**Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church**

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March 19, 2023

9:00 am

**RINGING OF THE BELLS**

**WELCOME**

**LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES**

**OPENING HYMN: “Fight the Good Fight” LSB# 664 vv. 1,2,3**

Fight the good fight with all your might, Christ is your strength, and Christ your right

Lay hold on life, and it shall be, your joy and crown eternally

Run the straight race through God’s good grace, lift up your eyes, and seek His face

Life with its way before us lies, Christ is the path, and Christ the prize

Cast care aside, lean on your guide, His boundless mercy will provide

Trust, and enduring faith shall prove, Christ is your life and Christ your love

**CONFESSION/ABSOLUTION**

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: Ephesians 5 reminds us: ***Walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord.*** For the times we have not walked as children of light, and for all sins that we have committed, let us confess ourselves to God our Father.

Pastor: Heavenly Father, we confess,

**People: that we have sinned against You by not staying in the light. We have let the darkness overwhelm us at times this week. For these sins and all other sins that we have committed, we are sorry and seek the forgiveness of Christ’s Resurrection victory.**

Pastor: Our Heavenly Father is merciful to grant us pardon and peace this day because of our confession. Through the work of Christ, He has chosen to see us differently and forgive us all our sins. As a called and ordained servant of God’s Word, I announce His grace to you this day, that you are forgiven, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

**HYMN OF PRAISE: “Blest Be the Tie That Binds” LSB# 649 vv. 1,2,5**

Blest be the tie that binds, our hearts in Christian love

The fellowship of kindred minds, is like to that above

Before our Father’s throne, we pour our ardent prayers

Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our comforts and our cares

From sorrow, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free

And perfect love and friendship reign, through all eternity

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor: Let us pray: Dear Heavenly Father, we pray for the strength to overcome the temptations of the flesh. Where we are weak, make us strong. In Jesus’ name we pray.

**People: Amen.**

**FIRST READING: Judges 16:4-22**

After this he loved a woman in the Valley of Sorek, whose name was Delilah. And the lords of the Philistines came up to her and said to her, “Seduce him, and see where his great strength lies, and by what means we may overpower him, that we may bind him to humble him. And we will each give you 1,100 pieces of silver.” So Delilah said to Samson, “Please tell me where your great strength lies, and how you might be bound, that one could subdue you.” Samson said to her, “If they bind me with seven fresh bowstrings that have not been dried, then I shall become weak and be like any other man.” Then the lords of the Philistines brought up to her seven fresh bowstrings that had not been dried, and she bound him with them. Now she had men lying in ambush in an inner chamber. And she said to him, “The Philistines are upon you, Samson!” But he snapped the bowstrings, as a thread of flax snaps when it touches the fire. So the secret of his strength was not known.

Then Delilah said to Samson, “Behold, you have mocked me and told me lies. Please tell me how you might be bound.” And he said to her, “If they bind me with new ropes that have not been used, then I shall become weak and be like any other man.” So Delilah took new ropes and bound him with them and said to him, “The Philistines are upon you, Samson!” And the men lying in ambush were in an inner chamber. But he snapped the ropes off his arms like a thread.

Then Delilah said to Samson, “Until now you have mocked me and told me lies. Tell me how you might be bound.” And he said to her, “If you weave the seven locks of my head with the web and fasten it tight with the pin, then I shall become weak and be like any other man.” So while he slept, Delilah took the seven locks of his head and wove them into the web. And she made them tight with the pin and said to him, “The Philistines are upon you, Samson!” But he awoke from his sleep and pulled away the pin, the loom, and the web.

And she said to him, “How can you say, ‘I love you,’ when your heart is not with me? You have mocked me these three times, and you have not told me where your great strength lies.” And when she pressed him hard with her words day after day, and urged him, his soul was vexed to death. And he told her all his heart, and said to her, “A razor has never come upon my head, for I have been a Nazirite to God from my mother's womb. If my head is shaved, then my strength will leave me, and I shall become weak and be like any other man.” When Delilah saw that he had told her all his heart, she sent and called the lords of the Philistines, saying, “Come up again, for he has told me all his heart.” Then the lords of the Philistines came up to her and brought the money in their hands. She made him sleep on her knees. And she called a man and had him shave off the seven locks of his head. Then she began to torment him, and his strength left him. And she said, “The Philistines are upon you, Samson!” And he awoke from his sleep and said, “I will go out as at other times and shake myself free.” But he did not know that the Lord had left him. And the Philistines seized him and gouged out his eyes and brought him down to Gaza and bound him with bronze shackles. And he ground at the mill in the prison. But the hair of his head began to grow again after it had been shaved.

Reader: This is the Word of our Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**SECOND READING:** **Ephesians 5:3-10**

But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints. Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving. For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. Therefore do not become partners with them; for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord.

Reader: This is the Word of our Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL READING: Luke 17:1-4**

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to: St. Luke, The 17th Chapter.

**People:** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

And he said to his disciples, “Temptations to sin are sure to come, but woe to the one through whom they come! It would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck and he were cast into the sea than that he should cause one of these little ones to sin. Pay attention to yourselves! If your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, forgive him, and if he sins against you seven times in the day, and turns to you seven times, saying, ‘I repent,’ you must forgive him.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to You, O Christ.**

**NICENE CREED**

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**HYMN OF THE DAY: “What a Friend We Have in Jesus” LSB# 770**

What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear

What a privilege to carry, everything to God in prayer

Oh, what peace we often forfeit, oh, what needless pain we bear

All because we do not carry, everything to God in prayer

Have we trials and temptations, is there trouble anywhere

We should never be discouraged, take it to the Lord in prayer

Can we find a friend so faithful, who will all our sorrows share

Jesus knows our every weakness, take it to the Lord in prayer

Are we weak and heavy-laden, cumbered with a load of care

Precious Savior, still our refuge, take it to the Lord in prayer

Do thy friends despise, forsake thee, take it to the Lord in prayer

In His arms He’ll take and shield thee, thou wilt find a solace there

**SERMON Pastor Jesus Morales**

**“Samson: Week Four”**

**OFFERING/PRAYER CARDS -** *The offering plate is located on the rear table for you to place your offering in as you enter or leave church.* ***When the offering is received, an usher will bring it forward, along with any prayer cards, to the altar. If you have any prayers to include, please pass them to the usher as they come forward.*** *For those who are worshipping at home, you may continue to mail your offerings to the church office, Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 0S501 Summit Drive, Winfield, IL 60190. Thank you!*

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

Let us pray:

Dear gracious Heavenly Father, we stand before Your mercy seat with prayers of confession and need on our hearts. We appeal to You for all the necessities of our daily bread; we plead for the banishment of evil; we call on Your mighty name to release those in bondage to this world. Let all be free in the name of Jesus.

Heavenly Father, we continue to pray for the light to overcome the darkness. We pray that those who walk in darkness would realize the pain of their path and choose righteousness over sin. Where it is hard to break free because of fear, Lord encourage and strengthen as only You can do.

May all who will be traveling over the next few weeks be granted safety to and from their destinations.

For the sick and hurting, (especially…), may they find help and rescue from Your gracious hand.

For the Easter season that will soon be upon us, give us joy and hope as we transition into a time of celebration and wonder.

Heavenly Father, we pray for all that will be moving in the next few months, that You would help them with a sense of peace and calm in the turmoil, and may they settle into their new homes with thanksgiving.

We continue to pray for those needing jobs, that You would provide in a mighty way.

Bless our seminaries and schools in the LCMS, that they would continue to reach so many with the Gospel.

For these and all prayers that we have, those we pray with boldness and those we pray with timidity, Lord hear us and remember us. We are Your faithful people, and we seek to lift these prayers with trust. May Your answers to our prayers be given in kindness and love.

**✠ SACRAMENT ✠**

**PREFACE *2 Timothy 4:22***

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

**PROPER PREFACE**

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose power and salvation transcends the nations and kingdoms of the world. Lead us to Your heavenly kingdom, where in divine glory and freedom from sin His name is worshiped and glorified. Therefore with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, with the saints gathered before Your throne from every nation, we laud and magnify Your glorious name, singing:

**SANCTUS**

**People: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of Sab-a-oth;**

**Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.**

**Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Pastor: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth. Even when creation rebelled against You, You gave Your only-begotten Son into death that we might be saved and set free from the lasting consequences of sin and eternal death. By Your Spirit, prepare our hearts to receive the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in faith.

**People: Amen.**

**THE WORDS OF OUR LORD *Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20;  
1 Corinthians 11:23–25***

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

**PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST *1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20***

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

**People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Pastor: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment.

Pastor: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**LORD’S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13***

**People: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

**PAX DOMINI**

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**People: Amen.**

**DISTRIBUTION**

**POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING**

Pastor: Let us pray...  
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift. As Christ has forgiven us and set us free, we rejoice in our independence from all we ever need fear. Grant Your holy and life-giving Spirit that we may serve You as we seek to end divisions,

overcome prejudice, and seek justice. Grant that we live in peace with one another through the peace You have restored in our relationship with You; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

**BENEDICTION**

Pastor: May the Lord keep you safe from all temptation this week, no matter where it is. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN: “I want to Walk as a Child of the Light” – LSB #411**

I want to walk as a child of the light  
I want to follow Jesus  
God sent the stars to give light to the world  
The star of my life is Jesus

In Him, there is no darkness at all  
The night and the day are both alike  
The Lamb is the light of the city of God  
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus

I want to see the brightness of God  
I want to look at Jesus  
Clear sun of righteousness, shine on my path  
And show me the way to the Father

In Him, there is no darkness at all  
The night and the day are both alike  
The Lamb is the light of the city of God  
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus

I'm looking for the coming of Christ  
I want to be with Jesus  
When we have run with patience the race  
We shall know the joy of Jesus

In Him, there is no darkness at all  
The night and the day are both alike  
The Lamb is the light of the city of God  
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus



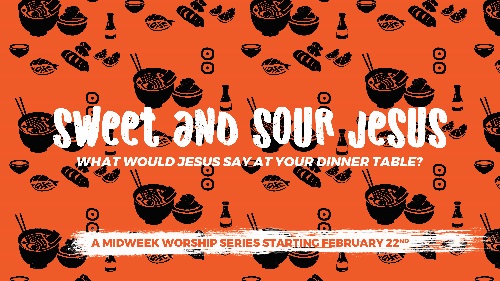
**TODAY’S ALTAR FLOWERS ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD BY RON PLUSQUELLEC, IN LOVING MEMORY OF HIS WIFE, CAROL, ON HER BIRTHDAY.**

**PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND NOTE THE EASTER WEEK SCHEDULE:**

* April 2 – COSLC Palm Sunday Worship 9 am and 11 am (Spanish)
* April 6 – COSLC Maundy Thursday Worship Noon and 7 pm
* April 7 – COSLC Good Friday Worship Noon and 7 pm
* April 9 – COSLC Easter Worship 9 am and 11 am (Spanish)

**ALSO PLEASE NOTE: PICTURE DAY IS EASTER SUNDAY!** Following our 9 am worship service, we will be taking pictures of our congregation, which will later be displayed. This will give everyone a chance to get to know both new and old faces a bit better, and place names with the faces we see in church that we might not yet know.

**TODAY IS WEEK FOUR OF THE 5-WEEK SERMON SERIES ON SAMSON –** Be sure to follow each week’s message to learn more about Samson, who was a legendary Israelite warrior and judge, a member of the tribe of Dan, and a Nazirite. His immense physical strength, which he used for 20 years against the Philistines, was derived from his uncut hair. Learn how his struggles and challenges also have meaning to us today.

**YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN OUR PARTNER CHURCH, WORD OF LIFE (NAPERVILLE) FOR THEIR MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES!** Their services are live this year and the sermon series is "Sweet and Sour Jesus," where Pastor Schoon explores various dinner events Jesus was invited to or led and the lessons that He was able to teach during them. Services are livestreamed on their Facebook page and their YouTube page Wednesday nights at 7pm.

Word of Life Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/wolnaperville](http://www.facebook.com/wolnaperville)

Word of Life YouTube:  <https://www.youtube.com/@wordoflifenaperville1901/streams>

You can also find a link to the Word of Life YouTube Channel on the COSLC Web site Home Page (right column below archived church bulletins).

**VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR SUNDAY 9 AM SERVICE TO HELP WITH AUDIO/VISUALS!** Now that we have an advanced audio-visual system in place to offer high-end, quality livestreaming of our services, we could use more volunteers to help with various tasks, such as camera operations, audio monitoring and slide production and projection for Sunday services. Training will be provided! Interested? Please see Pastor Jesus for more information.

**VOLUNTEERS FOR SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP AFTER THE 9 AM SERVICE ARE NEEDED! THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HAS HELPED TO BRING TREATS!** If you would like to help with our fellowship of coffee and treats on Sunday morning after our 9 am service, we would love to have you bring a treat for our members! The coffee and water are provided, but we need volunteers who can provide a sweet treat (coffee cake, cookies, muffins, breads, etc.) to share with everyone. Interested? There’s a sign-up sheet on the back table where you can sign up for the date you want to help. Thank you!!

**THE 2023 FLOWER CHART IS NOW ON THE NARTHEX BULLETIN BOARD! REMEMBER TO SIGN UP FOR ALTAR FLOWERS AS A REMEMBRANCE OR ON SPECIAL OCCASIONS** – If you would like to place flowers on the altar to mark a special occasion or give Glory to God, there’s a sign-up calendar on the bulletin board in the church entrance to reserve a date. Just sign your name, date and occasion – and take an envelope for payment of $30 per Sunday, with checks payable to The Altar Guild. Flowers are yours to take home after the service.

**CONGREGATIONAL PRAYERS** – Please pray for the following individuals who are in need of your prayers:

*Healing or receiving medical treatment:*

Dave Larson

Dianne and Cindy, Shirley Dring’s daughters

June DuBois

Pat Gengler

Donna Klomhaus

Anne Rumchaks and Joey Basile, Susan Mosteller’s friends

Al Arbeiter

Dawn Ziemer

Monica, Mary Larson’s sister

Jeff, Rebecca and Joshua Lasky

*In the military:*

Randy, nephew of Susan Mosteller

Wil Dring, serving at Camp David in the marines

**PLEASE NOTE PASTOR JESUS’ CONTACT INFORMATION** – Pastor Jesus is available to minister to our congregation’s needs at any time and welcomes the opportunity to serve you. He is available 24/7 to provide pastoral care, prayer, or information. He also makes congregation home visits or visits members in the hospital or nursing facility, or administers Holy Communion at home. If you have a need or want to request a visit, please contact him at 1-630-518-1517 or [jesusmorales466@yahoo.com](mailto:jesusmorales466@yahoo.com).

**OUR BLESSING BOX CONTINUES TO BE A BLESSING TO OUR COMMUNITY!** If you are able, please consider picking up a few items during your regular shopping trips to help those less fortunate and dropping off items for our Blessing Box. *The most needed items currently include boxed cereals, all kinds of paper products, disposable baby diapers, feminine products, personal care items, and detergents and sanitizers. Non-perishable food items, including pasta, rice, beans, baking items, tuna, canned meats and sauce are also appreciated.* Cash contributions are also welcome. Thank you all for your generosity and support!

**OUR BENEVOLENT FUND** provides confidential emergency assistance to members who are in need of financial, spiritual or other temporary support, such as housing assistance, help paying for medical or prescription expenses, or help during hard times due to lack of employment. Please contact Pastor Jesus in person to discuss your needs, or you may contact him by phone at 1-630-518-1517.

**REMEMBER TO BRING IN YOUR POP TABS FOR RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE!** The aluminum tabs you pull to open soda, soup and other cans are recycled by United Scrap Metal, who buys the pop tabs at a market rate and makes an additional contribution to Ronald McDonald House. There’s a large collection bottle on the back table for your convenience. Thanks so much for your help in collecting tabs and making a big difference!

**PLEASE REMEMBER THAT PRAYER CARDS ARE LOCATED IN THE CHURCH PEWS AND CAN BE USED FOR PRAYERS ON SUNDAY MORNING**. An usher will collect these cards during the service, and they will be presented to Pastor Jesus during our offering, when they will be added to our congregation prayers. You can also post prayer requests on the Christ Our Savior facebook page under “Comments,” or contact Deb Odefey (630-209-9918) if you would like them added to our Prayer Chain.

**MOVIE NIGHTS ARE COMING TO CHRIST OUR SAVIOR! MARK YOUR CALENDARS!** The first movie night will be held on **Friday, April 28th**, and we will be showing “The Passion of Christ.” You won’t want to miss this riveting story of Christ and His crucifixion! Stay tuned… more details to come!

**JOIN NEW SONG CHURCH ON MAY 6 FOR A MOTHER-DAUGHTER-SISTER-FRIEND LUNCHEON AND TEA!** Our partner church, New Song Community Church in Aurora, has invited Christ Our Savior to their spring women’s event on **Saturday, May 6, from 12:30 – 2:30 pm.** The luncheon and tea will feature real china, lovely food, girly games and music. Julaine Kammrath will be the guest speaker. She is a wife, mother, grandmother, former teacher, respected Bible study leader and author of two books published by Concordia Publishing House. The cost is $5 per adult and $2 for children. If there is interest, we may reserve a Christ Our Savior table at the event. This will be a great opportunity to enjoy a lovely time with your family and friends, hear a wonderful uplifting message, and have a chance to meet other women and girls from our partnership churches! If you are interested, please sign up on the sheet on the back table. Questions? Contact Deb Odefey or pastor.

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| Fund | February 2023 | 2023 YTD |
| Missions | $110.00 | $190.00 |
| Parking Lot Fund | $123.00 | $228.00 |
| Blessing Box | $20.00 | $40.00 |
| Parsonage Fund | $100.00 | $150.00 |
| Animal Shelter | $30.00 | $60.00 |
| Benevolent Fund | $20.00 | $40.00 |

**We thank our members for their generosity in contributing to these special funds!**