



# OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

138 3rd Street NW, Valley City, ND 58072  
(701) 845 - 1328 | oursaviorsvc.org | March 4th, 2026

## UNBOUND; Longing for Mystery

### PRELUDE

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS<sup>+</sup> (\*please rise in body and/or spirit)

Let us confess our sins to God and one another.

**We confess to you, most loving God, the sins that both bind and scatter us. We have knowingly believed dishonest words. We have questioned your gracious power again and again. We have given in to temptation. We have acted out of fear, placing blame on others yet holding ourselves apart. In our disbelief and confusion we have hurt our neighbors and ourselves. Gather us back to you. Forgive us, free us, and make us whole for the sake of your son Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Friends, beloved of God, Jesus came not to condemn the world but that all might be saved through him. In the name of ✝ Christ your sins are forgiven. May God unbind your guilt and shame, lead you by the Spirit, and bring you to wholeness in abundant life. **Amen.**

### GATHERING HYMN

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

#733

### GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you always. **And also with you."**

### LITANY AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

God the Father, you desire the health and salvation of all people.

**We praise you and thank you, O Lord.**

God the Son, you came that we might have life and might have it more abundantly.

**We praise you and thank you, O Lord.**

God the Holy Spirit, you make our bodies the temples of your presence.

**We praise you and thank you, O Lord.**

Holy Trinity, one God, in you we live and move and have our being.

**We praise you and thank you, O Lord.**

Lord, grant your healing grace to all who are sick, injured, or disabled, that they may be made whole;  
**hear us, O Lord of life.**

Grant to all who are lonely, anxious, or despondent the awareness of your presence;  
**hear us, O Lord of life.**

Mend broken relationships, and restore those in emotional distress to soundness of mind and serenity of spirit;

**hear us, O Lord of life.**

Bless physicians, nurses, and all others who minister to the suffering; grant them wisdom and skill, sympathy and patience;

**hear us, O Lord of life.**

Grant to the dying a peaceful, holy death, and with your grace strengthen those who mourn;

**hear us, O Lord of life.**

Restore to wholeness whatever is broken in our lives, in this nation, and in the world;

**hear us, O Lord of life.**

Hear us, O Lord of life:

**heal us, and make us whole.**

Living God, **we come looking for signs of your heavenly kingdom. When certainty binds our spirits, astonish us and confound our expectations. Bring us through water and Spirit to trust that you speak of what you know; Birth us into the mystery that you desire to give all eternal life. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

**LESSON: John 3:1-17**

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

**Longing for Mystery**

**HYMN**

**"Blessed Assurance"**

**#638**

**APOSTLES CREED (\*please rise in body and/or spirit)**

**p. 105**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Lord, in your mercy, hear **our prayer.**

**OFFERING**

**OFFERING HYMN**

**"Create in Me"**

**#188**

**OFFERING PRAYER**

Gracious O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

**LORD'S PRAYER**

**p. 112**

**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.**

**BLESSING<sup>+</sup>**

May God who seeks you by night and by day, in death and in life, open your senses to the mystery of God's grace, enfold you through water and Spirit in Christ's love, and give you confidence in the Spirit's power to unbind and grant new life. May the Holy Trinity, † Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

**HYMN:**

**"Baptized in Water"**

**#456**

**SENDING<sup>+</sup>**

**p. 155**

Go in peace. Go in peace forgiven, whole and free.

**Thanks be to God.**

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