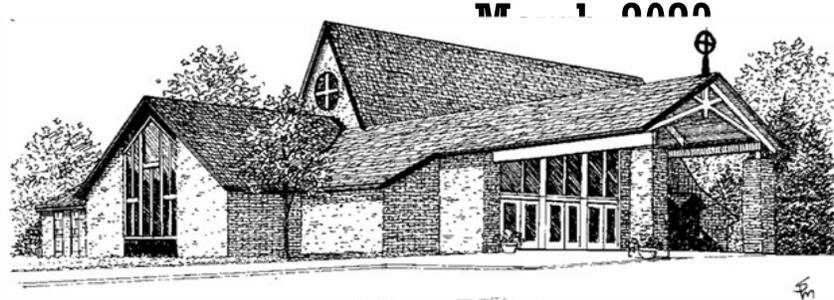


March 2023



Our Savior's Lutheran Church

Sharing the Joy

Sunday Worship

9:30 a.m. Worship Service

9:30 a.m.—10:45 A.M. Sunday School

Our Savior's Lutheran Church ELCA

(715) 394 3472 oslcsuperioroffice@gmail.com

Pastor Sean Koos

pastorkoos@gmail.com



March 2023

Pastor's Report
March 2023

Greetings from your pastor and partner in ministry!!

We did it! We survived another February! God is good! Well, we know that regardless of the weather. God IS good and continues to bless us with rich ministry particularly in this season of Lent. I always appreciate this 6-week transition between the dark, cold days of Epiphany and the sunnier, warmer days of Easter. Like the 4-week transition of Advent, it is a time of anticipation and reflection. We await the rebirth of our Lord with equal excitement as when we awaited his birth, perhaps even more so. I think there is more hope associated with Jesus' rebirth than his birth. Jesus does more for us at Easter than at Christmas. Jesus shows us there is life after death and that we don't need to be afraid of death. Death is just another season of transition like the seasons of Advent and Lent. Death is not an end but rather a beginning and, as with all beginnings, there is great hope.

As we wait for rebirth, we have an opportunity to put to death any unhealthy habits and/or relationships. Scripture tells us to prepare for the coming of our Lord and what better way to do that than to get healthy. I pray you take this opportunity to cast unhealthy habits and relationships on him. Consider it a little "spring cleaning!"

And when you're not wrestling with your spring cleaning, be sure to check out one or all of our midweek Lenten services on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. We'll return to the familiar Holden Evening Prayer and feed our souls yet again. God is good ALL THE TIME!

Blessings,
Pastor Koos

March Narratives		
03/05/2023	Matthew 20:1-16	Parable of the laborers in the vineyard
03/12/2023	Matthew 22:1-14	Parables of the Wedding Banquet
03/19/2023	Matthew 25:1-13	Parable of the Bridesmaids
03/26/2023	Matthew 25:1-16	Parable of the Last Judgment



Pulpit Swap

There will be another pulpit swap on Sunday March 5th. Sarah Gunderson, the intern pastor at Zion Lutheran Church will lead the service here at OSLC. Pastor Sean will lead the service at Zion.



OSLC Sermon Series for Wednesday Lent Service

Behold The Lamb of God

Week 1: Behold, The Lamb of God

John 1:29; Leviticus 4:32-35

Week 2: The Lamb Who Takes Our Place

Isaiah 53

Week 3: The Lamb Who Reclaims Us From
Slavery

1 Peter 1:18-19 Mark 10:44-45

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

Week 4: The Passover Lamb of Whom We Partake

1 Corinthians 5:7; Exodus 12:3-4

Mark 26:26-36

Week 5: The Triumphant Lamb We Serve

Revelations 5:1-14



Lent Wednesdays

The other local Lutheran services will celebrate Lent on the following Wednesday schedule:

Concordia	11:45 a.m. lunch followed by 12:15 service (for those .who don't drive, Concordia is offering bus service, contact 715-394-3762.)
Bethel	5:00 p.m. soup supper followed by 5:30 p.m. service
Zion	5:45 p.m. dinner followed by 6:30 p.m. service
Our Saviors	6:30 p.m. Service
Pilgrim	7:00 p.m. Book Study (on zoom. For zoom access contact Pilgrim at 715-392-4731))



From Our Congregation President

I am pleased to hear the ELCA congregations of Superior are sharing ministry and planning events together. I'm excited that our congregations will become more efficient and use our limited resources to serve our community better. Be sure to participate in our midweek Lent services and set your clocks forward on the 12th. Easter and warmer weather are right around the corner. Keep hanging in there.

Rick Gilbertson, president





Bible Studies-March 2023

Wednesdays, 10:15-11:15

(Zoom meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6627675381> or call 1-312-626-6799, passcode: 046800)

03-01-23 Matthew 20:1-16

1. Why does the landowner go to find more workers many times? What does this teach us about the kingdom of God?
2. How does the landowner interact with the last group of workers? How did he feel about the fact that they had been standing there all day? Is there anything else they could have been doing?
3. Why do you think the landowner paid the last group first?
4. What principles can we learn from the fact that the workers were all paid equally?
5. Did all the workers deserve equal pay? Why or not?
6. Was the original workers' complaint fair or not? Why or why not?
7. What does this parable teach us about God? Man?
8. In this parable there are 5 groups of workers hired at different times. What do you think they represent?
9. How does the resentful spirit of the first group impact how they viewed the other groups? How do you think the other groups might have felt when they heard the complaints of the first group?
10. Thinking about the church today, who would be the people in the first group? How are we tempted to overlook God's blessings because we are focused on what we think we deserve?

03-08-23 Matthew 22:1-14

1. Why do we think the people rejected the invitation?
2. What did the king do when they declined his invitation? What does this teach us about the king?
3. What do we learn about the king from his reaction after they continued to reject his invitation?
4. What does the person in verse 11 without wedding garments represent? Why was the king so harsh to this person?
5. What does this parable teach us about God? People? Heaven? Hell? Justice? Mercy?
6. What does this parable teach us about what our job is in the kingdom of heaven?
7. If you were in this parable, which person would you be? What is our role?
8. Is the invitation to the wedding still continuing today or was this some event in the past?
9. Why do we see that both bad and good guests were invited in verse 10? What does that mean if we are the servants and our job is to fill the wedding with guests?
10. How is it that all of the other guests have wedding garments?

03-15-23 Matthew 25:1-13

1. Who do the virgins represent? Why are they called "virgins" in this passage not perhaps "brides?"
2. What does the lamp represent if anything?
3. What did the virgins do while they were waiting? Was this good or bad for them to sleep?
4. Why was more than one waiting to meet the same bridegroom?
5. If an unbeliever pointed to this parable and said it means the Bible endorses polygamy, what would you say?
6. What are the two categories of virgins? Why were some called foolish and some called wise?
7. Why could the wise ones not share? What lesson does this teach us?
8. What can we learn from the fact those who were not ready were not allowed in? What does this teach us about God's character and salvation?
9. Why didn't the wise virgins share their oil with the foolish virgins?
10. What is the most important planning and preparing we

03-22-23 Matthew 25:31-46

1. How often do we think of Jesus as the Son of Man in his glory? Why?
 2. When we picture a shepherd separating sheep and goats, what do we picture?
 3. Do we have different impressions of sheep and goats? What are they?
 4. Do we find the judgment against the goats surprising? Why?
 5. How are Christian readers supposed to respond to this story, do we think?
 6. Does the standard of judgment in verse 40 seem gracious or ungracious? Why?
 7. What does it mean to "be watchful" in relation to the coming of the Son of Man in his glory?
 8. Does this passage teach that the believers are saved through good deeds?
 9. What does verse 40 teach us about serving God?
 10. What can you do to ensure that you are a sheep and not a goat?
-

03-29-23 Matthew 21:1-17

1. What does this passage teach us about Jesus' character?
2. Is it right for them to just take the colt? Why or why not?
3. Why would the owners be willing for Jesus to take the colt?
4. What does this show us about the crowd's opinion of Jesus at this time?
5. What prophecy does Jesus quote to the disciples? Why is this prophecy important?
6. What did the disciples do when Jesus told them to go? How would you feel doing something like this?
7. How did Jesus know that the animals would be just inside the village? Did he exercise his omniscience or did he prearrange to have the animals ready for his need?
8. If you were one of the disciples Jesus sent to get the animals, what would you have been talking about on the way into town?
9. Do you think everyone in the crowd was a true worshiper of Christ? Why or why not?
10. Who is in control of every aspect of these events? Why do you think Jesus allowed this kind of worship and public announcing of Himself as the Messiah to happen when he had stopped it so many times before?



Mentor Questions

March 2023

1. Which do you think is better: praying aloud or silently praying? Why?
2. Which do you think is better: praying alone or praying with others? Why?
3. Which do you think is better: praying for yourself or praying for others? Why?
4. What is the first image that comes to mind when you hear the word, "grace?"
5. Are you more likely to receive grace or extend grace? Why?
6. Which is harder for you to understand: God's forgiveness, forgiving others, others forgiving you, or forgiving yourself?
7. On a scale of 1 to 10, how willing are you to forgive others?
8. Do you think there are limits to God's grace? If so, where does God draw the line?
9. To what extent do you trust others? To what extent do you trust yourself?
10. What amazes you most about grace?
11. How would the world be different without God's grace?
12. What is the purpose of baptism?
13. Is baptism necessary for salvation? Why or why not?
14. Is it necessary to re-baptize people?
15. Why is baptism an important part of a person's spiritual journey?
16. How does baptism connect us with Christ?
17. What is the gift of the Holy Spirit in baptism?
18. What is the purpose of confession?
19. Is confession necessary for salvation? Why or why not?
20. Is confession a sacrament? If not, should it be a sacrament? Why?



March	01	Marci Heytens
	03	Johanna Koos
	05	Tim Nelson
	06	Lynn Hoff
	07	Jackie Van Ert
	08	Nancy Gregory Katrina Perrault
	09	Thor Netland
	10	Jack Rivord
	13	Lynn Haglin Kyler Krob
	15	Jill Bruno Roger Prescott
	16	Linda Clark
	19	Caleb Stank
	22	Renada Fall
	24	Kim Willie
	27	Tom Roeber Sharon Schultz
	28	Dennis Schultz
	29	Michelle Krob
	30	Logan Lancour Nora Wells
	31	Gracie Johnstad Olivia Johnstad





Mission & Outreach

March Donations:

CASDA Children's Program

3/5-Backpacks, crayons, markers, glue, pens, notebooks, folders

3/12-Shampoo, body wash, hair care items

3/19-Deodorant, feminine hygiene products, acne skin treatments

3/26-generic birthday/holiday/celebration gifts for all; games,dolls,toys,art supplies, nail polish, sporting equipment



Threads of Hope Clothes Closet

The Threads of Hope Clothes Closet continues to serve a need in our community. 1022 items were given out in 2022. Mission & Outreach is thankful for the support our congregation and the community have given through their donations of new and gently used clothing and footwear.

Education Corner

Confirmation:

During Lent the students will be at the church from the start of their class through the Lenten service. They are usually very hungry when they arrive from school and that is a long time. If you are willing to donate a meal during Lent or snacks at any time, please contact Linda Clark.



Sunday School:

We continue to have low numbers but those that do come are having fun and hopefully learning something along the way. In March our stories are The Vineyard workers, The Wedding



Banquet, Ten Bridesmaids and Sheep and goats. They are working with Megan on songs to present to the congregation soon.

Bible Studies:

Bible Studies continue at 10:15 a.m. Wednesdays. Discussions will cover the parables of the laborers in the vineyard, the wedding banquet,, the bridesmaids and the last judgment. Please see elsewhere in this newsletter for questions and for how to join. Any one is welcome to join at any week.



We hope to see you soon!



Scrip Cards

The use of Scrip cards this past year made over \$3150.00 to go toward paying down the mortgage. This was with only a small number of people participating. Increasing the number of people using the cards is an easy way to make more money for the church at no extra expense to you.

You can buy cards for local places you already go to such as Kwik Trip, Holiday Gas, BP, Menards, Ace Hardware, CVS, Walgreens, Walmart , Superior Meats, Applebees, Papa Murphy's,, Hardees, Burger King, Subway, Dairy Queen, and Dunkin Donuts. A list of participating stores along with how much they contribute back to the church is in the narthex.

Orders go in the third Sunday of the month so get your order in by March 18th. For reloadable cards, call Carol at any time.



REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Those serving in the military, those returning home with mental and physical scars, and for all military veterans. For the health of all unborn children and grandchildren, all those recovering or in nursing home care and for those struggling with addiction.

Worship Support Congregation Members: Jim and Marcy Rigstad, Pat and Amanda Shaw, Meri Will, Roger Prescott, Mike Dahl, Joyce Bowser, Doris Rober, Lynne Hoff, Judy Nelson , Rusty Carlson

Family Member: Mike Klawitter, Jeanne David, Joel Dykema, Casey, Bill Mullens, Tim Volpe, Beth, Chuck Korn

Friend/neighbor: Annabel Hanson, Dwaine, Benita Sutherland, Lydia Miller, baby Curt,
Bruce Carignan

The Families of: Todd Peterson

Call the church office (715-394-3472) to add (or remove) individuals to the prayer list.

It's Game Day!

Every Sunday afternoon in March, from 1-4 p.m. , we will gather in the St. Paul's Room to play games. All ages are welcome. There will be card games, dominos, cribbage, etc. If you have a favorite game you'd like to play, contact Donna Liebaert or call the office. Bring your own beverage. There ae no official snacks but feel to bring to share.





Visitation Schedule 2023

Pastor Sean has resumed visitations. He hopes to visit every family again this year. The schedule for March follows

02/26-03/04

Sylvia Parker, Mark Vaughan, Brad Nelson

03/05-03/11

Kim Olson, Steve Skamser, Richard Nystrom

03/12-03/18

Tim Nelson, Brianna Clark, Megan Birk

03/19-03/25

Matt Netland, Willa Walrath, Lynne Hoff

0/26-04/01

Meri Will, Cindy Spongberg, John Hendricks



OSLC Cooks



• Heaven on Earth No Bake Cake

• Ingredients

- 1-2 angel food cakes(can be store bought or homemade)
- 1 (3.4-oz) instant vanilla pudding mix
- 1 1/2 cups milk
- 1 cup Greek yogurt
- 1 (21-oz)can cherry pie filling, divided
- 1 (8-oz) container frozen whipped topping, thawed
- Toasted almond slivers for garnish (optional)

DIRECTIONS

- Slice the angel food cake into bite-sized chunks.
- In a large bowl, stir the pudding mix and cold milk until combined. Gently mix in the Greek yogurt until well-blended.
- Layer half of the cake slices into a 9×13-inch baking dish or a trifle pan. Top with 2/3 of the cherry pie filling.
- Top with the remaining cake slices. Spread the pudding-yogurt mixture evenly over the cake.
- Spread thawed whipped topping evenly over the top. Sprinkle with almonds.
- Refrigerate at least 3 hours.

Pecan Pie Cobbler

Ingredients:

1/2 cup butter, cut in small cubes

1/2 cup + 2 tablespoons flour

3/4 cup sugar

3 tablespoons baking powder

1/4 teaspoon salt

2/3 cup 2% milk

1 teaspoon vanilla extract

1 + 1/2 cup chopped pecans

1 cup chopped pecans

1 cup packed brown sugar

3/4 cup toffee bits

1 + 1/2 cups boiling water

Directions:

Preheat oven to 350* Add butter cubes to 13X9 pan. Place in oven for 3-5 minutes.

While butter warms, mix flour, sugar, baking powder and salt. Add the milk and vanilla. Gently stir until batter is smooth.

Remove baking dish when butter is melted. Slowly pour batter over butter. Sprinkle pecans, brown sugar and toffee bits over batter. Carefully pour boiling water over the top. Do not stir the mixture.

Bake the uncovered dish 30-35 minutes or until the cobbler is golden brown. It may still be slightly runny at this stage.

Remove cobbler from the oven and leave on cooling rack for 30 minutes to thicken.

Serve warm with ice cream, whipped cream or caramel sauce.





Rummage Sale will be May 13th 2023

The rummage sale isn't too far off. As you are cleaning or downsizing and need to get rid of items, the church will happily take those items off your hands. Put items downstairs in the unfinished addition, behind the blue tarps. We ask that you please do the following:

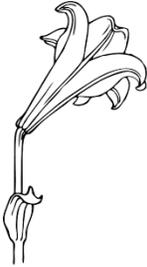
- **Put items in a box for easier stacking.**
- **No clothing**
- We only want things that work.
- Don't give us things that we would have to **PAY** to get rid of. That includes microwaves, computers, computer printers, etc. *The only exception is if you put your name on it (so we know when we put things out) and take it back if it doesn't sell to dispose of.*
- If something has an operator's *instruction book* please include if you have it.

Happy cleaning!!

Kandee

P.S. – I would like to get some advanced help in planning. If you are interested, let me know. (It's is getting to be a little too much for me alone.)

Easter flowers will be available for purchase again this year. There are order forms below or you can pick one up in the office. Payment is due with the order.



Easter Flowers In Honor, Memory, or Donation



- Easter Lily. \$10.00
- Tulip plants. \$10.00
- Hyacinth plant \$10.00
- Donation \$\$\$

Please attach payment with order form and place in the offering plate or send or drop off at the office (oslcsuperioroffice@gmail.com). April 2nd last day.

In honor of _____

In memory of _____

Given by _____

These prices are an estimate of what locate stores will charge. Any donations and extra money will be used to purchase things for the altar.



Easter Flowers In Honor, Memory, or Donation



- Easter Lily. \$10.00
- Tulip plants. \$10.00
- Hyacinth plant \$10.00
- Donation \$\$\$

Please attach payment with order form and place in the offering plate or send or drop off at the office (oslcsuperioroffice@gmail.com). April 2nd last day.

In honor of _____

In memory of _____

Given by _____

These prices are an estimate of what locate stores will charge. Any donations and extra money will be used to purchase things for the altar.



OSLC Council Minutes February 21, 2023

****No quorum established - no motions for approvals**

Present: Pastor Sean, Stephanie Shaw, Donna Liebaert, Diane Tomczak, Len Wicklund, Bonnie Wentzel, Brooke Puchalla

Devotions/Prayer: Pastor Sean lead prayer and devotion based on Matthew 13

Secretary Report: No minutes approved due to no quorum

Treasurers report: Income for January was \$12,518.37, Expenses \$15,361.33. Loss of -\$2842.96

Board Reports:

-Deacons: Communion assistants established for Ash Wednesday service. Communion assistants and readers established for March.

- Stewardship: Planning upcoming game nights. Brainstorming how to involve and keep our congregation informed and involved .

-Board of Education: Confirmation students will be staying after confirmation class until lent services. Confirmation students will be fed dinner at church. On Palm Sunday, the Sunday School students will march up with palms and sing with the choir.

-Mission and Outreach: Donations for February will go to Salvation Army. March donations to CASDA. The Threads of Hope Clothes Closet gave out 196 items in the month of January. Everyone who comes to the closet is very appreciative.

Trustees: No report

Pastors Report:

4/15 Eco Faith Summit at Gloria Dei Lutheran in Duluth. OSLC possibly partnering with Gloria Dei Lutheran for event. More information will be requested

4/29 - Synod Assembly in Rice Lake. Registration Open

Confirmation students will alternate yearly between attending the Middle School Gathering and attending Camp Amnicon

1st Communion Class will be held Sunday's 2/26-3/26. First communion will be 4/2

Communing at the rail will be returning the 1st Sunday of the month. Sunday, March 5th will be the return of communing at the rail

Pastor Sean looking to take confirmation students to summer camp at Luther Point this summer

Old Business: A donor is willing to pay for a new camera. Waiting for professional company to come and set up

New Business: There will be Sunday game day the next 5 Sundays

Vision Victories:

The first game day was a success

Clothes closet is doing great

An extra \$500 was paid on the church mortgage

Meeting closed with Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted, Brooke Puchalla, Secretary