



Jesus said to her,
"I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE.
Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall
he live, and everyone who lives and believes
in me shall never die. Do you believe this?"

JOHN 11:25-26

Our Savior Lutheran Church

In His Arms Childcare

417 S Kane Street
Burlington, Wisconsin 53105

Pastor Rob Bolling, pastor.rob@oursaviorburlington.com, Office 262-763-3281, Cell 262-492-0965
Pastor Dustin Krystowiak, dustinkrystowiak@gmail.com, Cell 608-395-8498
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The Lutheran Church- Missouri Synod (LCMS) www.oursaviorburlington.com www.lcms.org

5th Sunday in Lent – March 29, 2020

Sermon: “This Sickness Will Not End In Death” John 11:1-45

Hymns: 752, 685, 552, 738



WELCOME TO WORSHIP ONLINE

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;
Change and decay in all around I see;
O Thou who changest not, abide with me. (*LSB 878:4*)

Echoing the words of this hymn, we realize this world is often filled with change and challenges, distress, despair, dying, and death. Yet Jesus came into this decaying, virus filled, world that we may have life, and have it to the full. Amid the changes and decay around us, through His Word and Means of Grace we are given new life and the forgiveness of sins. By faith, we give thanks for His abiding with us daily with His mercy, grace, promise, and peace.

Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes;
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.
Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me. (*LSB 878:6*)

HOLY COMMUNION we pray for the day when we can gather together in person to receive the Lord's Supper. When the “safer at home” order by our Governor is lifted, we pray we will once again begin to celebrate this precious Sacrament. Please check our webpage www.oursaviorburlington.com for updates.

IN OUR PRAYERS – Our healthcare and emergency workers serving during the virus outbreak, as well as the high-risk individuals, and those exposed and/or infected: Piper Bratz, Kristen Kmetz, Amanda Kirby, Dr. Gabriel Johnson, Jeanne Marcone, Nancy Doerfler, Jenny Caretta, Kelsey Domke, Dr. Richard Ellingstad, Sean Urness, Danielle Storm, Steve Storm, Michael Powell, Rosa, Jim Filer Jr., Melissa Lein, Jay Lein, Janet Sandberg, Robin Deakins, Allison Schmidt, Melissa Koerber, Nancy Hirschke and Pat Bolling; The daughter of Linda and Donn Edwards, Stephanie. Stephanie has a high-risk pregnancy and is due to deliver her baby boy, Hunter, soon; Marie Filer; Jenna Worth, friend of Richveis family; Janell Arneson, Robert Gleason, Jason Bulgrin; Pat Schroyer; Rita, sister of Brenda Wienke; Mike Wiebeck; Brenda Wienke; Pablo Maiti; Chuck Collison; Jill & Christel Schumann, friends of the Richveis family; Theresa King; Andy Wright; Pat Dietschweiler; Alex Gomez; Sue Huebner; Joyce Pearl; for our military personnel: Steven Solmonson III; for those overseas: Baker family serving in Mongolia; Marc Ellingstad, US Diplomat serving in Pakistan; Daniel & Marie, Anastasia, Alethia and Emmanuelle Walter, ministry outreach in Israel.

THOSE WHO SERVE - Organist: Cathy Kaufmann; Live Streaming IT & Worship Group: Chris and Courtney Burris, John Schmidt, Beth Osterndorf, Brad Soeth, Mike and Kim Soeth, and Pastor Rob.

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS go to Rob Block 3/29; Thomas Baker and Abby Gorjance 3/30; Cathy Kaufmann and Deanna Welsh 3/31; Maxine Zettler and Celeste Schaaf 4/1 and Walter Schellin 4/3.

ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS go to Nick & Jackie Bladow 4/3.

LAST WEEK AT OUR SAVIOR – Church Attendance ~ *will be reported at a later date*; Unified Budget Receipts - \$1,888.00; In His Arms;(IHA) Receipts - \$741.00; Building Fund/Property Renovation - \$20.00.

DAILY DEVOTIONS LCMS President Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison and other Synod pastors are leading devotions each weekday on the [LCMS Facebook page](#). Join them live at 9 a.m., or [watch the archived devotions on YouTube](#).

BIBLE CLASSES – Attend Pastor Rob’s Bible Class online this Sunday, March 29th at 9:30am live, using online conferencing. Check our website www.oursaviorburlington.com for details. Watch our website as we develop a virtual Good News Class and other Bible Classes as well.

FELLOWSHIP HOUR is alive and well online from 9:00 to 9:30am. Check our website at www.oursaviorburlington.com for details.

From IN HIS ARMS CHILDCARE 3/18/2020

Dear Families,

On March 17th Governor Evers extended the closure of all public and private K-12 schools indefinitely.

PLEASE KNOW THAT IN HIS ARMS EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER WILL CLOSELY MONITOR THE CORONAVIRUS WEEK BY WEEK, AND LET YOU KNOW WHEN OUR DOORS WILL OPEN EVEN THOUGH THE SCHOOL DISTRICT REMAINS CLOSED.

Our prayer is that, with all the closures happening right now, we as a community are all doing our part in curbing this virus.

We miss you all. God has you and this situation IN HIS ARMS.

Please see the following links for activities children can do at home.

<https://www.cph.org/t-bestill-home.aspx>

<https://learnincolor.com/educational-activities-for-when-youre-stuck-indoors.html>

<https://classroommagazines.scholastic.com/support/learnathome.html>

Linda Wingreen

In His Arms Preschool Director

This Week at Our Savior

Today

All Day Online Worship Link at www.oursaviorburlington.com

Monday

7:00pm Church Council Meeting Online

Tuesday

Bible Journal - **Facebook:** Faithful You online

Wednesday

7:00pm Lenten Worship 6 Online Link at www.oursaviorburlington.com

Saturday

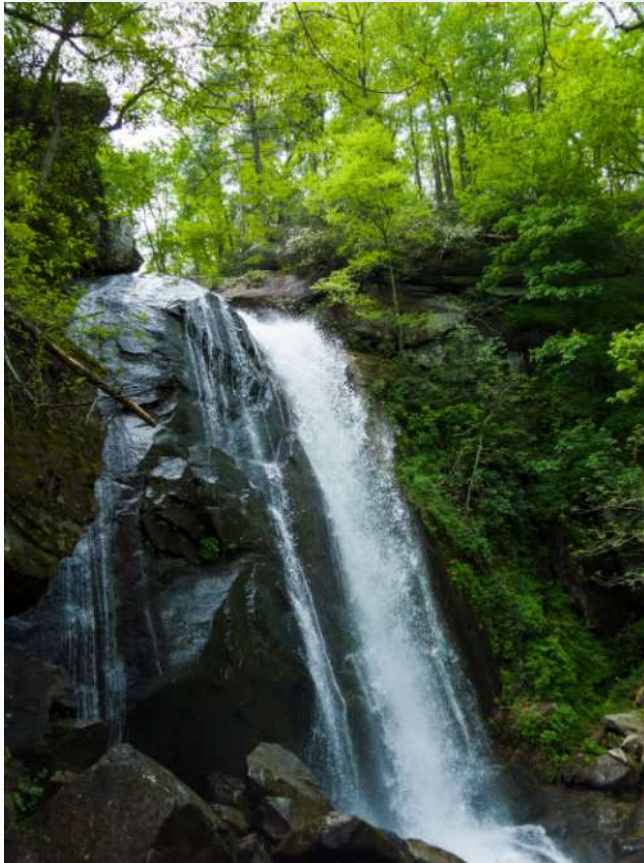
5:30pm Online Worship Link at www.oursaviorburlington.com

Next Sunday

All Day Online Worship Link at www.oursaviorburlington.com

**WEDNESDAY EVENING ONLINE LENTEN WORSHIP
AT OUR SAVIOR
*April 1st***

**Zechariah:
*Your Kingdom Come***



On that day
there shall be
a fountain
opened . . .

. . . to cleanse
them
from sin
and
uncleanness.

Zechariah 13:1-2

Lent 6 “The Redeemer’s Refinery” Zech 13:1–2

Pastor Rob Worship Leader and Preacher

Midweek service LIVE streamed at 7:00pm www.oursaviorburlington.com
And archived for later viewing.

This Lent, rejoice, for God’s kingdom comes to you—through Jesus our Lord!

Giving offerings to my congregation in difficult times

[Our Savior is currently developing online giving options and will soon have them in place . . . Please prayerfully consider first fruit and proportional giving during this unusual time. – Pastor Rob]



By Mark Hofman

For LCMS congregations to survive — and thrive — our worship offerings must continue as much as possible when the world is largely locked down and people are prohibited by law or, by a desire to keep pestilence from spreading, from attending church services.

This is hardly a demand of you to give in tough times. You are free to choose and make decisions that are best for you, made by you. Giving to the Lord is between you and the Lord.

We confess this: **All charitable giving is voluntary.** All charitable giving is a prayerful response to the Gospel. Our salvation is not rooted in what we give or what we do; rather, it is already secure because of what Christ has accomplished for us.

In an earlier message, Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison, president of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, paraphrased a directive of Luther's that was written during a time of plague:

Take care of yourself, then as you can in your vocation and are able, care for others.

We are God's people, and in His Word (e.g., "Love your neighbor as yourself") we are specifically told to "care for others."

We are called by the Word of God to make a difference in the lives of our neighbors in ways consistent with God's gifts to us in our vocations and abilities.

Most of us will very likely have everything we need for these trying times. Through His Word and Spirit, God is stirring us all to action.

How can those of us whom God calls into action continue to give bold witness that our faith is in Christ Jesus, not the material blessings of this world?

How can we help our congregations, including our own, stay strong and courageous in giving that same witness to communities living with heightened anxiety?

Here are a few options to prayerfully consider:

- Mail your regular offering to the church office or drop it off at the church office or parsonage during the week.
- Your bank or credit union may offer “online bill payment” services as financial tools. While our gifts to God are not paying a “bill” (because Jesus already did that for us), such tools can electronically deliver your offering without your having to write a check or use cash. Set up your congregation as you would a utility company or doctor’s office. Some of these tools also allow you to create a recurring gift (payment) made automatically.
- If you are eligible, use the available IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution option and have your IRA trustee send a portion of your required minimum distribution (if not needed) to the church for you. If you have established a donor advised fund, continue to send or consider sending an advised grant to your congregation.
- More congregations are offering an online donation option on their websites, and more are providing members with things like smartphone apps that support giving by credit or debit card. One such app is Give+ (Give Plus), which lets the user find a participating congregation. If your congregation does not have such an option, your parish leadership can contact the Lutheran Church Extension Fund or the Lutheran Federal Credit Union for help.
- If your congregation doesn’t have a website with online donation tools, some community foundations (including Thrivent/InFaith) provide online donation tools that allow you to direct a gift to your congregation.

There may be more options than we could list here. If you have one you’d like to recommend, please send an email to mission.advancement@lcms.org for us to share with other congregations. Your idea could prove very helpful to congregational leaders who are reaching out to the LCMS International Center asking for resources they can use.

With sincere thanks and blessings in Christ,

Mark Hofman, CFRE, MBA

Executive Director and Mission Advocate

LCMS Mission Advancement

Mark Hofman is the executive director of mission advancement for The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS). In this position, Hofman is responsible for all aspects of fund development and donor relations work for the LCMS International Center-based national and international witness and mercy work. Mission Advancement encompasses major gifts and grants, direct marketing response, campaigns and special initiatives, missionary support, and gift processing.

From: <https://blogs.lcms.org/2020/giving-offerings-to-my-congregation-in-difficult-times/>

VIRTUAL ADULT BIBLE STUDY GROUPS ARE NOW BEING DEVELOPED *Grow in the Word!*

Fellowship Hour	9:00 -9:30am Sundays	Link at www.oursaviorburlington.com	Pastor Rob
Sunday Scripture Readings	9:30-10:30am Sundays	Link at www.oursaviorburlington.com	Pastor Rob
The Book of Philippians	Paused		Chris Burris
The Book of Revelation	Paused		Pastor Rob
Good News Class	Paused		Pastor Rob
Bible Art Journaling	Temporarily sharing on-line only	Facebook: Faithful You	Sandy Sierszyn 414-380-3950 (cell)

POSTPONED The Vision Path Congregation Creative Event scheduled for March 29th at noon with Mark Frith is postponed and will be rescheduled.

CHURCH JANITOR POSITION Email Pastor Rob pastor.rob@oursaviorburlington.com or Tom Burger tom.burger@oursaviorburlington.com if you would like to apply for the part time position of Church Janitor.

KFUO RADIO Christ for you. Anytime. Anywhere.

// [On your podcast app](#) // [Livestream kfuo.org 24/7](http://Livestream.kfuo.org/24/7) // AM850 in STL, USA

Join our email list! >> [Sign up here.](#) // Trouble listening? [Find listening options here.](#)

[Monday to Friday Schedule](#)

- 7:00 a.m. – [Morning Prayer](#)
- 7:15 a.m. – [Oratio](#) {AM850 Sign On}**
- 8:00 a.m. – [Sharper Iron](#)
- 9:00 a.m. – [The Coffee Hour](#) {New Program!}
- 9:30 a.m. – [Law and Gospel](#)
- 10:00 a.m. – Daily Chapel from the LCMS International Center
- 10:30 a.m. – Sacred Music
- 11:00 a.m. – [Thy Strong Word](#)
- 12:00 p.m. – Moments of Assurance
- 1:00 p.m. – Sacred Music
- 2:00 p.m. – Cross Edges
 - **Monday:** [Cross Defense](#)
 - **Tuesday:** [Concord Matters](#)
 - **Wednesday (2:00pm):** [The Student Union](#)
 - **Wednesday (2:30 p.m.):** [World Lutheran News Digest](#)
 - *3rd Wednesday of the month (2:30 p.m.):* [Free to be Faithful](#)
 - **Thursday:** [Word & Work: An Intersection](#) (Presented by Concordia Seminary)
 - **Friday:** [Let's Talk! \(The Pastor Is In\)](#)
- 3:00 p.m. – [Issues, Etc.](#)

- 5:00 p.m. – [Evening Prayer](#)
- 6:00 p.m. – Sacred Music through the night {AM850 Sign Off}**

[Saturday Schedule](#)

- 7:00 a.m. – Sacred Music
- 7:45 a.m. – [Moments of Assurance: Weekend Edition](#)
- 8:00 a.m. – Sacred Music
- 9:05 a.m. – [Wrestling with the Basics®](#)
- 9:30 a.m. – [World Lutheran News Digest](#)
 - Weekend following the 3rd Wed. of the month: [Free to be Faithful](#)
- 10:00 a.m. – [Concord Matters](#)
- 11:00 a.m. – [Lamplighter Theatre®](#)
- 11:30 a.m. – [White Horse Inn®](#)
- 12:00 p.m. – Sacred Music
- 5:00 p.m. – [Worship Service](#)
- 6:00 p.m. – Sacred Music

[Sunday Schedule](#)

- 7:00 a.m. – Sacred Music
- 7:45 a.m. – [Moments of Assurance: Weekend Edition](#)
- 8:00* a.m. – [Worship Service](#)
- 9:30 a.m. – [St. Paul's Des Peres Bible Study](#)
- 10:30* a.m. – [Worship Service](#)
- 12:00 p.m. – [Sing for Joy®](#)
- 12:30 p.m. – [The Lutheran Hour®](#)
- 1:00 p.m. – Sacred Music
- 5:00 p.m. – [The Lutheran Hour®](#)
- 5:30 p.m. – Sacred Music
- 6:00 p.m. – [Worship Service](#)
- 7:00 p.m. – Sacred Music

'We tremble not, we fear no ill': As COVID-19 spreads, the Word of God remains

blogs.lcms.org/2020/we-tremble-not-we-fear-no-ill-as-covid-19-spreads-the-word-of-god-remains

March 26, 2020



The Rev. Wayne Huebner leads livestream worship at Salem Lutheran Church, Affton, Mo., on Sunday, March 22. He is assisted by Vicar Brian Nowak and elder Peter Frank. (LCMS/Erik M. Lunsford)

By Cheryl Magness

“Jesus has overcome this world of sin and death and, during these times of tribulation, gives us His peace. The reality is that this life is fatal 100 percent of the time, but we who have faith in Christ Jesus know what the future holds,” said the Rev. Trevor Mankin, an LCMS pastor in Seattle who tested positive for the new coronavirus, or COVID-19, in early March. “Let this world’s tyrant rage. Our victory has been won. All thanks and praise to Jesus, the kingdom is ours forever.”

Last week, as the number of COVID-19 cases steadily rose, and “social distancing” became the norm around the world, Mankin and his family were at home recovering from the virus.

Mankin, who is pastor of Messiah Lutheran Church in Seattle, thinks he might have contracted the coronavirus on March 1, when he visited an elderly parishioner who was hospitalized with pneumonia. On March 2, that parishioner tested positive for COVID-19, and Mankin immediately went into isolation. He experienced his first symptoms — a scratchy throat and 102-degree fever — on March 9 and immediately contacted his doctor.

The positive test result came back on March 11. The next day, Mankin’s wife, Lisa, also received a positive test result. The Mankins believe their daughters have had the virus too, but the children’s symptoms were mild enough that they did not require testing or a doctor’s care.

Mankin, an asthma sufferer who had recently recovered from bronchitis, had a more difficult recovery than his wife. He is doing much better but is worried about his congregation, which now has five confirmed COVID-19 cases,

including one member who has leukemia. "I am very worried about her and about our older members," Mankin said. "These are unnerving times, and sometimes it seems life will never get back to normal.

"But then I remember that maybe things shouldn't get back to 'normal' because 'normal' isn't normal. This world, despite all its beauty, isn't the kingdom our Father built for us. It's a world turned upside down ... suffering under the weight of our sin.

"We may feel anxious or afraid, but the words of our Lord in the Gospel of John offer peace: 'In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world'" (John 16:33).

Worshiping from a distance

The national coronavirus guidelines issued by President Trump on March 16 include a call for Americans to avoid congregating in groups of more than 10 people. The measure poses a dilemma for churches, where life together consists of gathering regularly to hear God's Word and receive the Lord's Supper.

To abide by the 10-or-fewer guideline, many LCMS churches are offering online-only services. Though not ideal, online services allow those who cannot gather in person the opportunity to hear the Word proclaimed and to join in singing and praying.

"It is certainly not state-of-the-art," the Rev. Wayne Huebner, pastor of Salem Lutheran Church in Affton, Mo., said. "We've got risers stacked up with a couple of tripods, a cable that looks like it's from Thomas Edison and a laptop that's probably 20 years old."

Before the pandemic, Salem had not livestreamed services but had offered audio recordings of its services. On March 18, however, Salem successfully livestreamed its midweek Lenten worship on Facebook and YouTube. The church will continue, for the time being, to livestream all its normally scheduled services.

"I think there's value in doing [all the services] live," Huebner said. "People that are used to worshiping together will still be together, except at a distance. ... Doing the Bible study live means that people can comment and ask questions live, which you can't really do if the class is recorded ahead of time."

Huebner advises other churches that are trying to figure out how to stream their services that "audio is more important than video. You can put up with grainy video if the sound is clear. On the other hand, you can have [excellent] video, but if the sound is bad, it's unwatchable."

Huebner acknowledged that the current situation poses significant challenges but said, "That doesn't mean that we are separated from our Lord. He is with us always, to the end of the age."

It's that assurance, Huebner said, that sustains the church during times like these. "There is a lot of news right now about what we are not able to do. ... At Salem, we are asking, 'What can we do?'"



Susan Maxwell, a teacher at St. Paul Lutheran School in Orange, Calif., provides online instruction to her fourth-grade class during the COVID-19 pandemic. (Deryl Maxwell)

‘What can we do?’

It’s a question that is echoing across the Synod. The Synod’s offices, entities, publishing house, districts, churches, Recognized Service Organizations (RSOs), colleges, seminaries and schools continue to study and plan for how best to carry out their work during the widespread shutdown.

Dr. Rebecca Schmidt, director of LCMS School Ministry, said that the key is “staying connected.”

“School closings range from two weeks through the end of the school year,” Schmidt said. “District by district, leaders are working closely with early-childhood licensing agencies, state departments of education and the Centers for Disease Control to support and advise schools. ... Education executives in each district are networking electronically to share information, resources and ideas for guiding schools through this unprecedented event.

“The expectations for schools are changing daily, but everyone is working together to provide continuous education at home for families.”

Both LCMS seminaries and the institutions of the Concordia University System (CUS) are taking steps to adapt to an educational reality they never expected. Students are being sent home for anywhere from a couple of weeks to the remainder of the semester, and classes have largely shifted to online only.

CUS President Rev. Dr. Dean O. Wenthe said that student welfare is the chief priority, and that CUS schools are responding “in the confidence that Christ’s redemptive love — so clearly on display in His passion this Lenten season — bestows that calm and peace that only the Prince of Peace and the Lamb of God can provide.”

Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, President Rev. Dr. Lawrence R. Rast Jr. wrote in a public email on March 12 that “though vigilant, we are neither anxious nor troubled. ... We have full confidence and reassurance in Christ, as well as the responsibility to serve those given into our care. ...

“We look forward to a quick but safe return to normalcy when the seminary community can again be gathered together to be engaged in theological discourse and to be nourished through God’s gifts of Word and Sacrament.”

New ways of serving

LCMS Disaster Response is finding that the COVID-19 situation may offer Lutheran Early Response Teams, or LERT, unusual opportunities to serve. Instead of deploying to “muck out” homes after a hurricane or chop up tree limbs after a tornado, LERT volunteers are being encouraged to help make phone calls to check on church members, shop for those who can’t leave their homes, or pick up and deliver meals.

RSOs are also having to adjust. Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch in Minot, N.D., is a residential treatment and educational center for at-risk children and their families. President and CEO Joy Ryan reported that the ranch, “like everyone else,” is “navigating one day, and sometimes one minute, at a time.”

“COVID-19 did not wipe out the trauma or pain that our children are suffering,” Ryan said. “In fact, ... the changes in schedule and activities actually exacerbate the anxiety and fear our kids live with every day.”

Ranch personnel are taking many of the same measures as everyone else — suspending travel and group activities, screening visitors, and taking extra care to sanitize hands and surfaces — while continuing, Ryan said, to do everything they can to help at-risk children and their families “succeed in the name of Christ. Even with COVID-19.”

God is our refuge and strength

Shortly before this story went to press, both St. Louis city and county announced “stay-at-home” orders through April 22. The LCMS International Center is closed to the public and almost all staff are working from home under business-continuity contingency plans. Despite the challenges, the work of the Synod to aid the districts, circuits, congregations, schools and people of the Synod continues.

Information about COVID-19 for LCMS congregations, schools, families and individuals is being continually compiled and updated at the Synod’s coronavirus resource page, lcms.org/coronavirus.

On March 13, in a [pastoral message to the Synod](#), LCMS President Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison said, “You all know Luther’s great Reformation hymn, ‘A Mighty Fortress Is Our God.’ It’s his hymn version of Psalm 46.

“But you may not know that it was written during the plague in Wittenberg in 1527. ‘A mighty fortress is our God, A trusty shield and weapon; He helps us free from ev’ry need That hath us now o’ertaken” (*Lutheran Service Book* 656:1).

“Your times are in the hands of the Lord (Ps. 31:15). Your days are numbered by Him (Ps. 139). In fact, the very hairs of your head are numbered (Luke 12:7). You have only the resurrection to look forward to (John 11:25). And you have the glorious apostolic promise: ‘All things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose’ (Rom. 8:28).

“I plead your patience as we all struggle through this, along with our nation and the world. I do know this: that crosses always drive people — including us — to Jesus. Count on it. We’ll update you soon.

“The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace. Amen.”

Posted March 26, 2020