Sing a new song to Him Who sits on
Heaven's mercy seat

Chorus: Holy, holy, holy
Is the Lord God Almighty
Who was and is and is to come
With all creation I sing
Praise to the King of kings
You are my ev'rything, and I will adore You

2. Clothed in rainbows of living color
Flashes of lightning rolls of thunder
Blessing and honor strength and glory
And power be to You the only wise King (*chorus*)
3. Filled with wonder awestruck wonder
At the mention of Your name
Jesus Your name is power, breath, and living water
Such a marv'lous mystery, yeah (*chorus*)

Communion Song – “Oceans (Where Feet May Fail),” Joel Houston,
Matt Crocker, and Salomon Lighthelm

1. You call me out upon the waters
The great unknown where feet may fail
And there I find You in the mystery
In oceans deep my faith will stand

Chorus: And I will call upon Your name
And keep my eyes above the waves
When oceans rise
My soul will rest in Your embrace
For I am Yours and You are mine

2. Your grace abounds in deepest waters
Your sov'reign hand will be my guide
Where feet may fail and fear surrounds me
You've never failed and You won't start now (*chorus*)

Bridge: Spirit lead me where my trust is without borders
Let me walk upon the waters
Wherever You would call me
Take me deeper than my feet could ever wander

And my faith will be made stronger
In the presence of my Savior (*repeat 3x; chorus*)

Proclamation after Communion

Friends, now you have
tasted God's goodness for yourself.

Is our God loving?
Does our God work for the good of all?
Does our God bring new life?

Together, we say it again:

Yes,
yes,
yes.

SENDING

Announcements

Sending

Go now to serve
the Messiah Jesus,
the source of living water.

As you leave,
remember the disciples
who came upon Jesus
speaking to that
Samaritan woman by the well.

They were too bashful
to ask why Jesus
would speak with someone like her.

Where do you least expect
to find Jesus?

Sending Song – “Thrive,” Matthew West, Mark Hall

1. Here in this worn and weary land
Where many a dream has died
Like a tree planted by the water
We will never run dry

Pre-Chorus: So living water flowing through
God we thirst for more of You
Fill our hearts and flood our souls
With one desire

Chorus: Just to know You and to make You known
We lift Your name on high
Shine like the sun make darkness run and hide
We know we were made for so much more
Than ordinary lives
It's time for us to more than just survive
We were made to thrive

2. Into Your Word we're digging deep
To know our Father's heart
Into the world we're reaching out
To show them who You are (*pre-chorus, chorus*)

Bridge: Joy unspeakable
Faith unsinkable
Love unstoppable
Anything is possible (*repeat 3x, chorus*)

Ending: We were made to thrive

WORSHIP LEADERS

Presiding Minister: Pastor Justin Kosec

Preaching Minister: Pastor Kari Sansgaard

Celebrate Band: Jane Ruud, Toni LeVasseur, Steve Kuper, George Gogopoulos,
Denny Gale, and Dan Baedke

Narrator: Betty Oldenkamp

Reader: Jim Green

Media: Odell Davis

Sound: Matt Steinhouse

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