

## Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church

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Rev. Theodore Groth, Pastor

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School 469-2049

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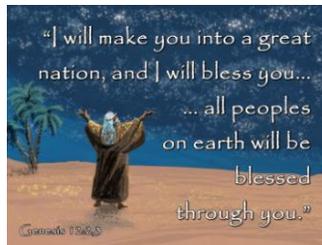
[www.beautifulsavior-lcms.org](http://www.beautifulsavior-lcms.org)

### Second Sunday in Lent

March 12, 2017

Welcome to Beautiful Savior! With eyes fixed on Jesus, His cross, and His resurrection, we are gathered today by the Holy Spirit, as the people of God, to hear His Word in this holy season of Lent. In our readings today God speaks in a rather startling way to two men, Abram and Nicodemus. To the one God says, "Go, I have great plans to bring about through you" (Genesis 12). And to the other God says, "You must be born again, a gift which I alone can bring you" (John 3). We are those who have been given new birth in Holy Baptism so that we might trust in the saving name of Jesus as we follow our gracious Lord in faith, onward toward our heavenly home. The Lord bless you this holy day! (Note: Today's service information can be found on the back of your bulletin.)

*Guide me, O Thou great Redeemer, Pilgrim through this barren land. I am weak, but Thou art mighty; Hold me with Thy pow'ful hand. Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, Feed me till I want no more; Feed me till I want no more. LSB 918 st. 1*



#### To Our Visitors: About Holy Communion at Beautiful Savior

In the pew rack is a Friendship Pad which includes an explanation of what this congregation believes and teaches concerning Holy Communion.

We understand participation in Holy Communion to be a sign of unity and agreement in the Scriptural faith and doctrine which is taught and confessed in this church, and we care deeply about the spiritual welfare of all who worship with us. For these reasons we request that any who are not communicant members of a Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod congregation, but who are interested in receiving this Sacrament at Beautiful Savior, would first meet with the pastor to discuss our faith and doctrine in more detail. It is our desire to administer this holy Sacrament in a manner that both honors our Lord's Word and brings blessing to all who commune. Those not receiving the Sacrament today are welcome to come forward to receive a personal blessing at the altar rail. Simply fold your arms across your chest as you kneel at the rail to indicate your desire to receive a blessing.

Today's Elders:

Cal Meisner & Rick Mericle

Elders for Mar. 15:

Rick Mericle & Cliff Evans

Elders for Mar. 19:

Cliff Evans & Mike Brown

Today's Acolyte:

Joey Weinstock

Acolyte for Mar. 15:

Nicholas Little

Acolyte for Mar. 19:

Damien Dittrich

#### Prepare for Next Sunday's Readings

Old Testament:

Exodus 17:1-7

Epistle:

Romans 5:1-8

Gospel:

John 4:5-26

Psalm:

Psalm 95:1-9



**John 3:16** — "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." This is perhaps the most well-known and well-beloved verse in the New Testament – and for good reason. This simple Gospel message is the foundation for our whole life – our new life in Christ. This new life is characterized by thankfulness and devotion to our Father who has provided for us so lavishly in Christ



**Second Sunday in Lent** – The nations God blesses through Abraham's offspring (Genesis 12:3), and the world He loves by Christ's sacrifice (John 3:16) includes the whole human race – whether old or in the womb (John 3:4) or anywhere between. God-given blessings of being human (including life!) belong to every human being, and each life displays His pleasure and His power. *Life-giving Father, Son, and Spirit, by our neighbors' needs remind us of Your bountiful goodness. Amen.*



**The March Messenger** is out. Pick up your copy from the bookshelf by the main doors to the Sanctuary or one of the tables in the lower Narthex.



**Greeters** – Our Board of Evangelism is looking for people interested in welcoming our Sunday morning worshipers. If this is something you would like to do, talk to Jackie Ruck, Jackie Brown or Pete Valdez



**Easter Lilies** It's time once again to sign up for Lilies to adorn our altar on Easter Sunday. The cost is \$10.00 each. Lilies may be picked up following the 10:30 Worship Service. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board near the church office. Thank you.



Thrivent Financial  
"Choice Dollars"

**Choice Dollars** Don't let your designated Choice Dollars expire! Eligible members of Thrivent Financial who have designated Choice Dollars have until March 31, 2017, to direct any remaining 2016 Choice Dollars®. Go to [Thrivent.com/thriventchoice](http://Thrivent.com/thriventchoice) or call 800-THRIVENT and state "Thrivent Choice®."



**There Are 4** more soup suppers during Lent. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board by the church office for set-up, clean-up, soups, breads, crackers, desserts, etc. It is extremely helpful to know beforehand what is being provided and who is helping. Thank You.



**Food Pantry** – in order to be better prepared to provide food baskets in the future, we will be asking each month for several different items with an additional list just prior to providing the baskets. **This month's items:** Peanut Butter, Canned Fruit, Soups, Crackers. Check out this month's Messenger for a complete list of items needed. Thank you.



**The Regular Voters' Assembly** will meet **Sunday, March 19**, at 10:30 in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is encouraged to attend. If you are 18 years old or older, and a communicant member of Beautiful Savior, you are eligible to become a Voter. If interested, please notify one of the Elders, or Pastor Groth, and pick up and read a copy of the Constitution of Beautiful Savior before the meeting.



**A Word of Greeting to Our Guests** We welcome you in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We are honored to have you with us today and pray that this celebration of God's love and grace through Jesus Christ will be a blessing to you.

If you would like additional information, please contact:  
Pastor Groth @ 303 469-1785 or email [tedgroth1970@comcast.net](mailto:tedgroth1970@comcast.net) or  
Mike Brown @ 303 438-5766 or E-mail: [mbrown\\_presbslc@comcast.net](mailto:mbrown_presbslc@comcast.net).  
We are a family that has been called together in faith through the Gospel of our Lord Jesus and we invite you to worship with us as often as you can.



**Prayers** - Let's remember the following people in our prayers this week: Jansen Jones, Chloe Werner, Pastor Brennan, Verna Walsh, Allen Schmelz, Lillian Bemis, Travis Little, Greg Iversen, Pat Hanket, Vince Roberto, and also our homebound members: Melva Anderson, Dixie Cassily, Gerd Crandall, Wilda Davenport, Rowena Davis, Doris Hintz, Roberta Nigon, James Nuoffer, Wanda Renzelman, Vee Rotvold, Don & Pat Sall, Ruby Stolz, Gene & Wynne Sylvester, Julie Vogel, and Linda Frederking.



**The Flowers** adorning our altar this morning have been placed by Mr. & Mrs. Charlie (Dawn) Weinstock in observance of their 22<sup>nd</sup> wedding anniversary.

**THIS WEEK AT BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR**

- Monday: 08:00 p.m. Adult Drop in Volleyball
- Tuesday: 08:15 a.m. Tuesday Prayer  
01:30 a.m. Board of Evangelism  
05:00 p.m. Board of Christian Education
- Wednesday: 08:30 a.m. Chapel  
12:00 p.m. Lunch with Luther  
04:15 p.m. 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Class  
05:45 p.m. Soup Supper  
07:00 p.m. Divine Service
- Thursday: 10:00 a.m. Bible Class  
05:30 p.m. Youth Group
- Sunday, 3/19: 09:00 a.m. Divine Service  
10:30 a.m. Voters' Assembly

At Worship, Mar. 5: 96                      Communed: 88  
Midweek Lenten Attendance: 35

THIS MORNING'S LITURGY & HYMNS

Divine Service, Setting Four

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Hymns: 542 708 \*555 918

\*Communion Hymn

THE WORD OF GOD FOR THE DAY

Introit

He remembers his covenant forever,  
the word that he commanded, for a thousand generations.

Seek the LORD and his strength;  
seek his presence continually!

Remember the wondrous works that he has done,  
his miracles, and the judgments he uttered,

O offspring of Abraham, his servant,  
children of Jacob, his chosen ones!

He is the LORD our God;  
his judgments are in all the earth.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

He remembers his covenant forever,  
the word that he commanded, for a thousand generations.

**Collect of the Day**

O God, You see that of ourselves we have no strength. By Your mighty power defend us from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Old Testament:**

**Genesis 12:1-9**

**Epistle:**

**Romans 4:1-8, 13-17**

**Gospel:**

**John 3:1-17**

**Sermon:** *"Following in Faith the God of Grace"*

**Genesis 12:1-4**

## **Genesis 12:1-9**

12 Now the LORD had said to Abram: “Get out of your country, from your family and from your father’s house, to a land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup> I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing. <sup>3</sup> I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

<sup>4</sup> So Abram departed as the LORD had spoken to him, and Lot went with him. And Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. <sup>5</sup> Then Abram took Sarai his wife and Lot his brother’s son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people whom they had acquired in Haran, and they departed to go to the land of Canaan. So they came to the land of Canaan.

<sup>6</sup> Abram passed through the land to the place of Shechem, as far as the terebinth tree of Moreh. And the Canaanites were then in the land.

<sup>7</sup> Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, “To your descendants I will give this land.” And there he built an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him. <sup>8</sup> And he moved from there to the mountain east of Bethel, and he pitched his tent with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east; there he built an altar to the LORD and called on the name of the LORD. <sup>9</sup> So Abram journeyed, going on still toward the South.

## **Gradual**

**[O come, let us fix our eyes on] Jesus,  
the founder and perfecter of our faith,  
who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising  
the shame,  
and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.**

## **Romans 4:1-8, 13-17**

<sup>4</sup> What then shall we say that Abraham our father has found according to the flesh? <sup>2</sup> For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup> For what does the Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.” <sup>4</sup> Now to him who works, the wages are not counted as grace but as debt.

<sup>5</sup> But to him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness, <sup>6</sup> just as David also describes the blessedness of the man to whom God imputes righteousness apart from works:

<sup>7</sup> “Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered; <sup>8</sup> Blessed is the man to whom the LORD shall not impute sin.”

<sup>13</sup> For the promise that he would be the heir of the world was not to Abraham or to his seed through the law, but through the righteousness of faith.

<sup>14</sup> For if those who are of the law are heirs, faith is made void and the promise

made of no effect, <sup>15</sup> because the law brings about wrath; for where there is no law there is no transgression.

<sup>16</sup> Therefore it is of faith that it might be according to grace, so that the promise might be sure to all the seed, not only to those who are of the law, but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all <sup>17</sup> (as it is written, “I have made you a father of many nations”) in the presence of Him whom he believed—God, who gives life to the dead and calls those things which do not exist as though they did.

## **John 3:1-17**

<sup>3</sup> There was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. <sup>2</sup> This man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, “Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him.”

<sup>3</sup> Jesus answered and said to him, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.”

<sup>4</sup> Nicodemus said to Him, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?”

<sup>5</sup> Jesus answered, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. <sup>6</sup> That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup> Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’ <sup>8</sup> The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

<sup>9</sup> Nicodemus answered and said to Him, “How can these things be?”

<sup>10</sup> Jesus answered and said to him, “Are you the teacher of Israel, and do not know these things? <sup>11</sup> Most assuredly, I say to you, We speak what We know and testify what We have seen, and you do not receive Our witness. <sup>12</sup> If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how will you believe if I tell you heavenly things? <sup>13</sup> No one has ascended to heaven but He who came down from heaven, that is, the Son of Man who is in heaven. <sup>14</sup> And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup> that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. <sup>16</sup> For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. <sup>17</sup> For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

