

RETHINKING DEVOTED COMMITMENT



MARCH 17, 2024

# BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR

## LUTHERAN CHURCH

[www.beautiful-savior.org](http://www.beautiful-savior.org)

2038 NE Aloclek Drive, Suite 202, Hillsboro, OR 97124

9:00 AM      Adult Bible Class  
Sunday School

10:00 AM      Worship Service

**Pastor Scott Mews**  
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### *SERIES THEME: Rethinking Religion*

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Everyone has assumptions about God. Likewise, everyone has assumptions about religion. Increasingly, those assumptions are negative. Americans are walking away from Christianity in breathtaking numbers. It raises the question. How do those people know if their assumptions about religion are correct? Do they really understand Christianity at all? Do we? Do we truly understand this religion?

In the season of Lent, as much as any other, Jesus teaches things that turns the world's assumptions about religion completely upside down. We call it "Christianity." So, in this holy season, let us go straight to Christ and let him replace assumptions with truth. Jesus, help us to rethink religion!

Our worship follows this pattern:

***Third Sunday in Lent - Rethinking the Worth of Worship***

*Fourth Sunday in Lent - Rethinking the Solution to Sin*

*Fifth Sunday in Lent - Rethinking Devoted Commitment*

*Sunday of the Passion - Rethinking Real Strength*

*Holy Thursday - Rethinking Our Appetites*

*Good Friday - Rethinking Sacrifice*

## WELCOME!

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**T**hank you for joining us for worship this morning. Our service is centered on our **Beautiful Savior**, Jesus Christ, who lived, died, and rose from the dead so that we have eternal life in him. God reveals this soul-saving message in the Holy Scriptures. This morning we gather to find strength through God's powerful and holy Word. Please let us know how we can best serve you and your family!

**RESTROOMS** Located through the double doors at the end of the sanctuary.

**CHILDREN** We value having children in worship. Coloring pages are available near the mailboxes on the east wall. If you or your children need a moment, please feel free to make use of our Fellowship Hall at the north end of the sanctuary. Sounds of the service can be heard through speakers in that room.

**MATERIALS** The entire service is printed in this worship folder.

## WORSHIP NOTES: 5th Sunday in Lent

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Religious sociologists sometimes divide Christians into two groups: committed Christians and cultural Christians. The former are usually defined as those who are active in a congregation, who pray regularly, who read Scripture, etc. The latter are those individuals who call themselves Christian and perhaps have some Christian beliefs. Yet, they do not strive to live a Christian life. They are not interested in church involvement.

Those definitions are interesting when trying to understand shifts in American Christianity. However, they demonstrate a false assumption about the Christian religion. There is indeed a devoted commitment at the center of Christianity, but it is not man's commitment to God. Even believers will at times demonstrate lukewarm commitment at best. Instead, at the heart of Christianity we find God's devotion and commitment to us. It is a devoted commitment so strong that it put God on the cross.

## OUR THEME FOR TODAY

Rethinking Devoted Commitment



## ORDER OF SERVICE

*Service of the Word, found on page 38 in the red Hymnal, offers the congregation a form of worship that focuses on the proclamation of God's Word. Spoken by the Minister [M] and Congregation [C].*

### OPENING HYMN 425 (104)

*Go to Dark Gethsemane*



1 Go to dark Geth - sem - a - ne, all who feel the  
2 Fol - low to the judg - ment hall, view the Lord of  
3 Cal - v'ry's mourn - ful moun - tain climb; there, a - dor - ing  
4 Ear - ly has - ten to the tomb where they laid his



tempt - er's pow'r; your Re - deem - er's con - flict see,  
life ar - raigned. Oh, the worm - wood and the gall,  
at his feet, mark that mir - a - cle of time,  
breath - less clay; all is sol - i - tude and gloom.



watch with him one bit - ter hour. Turn not from his  
oh, the pangs his soul sus - tained! Shun not suf - f'ring,  
God's own sac - ri - fice com - plete. "It is fin - ished!"  
Who has tak - en him a - way? Christ is ris'n! He



griefs a - way; learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.  
pain, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.  
hear him cry; learn from Je - sus Christ to die.  
meets our eyes. Sav - ior, teach us so to rise.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt.  
Tune: Richard Redhead, 1820–1901  
Text and tune: Public domain

## **INVOCATION**

**M:** The grace of our Lord † Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**C:** **And also with you.**

## **CONFESSION OF SINS**

**M:** We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

**C:** **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

**M:** God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

**C:** **Amen.**

## PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

### OH, TASTE AND SEE

C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are  
they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -  
ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -  
ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -  
ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.  
Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, by your almighty power you opened the eyes of the blind and showed yourself to them. Turn our eyes away from worthless things, and lead us to love you sincerely; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: A - men.



## FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 43:1-7

<sup>1</sup>But now, this is what the LORD says—  
    he who created you, Jacob,  
    he who formed you, Israel:  
“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;  
    I have summoned you by name; you are mine.  
<sup>2</sup>When you pass through the waters,  
    I will be with you;  
and when you pass through the rivers,  
    they will not sweep over you.  
When you walk through the fire,  
    you will not be burned;  
    the flames will not set you ablaze.  
<sup>3</sup>For I am the LORD your God,  
    the Holy One of Israel, your Savior;  
I give Egypt for your ransom,  
    Cush and Seba in your stead.  
<sup>4</sup>Since you are precious and honored in my sight,  
    and because I love you,  
I will give people in exchange for you,  
    nations in exchange for your life.  
<sup>5</sup>Do not be afraid, for I am with you;  
    I will bring your children from the east  
    and gather you from the west.  
<sup>6</sup>I will say to the north, ‘Give them up!’  
    and to the south, ‘Do not hold them back.’  
Bring my sons from afar  
    and my daughters from the ends of the earth—  
<sup>7</sup>everyone who is called by my name,  
    whom I created for my glory,  
    whom I formed and made.”

## PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 121

### Refrain



Keep me, keep me as the ap - ple of your eye.



Hide me, hide me in the shad-ow of your wings.

### Tone



I lift up my eyes / to the hills—  
where does my help / come from?  
My help comes / from the LORD,  
the maker of heav- / en and earth.  
He will not let your / foot slip—  
he who watches over you will not / slumber;  
indeed, he who watches over / Israel  
will neither slum- / ber nor sleep. *Refrain*

The LORD watches / over you—  
the LORD is your shade at / your right hand;  
the sun will not harm / you by day,  
nor the / moon by night.  
The LORD will keep you / from all harm—  
he will watch o- / ver your life;  
the LORD will watch over your coming and / going  
both now and for- / evermore.  
**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son**  
**and to the Holy / Spirit,**  
**as it was in the be- / ginning,**  
**is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain***

Tune: Jane Marshall

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## SECOND LESSON

Hebrews 5:7-9

<sup>7</sup>During the days of Jesus' life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with fervent cries and tears to the one who could save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. <sup>8</sup>Son though he was, he learned obedience from what he suffered <sup>9</sup>and, once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him.

## VERSE OF THE DAY

Mark 10:45

**C: For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.**

## GOSPEL LESSON

John 12:20-33

<sup>20</sup>Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the festival. <sup>21</sup>They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, with a request. "Sir," they said, "we would like to see Jesus." <sup>22</sup>Philip went to tell Andrew; Andrew and Philip in turn told Jesus.

<sup>23</sup>Jesus replied, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. <sup>24</sup>Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. <sup>25</sup>Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. <sup>26</sup>Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me.

<sup>27</sup>"Now my soul is troubled, and what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. <sup>28</sup>Father, glorify your name!"

Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and will glorify it again." <sup>29</sup>The crowd that was there and heard it said it had thundered; others said an angel had spoken to him.

<sup>30</sup>Jesus said, "This voice was for your benefit, not mine. <sup>31</sup>Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out. <sup>32</sup>And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." <sup>33</sup>He said this to show the kind of death he was going to die.

***After the Gospel, the congregation sings:***



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

# HYMN OF THE DAY 571 (400)

*O God, O Lord of Heaven and Earth*



1 O God, O Lord of heav'n and earth, your liv - ing  
2 In blind re - volt we would not see that reb - el  
3 You came in - to our hall of death, O Christ, to  
4 O Spir - it, who did once re - store the church that



fin - ger nev - er wrote that life should be an aim - less  
wills wrought death and night. We seized and used in fear and  
breathe our poi - soned air, to drink for us the deep de -  
it might yet re - call the one who brings good news to



mote, a death - ward drift from fu - tile birth.  
spite your won - drous gift of lib - er - ty.  
spair that stran - gled our re - luc - tant breath.  
all: breathe on your clo - ven church once more



Your Word meant life tri - um - phant hurled in splen - dor  
We walled us in this house of doom, where death had  
How beau - ti - ful the feet that trod the road to  
that in these gray and lat - ter days there may be



through your bro - ken world; ere light a - woke and life be -  
roy - al scope and room, un - til your ser - vant, Prince of  
bring good news from God! How beau - ti - ful the feet that  
those whose life is praise, each life a high dox - ol - o -



gan, you made for us a ho - ly plan.  
Peace, broke down its walls for our re - lease.  
bring good ti - dings of our sav - ing King!  
gy un - to the ho - ly Trin - i - ty.

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907–1976, alt.

Tune: C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848–1918

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## SERMON

### CONFESSION OF FAITH

### APOSTLES' CREED

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### BE SEATED

### OFFERING

*The members of Beautiful Savior have joined together in the grace of giving (2 Corinthians 8:7) to do the Lord's work of sharing the message of Jesus. To our visitors, you are our guests. While your gifts are indeed welcome, please feel no obligation to give.*

***\*\*The offering plate is located in the back near the Fellowship Hall doors.\*\****

#### **Giving Offerings Electronically**

*Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church can receive offerings electronically through a secure web-site. Visit [beautiful-savior.org/giving](http://beautiful-savior.org/giving) and tap the blue "Give" button. Gifts can be given from a bank account, debit card or credit card.*

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*Prayers and petitions are made on behalf of the Church*

Almighty God and Father, we thank you for all your mercies, especially for the gift of your Son, through whom you have revealed your gracious will. We praise you for the Holy Spirit and his working through the means of grace.

**Plant your Word in our hearts, and cause it to produce fruit in our lives.**

Strengthen and defend your Church, that by your Word and sacraments faith may grow and love toward all may increase.

**Support all who spread the light of your truth throughout the world.**

Keep our children in the grace of their baptisms. Enable their parents to train them in lives of faith.

**Raise up Christians to serve you in the ministry of the Word and in all godly walks of life.**

Preserve our nation in justice and honor. Guide and bless all who make, administer, and judge our laws.

**Give them wisdom that they may promote justice and hinder evil.**

Let your blessing rest on planting and harvest, commerce and industry, medicine and science, the arts and culture. Protect all who travel, and care for those whose work is difficult or dangerous.

**Be with all who devote themselves to any useful task.**

Comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity, [especially . . . here name the person and the cause of the petition]. Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those for whom death draws near.

**Grant them your love, and take them into your tender care.**

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

*Silent prayer*

We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served you, who now rest from their labors, [especially . . . here name the person]. Console those who are mourning or living with sadness.

**Keep us in the true faith, and bring us at last to the joys of heaven.**

Grant us these things, Father, for the sake of Jesus, who died and rose again.

**Amen.**

**C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

**HYMN 836 (431)**

*I Walk in Danger All the Way*



1 I walk in dan - ger all the way; the thought shall nev - er  
 2 I pass through tri - als all the way, with sin and ills con -  
 3 Grim death pur - sues me all the way, no - where I rest se -  
 4 I walk with an - gels all the way, they shield me and be -



leave me that Sa - tan, who has marked his prey, is  
 tend - ing; in pa - tience I must bear each day the  
 cure - ly; he comes by night, he comes by day, he  
 friend me; all Sa - tan's pow'r is held at bay when



plot - ting to de - ceive me. This foe with hid - den snares  
 cross of God's own send - ing. Oft in ad - ver - si - ty  
 takes his prey most sure - ly. A fail - ing breath, and I  
 heav'n - ly hosts at - tend me. They are my sure de - fense;



may seize me un - a - wares if e'er I fail to  
 I know not where to flee, when storms of woe my  
 in death's strong grasp may lie to face e - ter - ni -  
 all fear and sor - row, hence! Un - harmed by foes, do



watch and pray; I walk in dan - ger all the way.  
 soul dis - may; I pass through tri - als all the way.  
 ty to - day; grim death pur - sues me all the way.  
 what they may, I walk with an - gels all the way.



# THANKSGIVING

## CLOSING PRAYER

M: O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people.  
Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and  
bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns  
with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



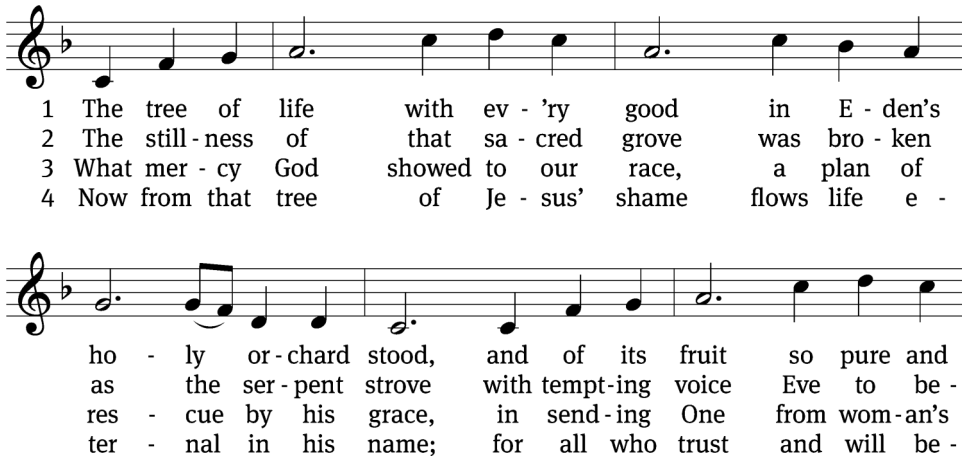
## BLESSING

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace.  
Live in harmony with one another.  
Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.

## HYMN 574

*The Tree of Life*





sweet God let the man and wom - an eat. Yet in this  
guile and Ad - am too by sin de - file. O day of  
seed, the One to fill our great - est need— for on a  
lieve, sal - va - tion's liv - ing fruit re - ceive. And of this



gar - den al - so grew an - oth - er tree, of  
sad - ness when the breath of fear and dark - ness,  
tree up - lift - ed high his on - ly Son for  
fruit so pure and sweet the Lord in - vites the



which they knew; its love - ly limbs with fruit a -  
doubt and death, its aw - ful poi - son first dis -  
sin would die, would drink the cup of scorn and  
world to eat, to find with - in this cross of



dorned a - gainst whose eat - ing God had warned.  
played with - in the world so new - ly made.  
dread to crush the an - cient ser - pent's head!  
wood the tree of life with ev - 'ry good.

Text: Stephen P. Starke, b. 1955

Tune: Bruce W. Becker, b. 1952

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS



# BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR

LUTHERAN CHURCH

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