

*Lutheran Church*  
**OUR SAVIOURS**



## Weekly Devotional & Connections

March 27, 2026

A wooden cross is the central focus, set against a dark, textured background. The cross is made of light-colored wood. Palm fronds are arranged around the base and sides of the cross, some showing signs of being dried or browned. A purple ribbon is tied around the base of the cross. The overall composition is simple and symbolic.

# *Holy Week*

## **A Message from the Pastors**

Holy Week brings us to the heart of the story we have been living into all Lent. It does not rush us to resurrection. Instead, it invites us to walk closely with Jesus through praise and protest, table and cross, silence and sorrow.

This week gathers together everything we have practiced. We belong as we enter Jerusalem alongside a fragile and hopeful crowd. We listen as Jesus teaches, prays, and speaks love to the very end. We share bread and cup, discovering that Christ gives himself fully for the life of the world.

We serve as we remember that love kneels, washes feet, and refuses to turn away from suffering. And we wait—through the long hours of loss and uncertainty—trusting that God is still present, even when the story feels unfinished.

Holy Week reminds us that faith is not only about what we believe but also about how we stay. We stay with God and with one another through grief and fear, through injustice and pain, through death itself. We do not skip ahead to Easter; we let God meet us exactly where we are.

As our Lenten journey comes to a close and we make our way to the cross, may Holy Week shape us into people who know how to love deeply, wait faithfully, and trust that even in the darkest moments, God is bringing new life into being.

**Volunteer during Holy Week Button #1 Click [HERE](#) if you are willing to: Light candles without starting a fire!**

### **Holy Week Worship:**

March 29 - April 5

#### **April 1 | Common Ground: A Service of Waiting & Healing**

5:30 pm worship | Our Saviour's Campus  
(*There is no dinner following worship this week.*)

#### **April 2 | Maundy Thursday**

Noon | 7 pm worship  
Our Saviour's Campus

#### **April 3 | Good Friday**

11 am | *Journey with Jesus*. Come journey with Jesus from his entry into Jerusalem to the cross. This refreshed experience is welcoming to all ages — children and adults alike.  
Our Saviour's Campus

7 pm worship  
Our Saviour's Campus

#### **April 4 | Easter Vigil**

5 pm worship  
Our Saviour's Campus

#### **April 5 | Easter Sunday Worship**

7 am worship  
8 am breakfast - Everyone is invited to enjoy breakfast at the Fellowship Center  
9 am worship  
11:30 am worship  
Our Saviour's Campus  
  
10:15 am worship  
Celebration Campus

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## **Journey with Jesus**

**Friday | April 3 | 11 am | Our Saviour's Campus**

Come journey with Jesus through the full story of Holy Week, from his entry into Jerusalem, to foot washing and the Last Supper, to the garden, betrayal, and to the cross - all leading to the hope of Easter.

This interactive, intergenerational experience invites all ages to walk, wonder, and reflect together. Children, youth, and adults will engage this story in meaningful, accessible ways, making space for curiosity, conversation, and faith to deepen across generations.

*This refreshed experience is welcoming to all, whether it's your first time or a familiar tradition!*

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## Walking the Way: The Memorial Garden Labyrinth

Thank you to all who have given! If you'd still like to make a gift, the deadline is Easter Sunday.

**Did you know?** A gift of a \$100 or more offers the opportunity to include the name of a loved one or someone you wish to honor on a commemorative plaque displayed in the Celebration Lobby.

Click [here](#) to make a donation. (Indicate Labyrinth Fund in the memo.)

**Volunteer During Holy Week Button #2 Click HERE If : You are excited to smile AND hand out bulletins!**

## Order Easter Lilies and Pies

**Easter Lilies:** Help us fill our Sanctuary and the Celebration Stage with the beauty and fragrance of Easter lilies as we celebrate the joy of the resurrection. Each plant is \$25 and may be dedicated in memory of a loved one or in honor of someone special. Let's adorn our worship spaces with signs of new life and hope this Easter Season. Order your lilies [here](#).

**Easter Pies for Mozambique:** Crafted with love and just the right touch of sweetness. These pies are perfect for sharing; they come in an assortment of flavors to satisfy every taste bud and dietary need (all pies are available gluten-free). A beloved staple at Our Saviour's, these pies shine throughout the year. There's truly no better way to conclude your Easter meal than with a warm slice of homemade pie, infused with God's Love and made especially for you. All proceeds are directed to food, health, and education initiatives in Mozambique.

- Pick up is from 10-11:00 am on Saturday, April 4, at Celebration Campus. Cost is \$30. Last day to order is Monday, March 30.
- Coconut cream with meringue, Apple, Cherry, Triple Berry, Strawberry Rhubarb, Lemon Merigue, Key Lime
- Order on the Mozambique Mission page or by clicking [here](#).



**Gathered: Easter Hospitality:** At Easter, we celebrate the hope and new life found in Jesus' resurrection. Throughout the Gospels, Jesus often gathered people around a table, welcoming those who might otherwise feel alone or overlooked. Again and again, he showed us that hospitality is a powerful way we reflect God's love.

*Gathered is a simple way our congregation lives out that spirit.*

***And we are so excited to share that families are already reaching out to host!***

For Easter, members of our church are invited to open their homes to share a meal and celebrate with others in our congregation. Whether you are far from family, new to the area, navigating a difficult season, or simply hoping to spend the holiday with others, there is a place for you.

*This isn't about hosting a perfect gathering. It's about making room at the table and living into our OSLC Welcome Statement.*

If you would enjoy joining someone for Easter or feel called to open your home to others, we would love to help you be **Gathered** together.

To become a host, please complete this [volunteer form](#).  
To request hosting, please complete this [form](#).

**Volunteer During Holy Week Button #3: Click Here If: You are really good at nodding like you know what you are doing!**

*\*Note: All of those "super fancy" volunteer buttons lead to the same place-- warming Jesus's heart AND the sign-up page, where you'll find more ways to help than flavors in a jar full of jellybeans!*

# This Weekend's Gospel Reading

Luke 19:28-40

## Jesus's Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem

**28** After he had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.

**29** When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, **30** saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. **31** If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.'" **32** So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. **33** As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" **34** They said, "The Lord needs it." **35** Then they brought it to Jesus, and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. **36** As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. **37** Now as he was approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, **38** saying,

"Blessed is the king

who comes in the name of the Lord!

Peace in heaven,

and glory in the highest heaven!"

**39** Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." **40** He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out."

## Worship this Weekend

Choirs and Ensembles

- **Men Sing**, 5:00 pm, Our Saviour's Campus
- **Sanctuary Choir**, 9:00 am, Our Saviour's Campus



## Upcoming Events

### Don't Miss...

- **Easter Garden:** Saturday, April 4, 9 am. Help to fill the Our Saviour's Campus Sanctuary with beautiful spring flowers.
- **Dialogues in Faith:** Starting on April 12, DIF will launch a four-week book series on "Miracles and Wonder: The Historical Mystery of Jesus," by Elaine Pagels. Explore some of the major questions around Jesus with us! You are invited whether or not you've read the book.
- **OSLC Plant Sale:** Saturday, May 9, from 10 am-2 pm, but orders are due on Thursday, April 9. These beautiful plants come fully grown and ready for your garden. All proceeds support our mission partners in Mozambique. Order [here](#). [Silly Plant Sale Video](#)
- **"Cape"-able for Christ: Heroic Acts that Empower," Variety Show:** Sunday, April 12, 4 pm, Celebration Campus. Have a gift to share? OSLC members of ALL ages are invited to perform and share their Variety Show act! Sign up [here](#). All tickets will be sold at the event. Come ready for fun, raffle prizes, and a showcase of the variety of gifts God has given us! All proceeds will support our summer youth mission trips to Slovakia and Milwaukee, WI. More details [here](#). Ignition Promo [Video](#)

- **Senior Lunch:** Monday, April 13, Noon, Fellowship Hall, Our Saviour's Campus, RSVP to the front office.
  - **Family Fun Hot Wheels Event:** Saturday, April 18, 2026, from 10 am -12 pm, Celebration Campus. Games and activities! Fun for the whole family!
  - **Holden Village Evening Prayer Event:** Tuesday, April 28, 7 pm, Our Saviour's Campus virtual event. Join congregations worldwide for a special celebration of the Holden Evening Prayer. Together, we'll share in this beloved service, uniting in prayer, music, and reflection. Come be a part of this meaningful evening and experience the beauty of a shared tradition.
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## OSLC in Action

*The ELCA maintains a strong commitment to social justice, viewing it as a theological mandate to "love the neighbor" and address systemic inequality, poverty, and racism. Grounded in grace, the church engages in public witness, advocacy, and social teaching to promote equity and protect human dignity for all.*

If you plan to attend the Naperville "No Kings" protest on Saturday, March 28, at the Millennium Carillon and would like to connect with others from the church, here are two easy options:

- Meet at 1:15 pm in the high school/Naper Settlement parking lot to walk over together
- Or meet at the Carillon

Look for Jane Whiteside carrying our new "Lutherans for Justice" flag, pictured below.



## Community Connections

- **Hygiene Kits for West Side Heroin and Opioid Task Force, Pastor Fanya Burford Berry, Director:** Help provide items to assemble 25+ hygiene kits for our neighbors on Chicago's West Side. Donations due by April 19 and may be dropped off in the Celebration Campus Lobby Bins or the Our Saviour's Campus Mission Corner starting April 11. For the full list of products, click [here](#).

- **Author Event:** Monday, April 20, at 7 pm. The Unity in Diversity Team at River Glen Presbyterian Church in Naperville invites you to a special evening of reading and conversation in their sanctuary, as they welcome award-winning nonbinary journalist and author of *American Teenager: How Trans Kids Are Surviving Hate and Finding Joy in a Turbulent Era* for a reading and Q&A. In preparation for the event, you are also invited to take part in a book discussion on Wednesday, April 8, and Thursday, April 16, at 7 pm in Room 108 (lower level). No registration is required for either of these gatherings.
- **Naper Settlement Exhibit, We the People: Naperville and the American Story:** The curator of this exhibit is our very own, Dr. Andrea Field. As curator, she researched and wrote content for the exhibit and its interactives, and selected artifacts for display. Head on over to Naper Settlement to learn more about our Nation's and our communities' history, and to support Andrea's diligence and gifts. On display through December. More information can be found on the Naper Settlement [website](#).

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## Caring for Creation

### Take Action this Earth Day

- **An Evening with Urban Canopy:** Tuesday, April 14, 7pm, Adam Schwartz Compost Club Engagement Coordinator, will be speaking about food composting at home and at church. The congregation is invited to attend. This special event will be held in the Surge Room, located in the basement of Our Saviour's Campus.
- **Caring for Creation: Earth Day Event with Diane Osgood:** Thursday, April 16, 7 pm, Celebration Campus Conference Room. In celebration of Earth Day, OSLC Caring for Creation is partnering with Naperville Bonfire to host author and sustainability expert Diane Osgood. Osgood will share insights from her book, *Your Shopping Superpower: Follow Your Values and Better Your World One Purchase at a Time*, offering practical ways to align everyday purchases with your values and make a positive impact on the environment. The evening includes a short presentation, Q&A, and book signing. A limited number of books will be available, or you can purchase one in advance at Anderson's Bookshop. Light refreshments will be served. All are welcome!
- **DuPage River Cleanup:** Saturday, April 18, 9 am- 12 pm, Knoch Knolls Park Nature Center. Join OSLC Caring for Creation as we participate in the annual DuPage River cleanup in partnership with The Conservation Foundation. This community-wide event helps remove trash from the DuPage River and Salt Creek, improving local ecosystems for wildlife and recreation. There is no cost to participate. Join our group. Please [register](#) with us by April 4.



Saturday, May 9, 2 pm - 5 pm, Our Saviour's Campus. You are warmly invited to **Held by Grace**, a restorative and meaningful gathering created to support and care for you in your motherhood journey, whatever that looks like in this season. Together, we will share time for restorative practices, meaningful conversation, small-group connection, a creative craft to take home, quiet reflection, and other moments of renewal.

This event is for all seasons and forms of motherhood, whether you are raising young children, navigating teenage years, supporting adult children, mothering in non-traditional ways, or carrying the heart of a mother in other meaningful roles. This is a space to pause, breathe, and be reminded that you do not need to carry everything alone. Join mothers of all types (just as you are) to be reminded that you are held by grace, too. Register [here](#).

## Listening for the Spirit

As the Metro Chicago Synod prepares to elect our next bishop at our Synod Assembly on June 5-6, we are listening together to how the Holy Spirit is guiding our church in this next season. Members of ELCA congregations across the Synod are invited to share their insight about the leadership gifts our Synod needs now. Your reflections will help shape the Synod's discernment, guide those considering a call to serve as bishop, and support voting members as they prayerfully prepare for the election. For more information and information about upcoming listening sessions, visit <https://mcselca.org/bishop-election/>.

### Discerning Our Next Bishop

Take the Survey (scan QR code)

Survey opens: March 7  
Responses due: April 10



Open to all members of ELCA congregations in the Metro Chicago Synod.

## We're Hiring!

Contemporary Worship Leader  
(Part-Time)

We're looking for a relational and spiritually grounded individual to help lead and shape worship for our Sunday, 10:00 am contemporary service. This role includes planning and leading music, recruiting and supporting volunteers, and working closely with our Director of Worship and pastoral staff to create meaningful, engaging worship experiences. If you have a heart for worship (or know someone who does) and a desire to build community through music, we'd love to hear from you. Submit cover letter, resume, and any questions to: [nicholasdavis@oursaviours.com](mailto:nicholasdavis@oursaviours.com). View the full job description [here](#).

## SEEKING SHINE WRITERS

Would you like to contribute an article to the SHINE Magazine? We'd love to have your voice as part of it. This isn't about being a "perfect" writer. **We're especially looking for reflections, recaps, heart-filled pieces, and observations from within our ministry areas, groups, missions, worship spaces, community, and history.** If you're passionate about a particular area of church life and want to help tell its story, you're exactly who we're looking for. Curious or interested? Let us know. We'd love to connect with you! Email [communications@oursaviours.com](mailto:communications@oursaviours.com).

## VBS 2026

**JUST LIKE ME:** An inclusive, 5-day experience for pre-K through 5th grade! Will take place June 22-26, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. VBS will be held on Sunday during the 10 am service on June 28. Picnic lunch and games to follow! Register a participant [here](#). Register to volunteer [here](#).



## Highlights Gallery Tab

Not on Social Media? No problem!

Come here to find the latest photo and video recaps.

- **NEW [Life Together Videos](#):** Celebration Preschool singers
- **NEW [Pastor Moments Videos](#):** Words, reflections, and conversations with our Pastors. Pastor Ben takes flight, and Pastor Elisabeth speaks of the importance of giving space for grief and lamentation.
- **NEW [Impact Video](#)** page: Watch the Pastors' impact video...What would it be like if no one volunteered?

## Weekend Worship

### Our Saviour's Campus

- Saturday: 5 p.m.
- Sunday: 9 & 11 a.m.

### Celebration Campus

- Sunday: 10 a.m.

For livestreamed and recorded worship services, click [HERE](#).

\*All Worship information, including the weekend bulletin, is now located on the OSLC [HOME](#) page.

Looking to make your 2026 financial pledge to Our Saviour's? You can do so securely online through Realm [HERE](#).

[Welcome Statement](#)

[Council Minutes](#)

[Online Giving](#)

## Knowing Jesus and Making Jesus Known

Two campuses - one mission

815 S. Washington St

919 S. Washington St.

Church office: 630-355-2522

[oursaviours.com](http://oursaviours.com)



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