

Our Savior Lutheran Church

Pastor Doug Minton

209 West Jones Street, Milford, IL

Email: pastor@oursaviormilford.com

Phone: (815) 889-4121 Cell: (507) 626-0202



Second Sunday of Easter

March 8, 2026

Service of Prayer and Preaching

Prayer Before Worship

O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for the sake of His name. Amen.

Opening Hymn

“We Praise You and Acknowledge You, O God”

LSB 941



1 We praise You and ac-knowl-edge You, O God, to be the Lord,
2 The band of the a-pos-tles in glo-ry sing Your praise;
3 You, Christ, are King of glo-ry, the ev-er-last-ing Son,
4 You sit in splen-did glo-ry, en-throned at God's right hand,



The Fa-ther ev-er-last-ing, by all the earth a-dored.
The fel-low-ship of proph-ets their death-less voic-es raise.
Yet You, with bound-less love, sought to res-cue ev-'ry-one:
Up-hold-ing earth and heav-en by forc-es You com-mand.



To You all an-gel pow-ers cry a-loud, the heav-ens sing,
The mar-tyrs of Your king-dom, a great and no-ble throng,
You laid a-side Your glo-ry, were born of vir-gin's womb,
We know that You will come as our Judge that fi-nal day,



The cher-u-bim and ser-a-phem their prais-es to You bring:
Sing with the ho-ly Church through-out all the world this song:
Were cru-ci-fied for us and were placed in-to a tomb;
So help Your ser-vants You have re-deemed by blood, we pray;



“O ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;
“O all - ma - jes - tic Fa - ther, Your true and on - ly Son,
Then by Your res - ur - rec - tion You won for us re - prieve—
May we with saints be num - bered where prais - es nev - er end,



Your maj - es - ty and glo - ry fill the heav - ens and the earth!”
And Ho - ly Spir - it, Com - fort - er— for - ev - er Three in One!”
You o - pened heav - en’s king - dom to all who would be - lieve.
In glo - ry ev - er - last - ing. A - men, O Lord, a - men!

Text: Stephen P. Starke, 1955

Tune: Gustav Holst, 1874–1934, alt.

Text: © 1999 Stephen P. Starke, admin. Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001355

Tune: Public domain

Opening Versicles

LSB 260

L This is the day which the Lord has made;

C let us rejoice and be glad in it.

L From the rising of the sun to its setting,

C the name of the Lord is to be praised.

L Better is one day in Your courts than a thousand elsewhere;

C I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.

L Make me to know Your ways, O Lord.

C Teach me Your paths.

L Sanctify us in Your truth.

C Your Word is truth.

L From the rising of the sun to its setting,

C the name of the Lord is to be praised.

C 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.

Old Testament Canticle

Refrain

The Lord God is my strength and my song, and

He has be - come my sal - va - tion.

With joy will you draw wa - ter from the

wells of sal - va - tion. And you will say in that

day: "Give thanks to the Lord, call up - on His name,

make known His deeds a - mong the peo - ples, pro -

claim that His name is ex - alt - ed."

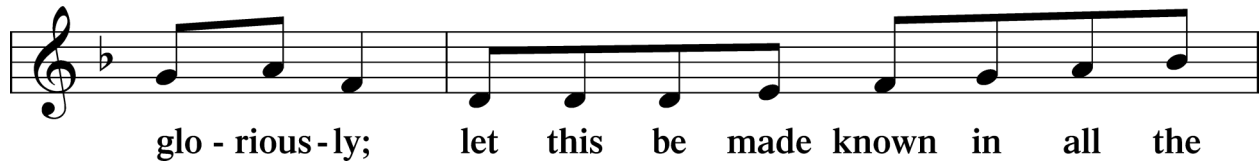
Refrain

The Lord God is my strength and my song, and

He has be - come my sal - va - tion.



Sing prais - es to the Lord, for He has done



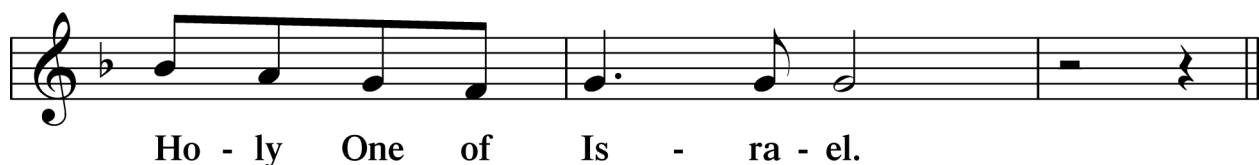
glo - rious - ly; let this be made known in all the



earth. Shout, and sing for joy, O in -



hab - i - tants of Zi - on, for great in your midst is the



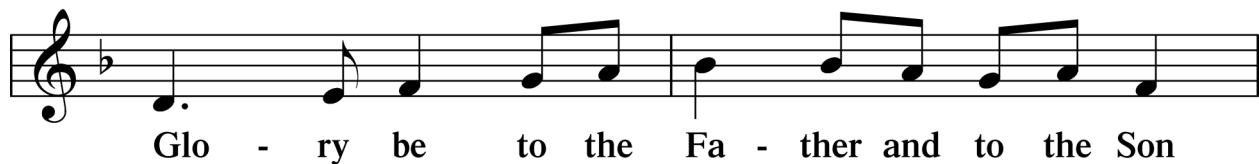
Ho - ly One of Is - ra - el.



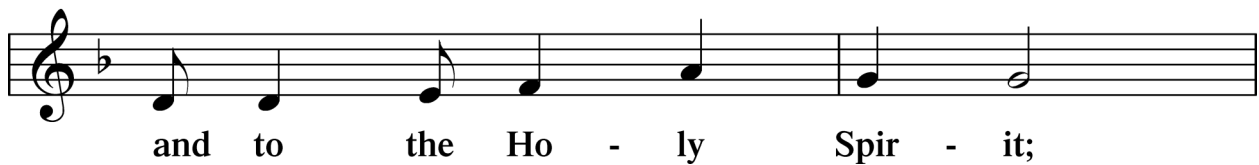
Refrain
The Lord God is my strength and my song, and



He has be - come my sal - va - tion.



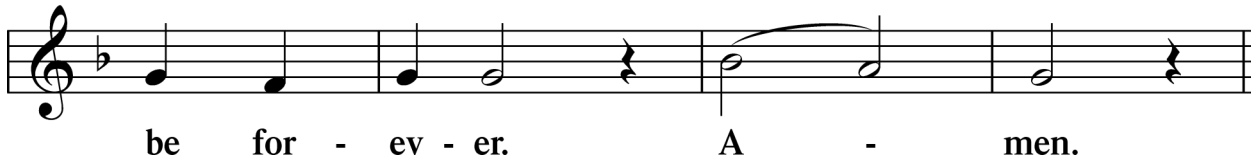
Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son



and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will



Introit

Psalm 105:1-5, 8; antiphon: 1 Peter 2:2-3

Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to sal- | vation—*

if indeed you have tasted that the | Lord is good.

Oh give thanks to the LORD; call up- | on his name;*

make known his deeds among the | peoples!

Sing to him, sing prais- | es to him;*

tell of all his | wondrous works!

Glory in his | holy name;*

let the hearts of those who seek the | LORD rejoice!

Seek the LORD | and his strength;*

seek his presence con- | tinually!

Remember the wondrous works that | he has done,*

his miracles, and the judgments he | uttered.

He remembers his covenant for- | ever,*

the word that he commanded, for a thousand gener- | ations.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to sal- | vation—*

if indeed you have tasted that the | Lord is good.

L A reading from Acts, the fifth chapter.

²⁹But Peter and the apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than men. ³⁰The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³²And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.”

³³When they heard this, they were enraged and wanted to kill them. ³⁴But a Pharisee in the council named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law held in honor by all the people, stood up and gave orders to put the men outside for a little while. ³⁵And he said to them, “Men of Israel, take care what you are about to do with these men. ³⁶For before these days Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody, and a number of men, about four hundred, joined him. He was killed, and all who followed him were dispersed and came to nothing. ³⁷After him Judas the Galilean rose up in the days of the census and drew away some of the people after him. He too perished, and all who followed him were scattered. ³⁸So in the present case I tell you, keep away from these men and let them alone, for if this plan or this undertaking is of man, it will fail; ³⁹but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them. You might even be found opposing God!” So they took his advice, ⁴⁰and when they had called in the apostles, they beat them and charged them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. ⁴¹Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name. ⁴²And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading*1 Peter 1:3-9*

A The Epistle is from 1 Peter, chapter 1.

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵who by God’s power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last

time. ⁶In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, ⁷so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. ⁸Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, ⁹obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

John 20:19-31

A The Old Testament Reading is from John, chapter 20.

¹⁹On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” ²⁰When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.” ²²And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld.”

²⁴Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe.”

²⁶Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.” ²⁸Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Common Responsory

LSB 263

L Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.

C Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.

L Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.

C Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.

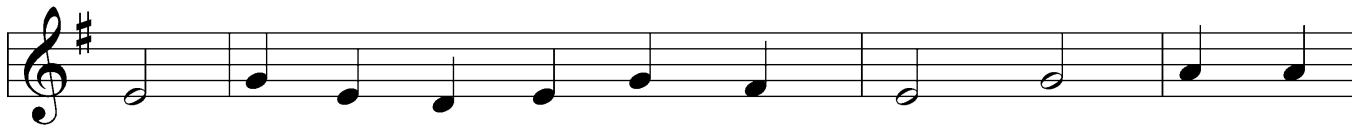
L Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

C Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.

Hymn of the Day

“Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word”

LSB 655



1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in Your Word; Curb those who
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, Your pow'r make known, For You are
3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, Send peace and



by de - ceit or sword Would wrest the king - dom from Your
Lord of lords a - lone; De - fend Your ho - ly Church that
u - ni - ty on earth; Sup - port us in our fi - nal



Son And bring to naught all He has done.
we May sing Your praise e - ter - nal - ly.
strife And lead us out of death to life.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Tune: Geistliche Lieder auff's new gebessert, 1543, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug
Text and tune: Public domain

Ten Commandments

LSB 264

- ☐ You shall have no other gods.**
- You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.**
- Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.**
- Honor your father and your mother.**
- You shall not murder.**
- You shall not commit adultery.**
- You shall not steal.**
- You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.**
- You shall not covet your neighbor's house.**
- You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maid-servant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.**

Apostles' Creed

LSB 264

- ☐ I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life † everlasting. Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

LSB 264

C 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.

Catechism Reading: Lord's Prayer, First Petition

LSB 323

What is the First Petition?

Hallowed be Thy name.

What does this mean?

God's name is kept holy when the Word of God is taught in its truth and purity, and we, as the children of God, also lead holy lives according to it. Help us to do this, dear Father in heaven! But anyone who teaches or lives contrary to God's Word profanes the name of God among us. Protect us from this, heavenly Father!

Sermon

"Preaching and Teaching"

Acts 5:29-42

Sermon Hymn

“O Sons and Daughters of the King”

LSB 471



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



1 O sons and daugh - ters of the King,
2 That Eas - ter morn, at break of day,
3 An an - gel clad in white they see,



Whom heav'n - ly hosts in glo - ry sing, To - day the
The faith - ful wom - en went their way To seek the
Who sits and speaks un - to the three, “Your Lord will

The Refrain is repeated after st. 9.



grave has lost its sting! Al - le - lu - ia!
tomb where Je - sus lay. Al - le - lu - ia!
go to Gal - i - lee.” Al - le - lu - ia!

4 That night the apostles met in fear;
Among them came their master dear
And said, “My peace be with you here.”
Alleluia!

5 When Thomas first the tidings heard
That they had seen the risen Lord,
He doubted the disciples’ word.
Alleluia!

6 “My piercèd side, O Thomas, see,
And look upon My hands, My feet;
Not faithless but believing be.”
Alleluia!

7 No longer Thomas then denied;
He saw the feet, the hands, the side;
“You are my Lord and God!” he cried.
Alleluia!

8 How blest are they who have not seen
And yet whose faith has constant been,
For they eternal life shall win.
Alleluia!

9 On this most holy day of days
Be laud and jubilee and praise:
To God your hearts and voices raise.
Alleluia! Refrain

Text: attr. Jean Tisserand, d. 1494; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt.
Tune: French, 15th cent.
Text and tune: Public domain

Offering and Prayer

Prayer of the Church

P Let us pray to the Lord:
C Lord, have mercy.

Collect of the Day

L . . . one God, now and forever.
C Amen.

Collect for the Word

L Blessed Lord . . . who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one
God, now and forever.
C Amen.

C I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

New Testament Canticle

Refrain

Christ has been raised from the dead! Al - le -

lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Christ our Pass - o - ver Lamb has been sac - ri - ficed.

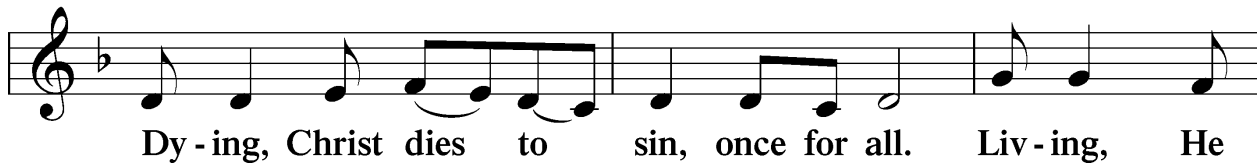
Raised from the dead, He will nev - er die a - gain.

Death has no more do - min - ion o - ver Him.

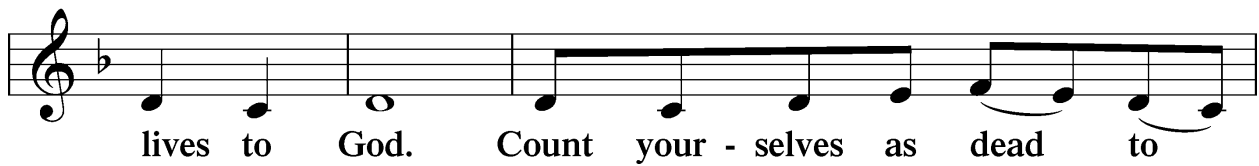
Refrain

Christ has been raised from the dead! Al - le -

lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.



Dy-ing, Christ dies to sin, once for all. Liv-ing, He



lives to God. Count your - selves as dead to

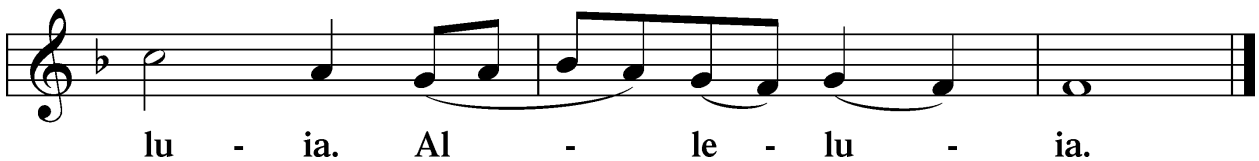


sin and a-live to God in Christ Je - sus, our Lord.

Refrain



C Christ has been raised from the dead! Al - le -



lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Blessing

LSB 267

L Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

L The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us.

C Amen.

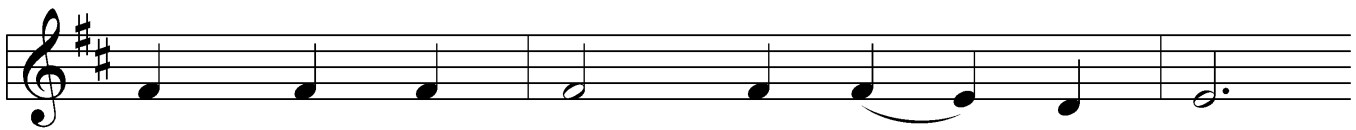
Closing Hymn

“The Strife Is O’er, the Battle Done”

LSB 464



1 The strife is o'er, the bat - tle done;
2 The pow'rs of death have done their worst,
3 The three sad days have quick - ly sped,



Now is the vic - tor's tri - umph won;
But Christ their le - gions hath dis - persed.
He ris - es glo - rious from the dead.

The Refrain is repeated after st. 5.



Now be the song of praise be - gun. Al - le - lu - ia!
Let shouts of ho - ly joy out - burst. Al - le - lu - ia!
All glo - ry to our ris - en Head! Al - le - lu - ia!

4 He broke the age-bound chains of hell;
The bars from heav'n's high portals fell.
Let hymns of praise His triumph tell.
Alleluia!

5 Lord, by the stripes which wounded Thee,
From death's dread sting Thy servants free
That we may live and sing to Thee.
Alleluia! Refrain

Text: Symphonia Sirenum Selectarum, 1695, Köln; tr. Francis Pott, 1832–1909, alt.
Tune: Giovanni P. da Palestrina, c. 1525–1594, adapt.
Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

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EVENTS THIS WEEK

Today: Worship at OSLC, 9am; Christian Education, 10:15am
Today: Worship at Good Shepherd, 11:30am
Monday: Comforters, 1pm
Tuesday: Elders, 6pm
Wednesday: Bible Class, 10am; *Bulletin Deadline, 10am*
Wednesday: Confirmation, 3:15pm
Thursday: Council Meeting, 7pm
Saturday: Worship at Immanuel, 6pm

Those Serving at OSLC

	4/12/26	4/19/26
Elder	Rich Rieches	Neil Rieches
Organist	Linda Kellerhals	Linda Kellerhals
Radio Monitors	Ben and Sarah Verswijver	Darren and Jamie Bakken
Sound Board	Patty Bruens	Neil Rieches
Greeters	Rich and Charlene Rieches	Gene and Marilyn Reeves
Acolyte	Jaylin Lavicka	Sophia Billingsley
Head Usher	Jon Goldenstein	Jon Goldenstein
Altar Guild	Renee and Anna Minton	Renee and Anna Minton



Scan the QR code to give electronically.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

APRIL OSLC YOUTH GROUP: We will meet Sunday, April 26 for an afternoon Scavenger Hunt! Join us from 3 - 5pm for a devotion with Pastor, Scavenger Hunt, and fellowship. Remember, friends are welcome. Put this on your calendar and let Brenna or Jan know you can attend.

IROQUOIS COUNTY YOUTH will meet on April 19 at Skaters Paradise in Hoopeston from 1pm – 3pm. Join us to show off your forward, and backward, skating tricks and for an afternoon of fellowship with other Lutheran youth. Snacks will be provided. Please bring \$2 for skate rental. Please let Brenna or Jan know how many will be attending.

QUARTERLY VOTERS MEETING will be held Sunday, April 19 following service. Plan now to attend to be involved in the business side of the church. Any member 18 or older is a voting member of OSLC.

EASTER BREAKFAST WAS A WONDERFUL MEAL! Thank you for all those that donated supplies, food, and drinks. Thank you to all that helped with setup, serving, and cleanup. Thank you to all those that attended and had a wonderful fellowship meal with your brothers and sisters in Christ. THANK YOU to Patty (and Bob) for getting here VERY early and making all the breakfast casseroles. All the food was delicious!

SENIOR CITIZEN BANQUET will be held at the Milford Grade School on Friday, April 24th at 6pm. Senior Citizens and their families are invited to join the MHS Student Council and National Honor Society members for a night of food and entertainment. Please register by April 15 at 815-889-4184.

MILFORD HIGH SCHOOL BLOOD DRIVE will be held on Wednesday, April 15 from 1pm to 6pm in the Multi Purpose room at MHS. More information is on the bulletin board.

PORTALS OF PRAYER for April – June are in the narthex. We have two sizes available – the regular Pocket size and a slightly larger Digest size. If we run out before you get a Digest size and that's what you prefer, please let Renee know TODAY. We will be adjusting our subscription to better meet the needs of our congregation for the next shipment in July.

2026 LAWN MOWING: Sign-up sheet will be on the bulletin board. The grass is growing and we need your help. THANK YOU to those that have mowed the lawn already this spring! There are plenty of options to fit your schedule. We are asking those that are able to sign up for a couple weeks to push mow the church/annex yards. This is an excellent service project for the youth of the congregation. Thank you for continuing to support and help your church. This helps our yearly budget.

WANT TO GIVE ELECTRONICALLY INSTEAD OF WRITING A CHECK? We now have the option to give through Tithely. Scan the QR code on the insert (next to the weekly giving amounts) and follow the prompts. You can set up a one-time donation or recurring donations. You can also access this via the website at www.oursaviormilford.com. Just click the Give Now link on the main page. *There is a processing fee that varies based on how you are giving (CC or bank account) and on the amount you want to donate. If you are donating a larger amount, a check may be a better option to avoid high fees. Any questions, talk to Renee.*

LUTHERANS FOR LIFE QUOTE “The cross that held Jesus’ body exposed all the sin, violence, and injustice of this world for what it is. At once, the cross revealed what kind of world we have and what kind of God we have: a world of gross unfairness but also a God of sacrificial love.” *Rev. Gregory Seltz, Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

PRAYER LIST

Those celebrating a birthday:

Leevi Bruens Thursday

Henry Lange Saturday

Those celebrating an anniversary:

Those suffering from cancer:

Linda Buhrmester

Ethel Lucht

Nancy Tobeck

Joey, radio listener

Rik Anderson, son of Erica Anderson

Dale Colvin, cousin of Jim Winder

Janet Doyle, friend of Patty Bruens

Tim Evans, brother in law of Bob Storm

Lisa High, friend of Becky Hiles

Kris Hines, daughter in law of Bonita Hines

Jeff Howard, friend of Charlene Rieches

Kendra Howard, niece of Doug Benner

Pamela Howard, sister of Doug Benner

Joe Judd, brother in law of Dennis Selk

Fred Wright, brother of Marvin Wright

Those requesting your prayers:

Marc Avila, cousin of Patty Bruens, alzheimers progression
Sharon York, friend of Joyce Williams, health issues.

Homebound Members

Dianne Estes
Mary Kamin
Joann Sloan

Those serving in our Armed Forces and our local Law Enforcement, especially those connected to the OSLC family:

Armed Forces

Eric Barrie - brother in law of Natalee Dart, serving in the U.S. Navy
Karl Gibbs - serving as a chaplain in the U.S. Navy
Corey Moore - serving in the U.S. Marine Reserves
Timothy Raddatz - nephew of Phil and Cindy Raddatz, serving in the U.S. Coast Guard

Law Enforcement

Wyatt Alt - Iroquois County Sheriff Department

Central Illinois District Congregations: Good Shepherd in Newton as they continue in the Call process.

Iroquois Circuit Congregations: St Paul in Woodworth and Michael Ruhlig her pastor.

Those studying at the Seminary:

Seminarian Simon Niemtschk, Concordia Seminary, St Louis, MO.
Vicar Jacob Bergstedt, Redeemer Lutheran, Gresham, OR.

Those serving in the Mission Field:

Rev. Jordan Andreasen, his wife Alison, and children, Abigail, Bethany, Benjamin, Aaron, and Ethan, our international missionary, currently serving in Romania. Rev. Andreasen works with the Confessional Lutheran Church in Romania and in the surrounding Balkan-Mediterranean subregion.

