

# Our Saviour's News



***March & April 2019***

True confession time: I've always wanted to start a band named Lent. We'd only tour for 40 days per year and every night when we went on stage, we'd have the arena announcers yell, "Give it up for Lent!" (You'd think that joke would get old, but I've told it for years and still chuckle every time.)

We have a tradition in the church of giving things up for Lent – of depriving ourselves something for the forty days of Lent remembering the struggles Jesus faced as he neared his death on the cross. Often, this “giving up” involves food or soda or some sort of bad habit we've acquired that we'd like to shed. For many it's a second crack at an already-failed New Year's resolution.

But this practice of giving up is something a bit deeper. What we do in Lent is deny ourselves something that has taken up a lot of time and space in our lives so that we can create more room for God.

### **Lent is not about less of us, rather it's about more of God.**

This season of Lent is an invitation to return to God. In the church, we have a 50-point word for this called “repentance,” which simply means to turn and go in a new direction. Lent is a season of looking at the path we're on and asking hard questions about how we wander from God and doing what we can – establishing faith practices or habits – to close that gap that grows between us and God.

Lent is a season where we often come up against hard truths about our lives and our world. It's a time to look straight into the suffering and death that happens in our world knowing that God has overcome. It's about looking at those things that take us away from God, or that distract us from our faith, so that we can connect to God more fully.

It's nothing less than a journey to the foot of the cross.

But it's also a season of transformation, a season of change. It's a season where we hear stories of Jesus changing the lives of the people he meets as he does ministry in Galilee and beyond. We hear stories of the lives he touched through healing and miraculous encounters, as well as the everyday blessings of walking with and teaching his disciples God's desire for our world.

So this season, if you choose to give something up, I say that's great. If you choose not to, that's okay too. But my hope is that we may all look for ways to carve out more time and space in our lives for God to reign: more love, more grace, more mercy. We need it. Our world needs it. And maybe, just maybe, we might see our hearts and our lives transformed by our incredible God.

Grace + Peace,

Pastor Eric

# Our Saviour's Congregation Council 2019-20

## **COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE** **TERM STARTED**

### **PRESIDENT**

Randy Vandermay 2019

### **Vice President**

Missy Wattenhofer 2017

### **Council Secretary**

Janet Eckman 2018

### **Council Appointed Treasurer**

Rose Bakke 2017

### **Council Representatives**

Laura Kiser 2017

Ronnie Lee 2018

Jim Dragseth 2019

Fran Skalisky 2019

### **Youth Council Representative**

Tori Lee 2019

### **Other Members**

Brenda Schwartz Bookkeeper

**Please contact these Council Members about questions or OSLC concerns**

**Just a reminder there will not  
be Confirmation or Senior  
High Youth Group class  
during Lent. Classes will  
resume as normal  
after Easter.**



## Good Friday Cantata

The Good Friday Cantata this year is titled "It Is Finished". This is a "Tenebrae" service which means shadows or darkness which will symbolize the events of Holy Week from the triumphant Palm Sunday entry through Jesus's burial. This increasing darkness symbolizes the approaching darkness of Jesus's death and of hopelessness in the world without God. The service will conclude in darkness symbolizing the death of Jesus, and the choir and congregation will exit in silence.

Communion will be offered this year to symbolize the body and bloody of Christ given and shed for everyone. We hope, through this Good Friday presentation, you will be inspired and touched anew with the transformative truths contained in this choral work. We hope to see everyone there on April 19th at 7PM.



### Easter Flowers

The youth group will be selling Easter flowers again this year. Order forms will be available in the bulletins and on the table in the fellowship hall. We will be offering Easter Lilies, Asiatic Lilies, Tulips, Mums and Gerber Daisy's. Order Deadline is April 8th. Please return order form to the church office. Please write checks out to OSLC Youth Thank you!!



\*Sign-up calendar for coffee servers and ushers for the 2019 year is out on the table in the fellowship hall.



First Communion Class will be held on Saturday April 13th from 3-5pm. This is for First Communion students and their parents. We will celebrate their First Communion on Palm Sunday April 14 during worship. If you have any questions please see Pastor Eric.





### Lent Schedule

#### Ash Wednesday

Wednesday March 6, starting with soup supper at 5:30pm  
Worship at 7pm

#### Ash Thursday @ Balsamlund

Thursday March 7, starting with soup & sandwich supper 6-6:30pm  
Worship at 6:30pm

#### Midweek Worship at OSLC

Wednesday evenings soup & sandwich supper 5:30-6:45pm  
Worship at 7pm.  
Everyone is welcome to attend.

#### Midweek Worship at Balsamlund

Thursday evenings soup & sandwich supper 6-6:30pm  
Worship at 6:30pm  
Everyone is welcome to attend

#### Palm Sunday / First Communion

##### Sunday April 14

9am Youth Serving Carmel Rolls  
10am Worship / First Communion

#### Maundy Thursday will be at Balsamlund

##### April 18 Worship at 7pm.

Everyone is welcome to attend.

#### Good Friday Cantata will be a OSLC

##### April 19 Worship at 7pm.

Everyone is welcome to attend.

#### Easter Sunday

##### Sunday April 21

8am-10am Easter Breakfast  
(served by the Youth)

10am Worship / Holy Communion



**\* Annual Spring Cleaning is set for Saturday March 17, 2018. We will start @ 9am.** A lunch will be served to all that come to help. We would like about 20 volunteers to sign up so we can get all tasks completed in a timely manner. Sign up sheet is on the table in the fellowship hall.



Join us for a Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday April 1st!! We will start at 9:30am. If you have any questions please talk to Heidi Mattson.

We will be celebrating our Confirmation Students on Sunday May 5, 2019. Worship will be at 10am.



### Joke of the Month

#### Shocker

Mr. Johnson, a businessman from Wisconsin, went on a business trip to Louisiana. He immediately sent a E-mail back to his wife Jean. Unfortunately, he mistyped a letter and the E-mail ended up going to a Mrs. Joan Johnson, the wife of a preacher who just passed away.

The Preacher's widow took one look at the E-mail and promptly fainted. When she was revived, she nervously pointed to the message, which read, "Arrived safely, but it sure is hot down here!"