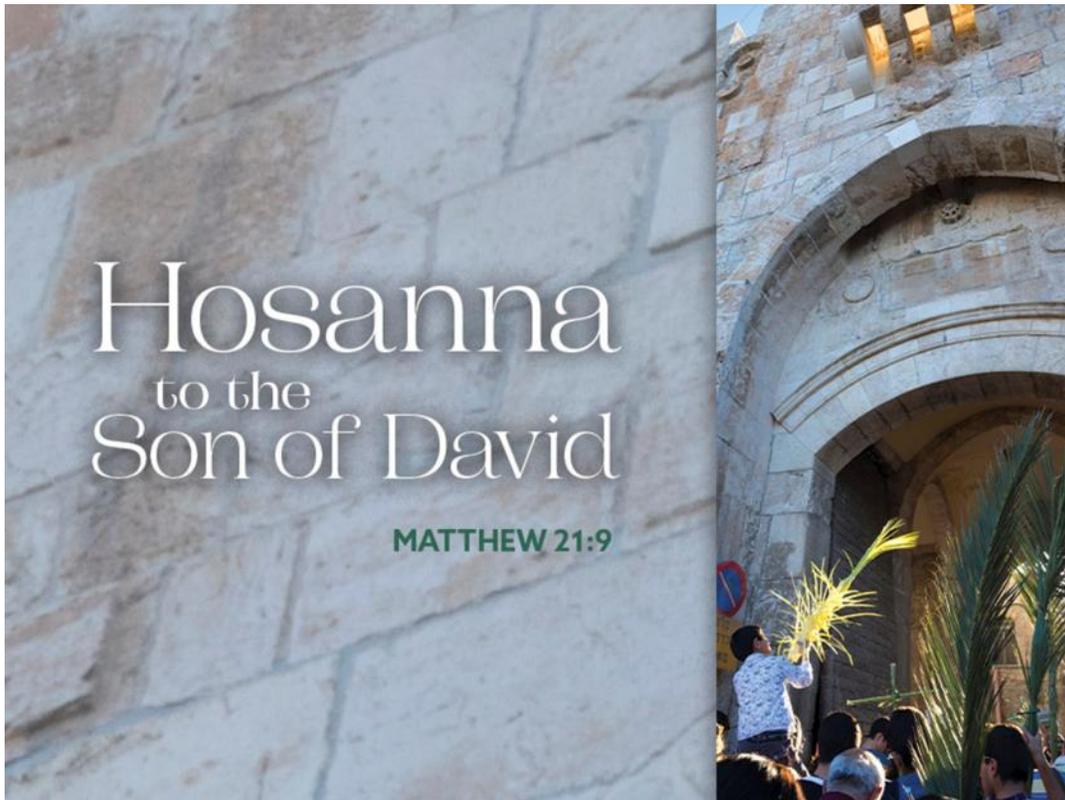


# LIVING SAVIOUR LUTHERAN CHURCH CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA



## PALM/PASSION SUNDAY MARCH 29, 2026

*Living Saviour Lutheran Church is a faith community  
striving to live and love as Jesus did, eagerly welcoming all  
and bringing healing, help, and hope to the world.*

## **WELCOME TO WORSHIP!**

### **WORSHIP ASSISTANTS TODAY:**

Assisting Minister - **Russell Hinson**  
Crucifer - **Jackson Thom**  
Acolyte - **Henry Schwab**

### **INSTRUMENTALIST TODAY:**

Trumpet - **Gordon Hann**  
Woodwinds - **Barbara Tobin**

**THIS WORSHIP FOLDER** contains all elements of the worship service. It is designed to encourage your participation. Please read the words in bold print and join in the singing of all hymns. Italicized words are instructions.

**RESTROOMS** are located at the back of the sanctuary and down the short hallway.

### **WE WELCOME CHILDREN IN OUR WORSHIP SERVICES!**

Parents, you are always welcome to bring your children to worship with you. If you are comfortable and prefer having them in supervised childcare, it is available and is under the very capable and loving supervision of Ms. Carla. The Childcare Room is down the steps as you enter the gathering area outside the sanctuary. Someone will be happy to direct you there.

- **CHILDREN'S WORSHIP BULLETINS** for readers and non-readers are available on the welcome table where the worship folders are located.
- **QUIET BAGS** for use by children during worship have been updated and arranged by age groups. They are located to the left as you enter the sanctuary. Please feel free to pick one up and replace it on the hooks when you leave.

**WEEKLY ACTIVITIES** are on page 18.

## **2026 HEALTH AND WHOLENESS**

**The March theme for Health and Wholeness is Dental Health.**

**Tip #5:** Some health conditions make dental care especially important. Diabetics and people with high blood sugar are less able to fight infections. Also, blood sugar rises with infection. Cancers of the mouth, gastrointestinal tract, lung, breast, prostate and uterus have been linked to gum disease. Regular dental care can improve our general health.

**Proverbs 4:20-22** My son, be attentive to my words; incline your ear to my sayings. Let them not escape from your sight; keep them within your heart. For they are life to those who find them, and healing to all their flesh.

*Those who are able will please gather outside the sanctuary.  
Otherwise, you may be seated in the sanctuary.*

*Everyone will be given palm branches and a worship folder.*

## **WE GATHER IN CHRIST'S NAME**

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Dear friends in Christ, during Lent we have been preparing for the celebration of Christ's death and resurrection. Today we come together to begin this solemn celebration with the church throughout the world. Christ entered Jerusalem this day in triumph, a triumph that led through suffering and death to resurrection and new life.

**In faith and love may we follow our Messiah, this humble ruler,  
who comes riding on a donkey.**

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

**Hosanna in the highest!**

## **PALM SUNDAY GOSPEL: Matthew 21: 1-11**

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, <sup>2</sup>saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. <sup>3</sup>If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." <sup>4</sup>This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet:

<sup>5</sup>"Tell the daughter of Zion,  
Look, your king is coming to you,  
humble and mounted on a donkey,  
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey."

<sup>6</sup>The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; <sup>7</sup>they brought the donkey and the colt and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. <sup>8</sup>A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road.

>>>Cont'd>>>

<sup>9</sup>The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting,  
“Hosanna to the Son of David!  
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!  
Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

<sup>10</sup>When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, “Who is this?” <sup>11</sup>The crowds were saying, “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”

The gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **BLESSING OF THE PALMS**

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

*The assembly raises their palm branches.*

We praise you, O God, for redeeming the world through our Savior Jesus Christ. Today he entered the holy city in triumph and was proclaimed Messiah and King by those who spread garments and branches along his way.  
**Bless these branches and we who carry them. Grant us grace to follow our Lord in the way of the cross, so that, joined to his death and resurrection, we enter into life with you; through the same Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN**      “Blessed is the One Who Comes”

*The assembly follows the processional cross, the children, parents, minister and choir into the church singing.*

## **GREETING**

The love of God poured into our hearts,  
the saving grace of Jesus Christ,  
and the abundance of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

**HYMN**

"All Glory, Laud, and Honor"

ELW 344:1,3,5



All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to you, re-deem-er, king,



to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring.



- 1 You are the king of Is - rael and Da - vid's roy - al Son,
- 2 The com - pa - ny of an - gels are prais - ing you on high;
- 3 The mul - ti - tude of pil - grims with palms be - fore you went;
- 4 To you, be - fore your pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise.
- 5 Their prais - es you ac - cept - ed; ac - cept the prayers we bring,



now in the Lord's name com - ing, our King and Bless-ed One.  
 cre - a - tion and all mor - tals in cho - rus make re - ply.  
 our praise and prayer and an - thems be - fore you we pre - sent.  
 To you, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.  
 great au - thor of all good - ness, O good and gra - cious King.

Text: Theodulph of Orleans, c. 760–821; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.  
 Music: VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN, Melchior Teschner, 1584–1635

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

Sovereign God, you have established your rule in the human heart through the servanthood of Jesus Christ.

**By your Spirit, keep us in the joyful procession of those who with their tongues confess Jesus as Lord and with their lives praise him as Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

**MUSICAL OFFERING**      "Hosannas Sing a Loud Hosanna"      Mark Hayes

**WE HEAR THE WORD OF GOD**

**READING: Isaiah 50:4-9a**

A reading from Isaiah.

<sup>4</sup>The Lord God has given me  
a trained tongue,  
that I may know how to sustain  
the weary with a word.  
Morning by morning he wakens,  
wakens my ear  
to listen as those who are taught.

<sup>5</sup>The Lord God has opened my ear,  
and I was not rebellious;  
I did not turn backward.

<sup>6</sup>I gave my back to those who struck me  
and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;  
I did not hide my face  
from insult and spitting.

<sup>7</sup>The Lord God helps me;  
therefore I have not been disgraced;  
therefore I have set my face like flint,  
and I know that I shall not be put to shame;

<sup>8</sup>he who vindicates me is near.  
Who will contend with me?  
Let us stand in court together.  
Who are my adversaries?  
Let them confront me.

<sup>9a</sup>It is the Lord God who helps me;  
who will declare me guilty?

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL: Matthew 27:11-30**

*The congregation will read the parts in bold.*

The holy gospel according to Matthew, the twenty-seventh chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Narrator: Jesus stood before the governor, Pilate, and Pilate asked him,

Pilate: Are you the King of the Jews?

Narrator: Jesus answered,

Jesus: You say so.

Narrator: But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer. Then Pilate said to him,

Pilate: Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you?

Narrator: But Jesus gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed.

Now at the festival the governor was accustomed to release a prisoner for the crowd, anyone whom they wanted. At that time, they had a notorious prisoner, called Jesus Barabbas. So after all had gathered, Pilate said to them,

Pilate: Whom do you want me to release for you, Jesus Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?

Narrator: For Pilate realized that it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him, "Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him."

Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus killed. The governor again said to them,

Pilate: Which of the two do you want me to release for you?

Narrator: And the crowd said,

**Congregation: Barabbas.**

Narrator: Pilate said to them,

Pilate: Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?

Narrator: All of the crowd said,

**Congregation: Let him be crucified!**

Narrator: Then Pilate asked,

Pilate: Why? What evil has he done?

Narrator: But the crowd shouted all the more,

**Congregation: Let him be crucified! Let him be crucified!**

Narrator: So when Pilate saw that he could do nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took some water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying,

Pilate: I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves.

Narrator: Then the people as a whole answered,

**Congregation: His blood be on us and on our children!**

Narrator: So Pilate released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified. Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole cohort around him. They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on his head. They put a reed in his right hand and knelt before him and mocked him, saying,

**Congregation : Hail, King of the Jews!**

Narrator: They spat on him and took the reed and struck him on the head. After mocking him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.

*A period of silence from reflection.*

**MEDITATION**

**Pastor Sara Ilderton**

*Please stand as you are able.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY****"There in God's Garden"**

ELW 342

V1-All V2-Higher Voices V3-Lower Voices V4-Choir V5-All V6-All

1 There in God's gar - den stands the Tree of Wis - dom,  
 2 Its name is Je - sus, name that says, "Our Sav - ior!"  
 3 Thorns not its own are tan - gled in its fo - liage;  
 4 See how its branch - es reach to us in wel - come;

whose leaves hold forth the heal - ing of the na - tions:  
 There on its branch - es see the scars of suf - f'ring;  
 our greed has starved it, our de - spite has choked it.  
 hear what the Voice says, "Come to me, ye wea - ry!

Tree of all knowl - edge, Tree of all com -  
 see there the ten - drills of our hu - man  
 Yet, look! it lives! its grief has not de -  
 Give me your sick - ness, give me all your

pas - sion, Tree of all beau - ty.  
 self - hood feed on its life - blood.  
 stroyed it nor fire con - sumed it.  
 sor - row, I will give bless - ing."

5 This is my ending,  
 this my resurrection;  
 into your hands, Lord,  
 I commit my spirit.  
 This have I searched for;  
 now I can possess it.  
 This ground is holy.

6 All heav'n is singing,  
 "Thanks to Christ whose passion  
 offers in mercy  
 healing, strength, and pardon.  
 Peoples and nations,  
 take it, take it freely!"  
 Amen! My Master!

## **INTERCESSORY PRAYERS**

God the Son humbled himself, taking on human flesh, suffering and dying in our place. Let us pray to God our Father, and place in his hands the suffering of the world.

We pray for the church, for bishops and pastors, musicians and all who lead worship this Holy Week and on Easter Day. May we all humbly bear our crosses and follow Jesus as our King and Lord.

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for ourselves for we have sinned and like Peter, we have denied our Lord. Forgive us all that we do wrong and renew us, that we may walk in your ways.

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for prisoners and criminals. May they find true freedom knowing that they are neither defined by what they have done nor by what has been done to them.

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for all in government. May they use their power properly and serve truth, justice and peace.

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who are dying. May they know that Jesus is by their side, and may they be received into your kingdom.

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for parents who like Mary have lost a child. May they bear their suffering and know the comfort of your love.

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

And we pray for those with special needs who are known to us personally, and whom we now name silently or aloud...

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Compassionate God, we pray that you would lighten the burdens of all who suffer. Lead us in the way of the cross, that as we suffer with Jesus, so we may rise to life in his glory, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

May the peace of Christ who loves us with an everlasting love  
be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*After exchanging the peace with those near you, please be seated.*

## **WE SHARE THE SUPPER OF THE LORD**

**MUSICAL OFFERING**      "Were You There"      Raymond Hann  
*(Glenda Kilminster, soloist/Preston Hawley, cello)*

*The offering plate is passed. You may also give electronically using the QR  
code on the back cover.*

*Please stand as you are able.*

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

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 of bread and wine,  
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.**

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our privilege and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ.

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,  
 God of pow - er, God of might, heav - en and  
 earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is  
 he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
 Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho -  
 san - na in the high - est.

Music: *Mass of Creation*, Marty Haugen, © 1984, GIA Publications, Inc.

O God most mighty, we praise you for sending your son, Jesus, whose suffering and death gave salvation to all. You gather your people around the tree of the cross, transforming death into life.

*The celebrant continues with the Words of Institution.*

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray.

**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.**

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

*Please be seated.*

*An usher will direct you forward for Communion.*

*Communion is served at the altar rail. You may kneel or stand.*

*We use wheat wafers, white grape juice and wine. If you need a gluten free wafer, please make that known to the pastor.*

*For any who desire a blessing, please come forward with your arms crossed.*

## **SHARING OF THE BREAD AND WINE**

*The body of Christ given for you.  
The blood of Christ shed for you.*

*Please join the choir in singing.*

**COMMUNION HYMN**

“Lamb of God”

Setting 4

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on  
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

**MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION**

Alleluia Ringers

“Ah, Holy Jesus”

Johann Crüger

Arr. John Behnke

Please join the choir in singing.

"Beneath the Cross of Jesus"

ELW 338

1 Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I long to take my stand;  
2 Up - on the cross of Je - sus, my eye at times can see  
3 I take, O cross, your shad - ow for my a - bid - ing place;

the shad - ow of a might - y rock with - in a wea - ry land,  
the ver - y dy - ing form of one who suf - fered there for me.  
I ask no oth - er sun - shine than the sun - shine of his face;

a home with - in a wil - der - ness, a rest up - on the way,  
And from my con - trite heart, with tears, two won - ders I con - fess:  
con - tent to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,

from the burn - ing of the noon - tide heat and bur - dens of the day.  
the . . . won - der of his glo - rious love and my un - wor - thi - ness.  
my . . . sin - ful self my on - ly shame, my glo - ry all, the cross.

Text: Elizabeth C. Clephane, 1830-1869  
Music: ST. CHRISTOPHER, Frederick C. Maker, 1844-1927

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

The first system of music consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a 7/8 time signature. The bottom staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature. The lyrics are written below the staves.

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

The second system of music consists of two staves, identical in notation to the first system. The lyrics are written below the staves.

*Please stand as you are able.*

### **COMMUNION BLESSING**

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood, strengthen, keep and unite us now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.

We thank you, living God,  
**for feeding us with the spiritual food of the body and blood of Christ, which sustains us in the wilderness and the garden alike.**  
**As Christ has loved us in this feast,**  
**so send us to love Christ in our neighbors,**  
**that we may bring healing, help and hope to the world.**  
**In Jesus' name we pray.**  
**Amen.**

## WE ARE SENT TO SHARE THE GOOD NEWS

### BLESSING

The blessed, holy Trinity keep you in grace,  
and ✠ give you peace.

**Amen.**

### SENDING HYMN

“Ride On, Ride On in Majesty”

ELW 346



1 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! Hear all the  
2 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! In low - ly  
3 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! The hosts of  
4 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! In low - ly



tribes ho - san - na cry; O Sav - ior meek, your road pur -  
pomp ride on to die. O Christ, your tri - umphs now be -  
an - gels in the sky look down with sad and won - d'ring  
pomp ride on to die, bow your meek head to mor - tal



sue, with palms and scat - tered gar - ments strewed.  
gin o'er cap - tive death and con - quered sin.  
eyes to see the ap - proach - ing sac - ri - fice.  
pain, then take, O Christ, your pow'r and reign!

Text: Henry H. Milman, 1791–1868, alt.

Music: THE KING'S MAJESTY, Graham George, 1912–1993

Music © 1941 by The H.W. Gray Co. Inc. Copyright renewed. All rights reserved.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

### DISMISSAL

Passing from joy into sorrow and on to elation,  
we come to Christ this Holy Week.

**May the journey of this week lead us  
into the fullness of Christ's love.**

### POSTLUDE

“All Glory, Laud, and Honor”

Michael Burkhardt

## Credits/Acknowledgements

Intercessory Prayers from Sundays and Seasons by permission under Augsburg Liturgies License SAS103467

From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #23663.  
New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

All music and lyrics published in this worship service are printed by permission of the following licenses:

OneLicense #A-725570, LicenSing #612800, CCLI #11242717, Augsburg Fortress #23663.

### “There in God’s Garden”

Text: Király Imre von Pécselyi, c. 1590–c. 1641; tr. Erik Routley, 1917–1982  
Music: K. Lee Scott, b. 1950  
Text © 1976 Hinshaw Music, Inc.  
Music © 1987 Birnamwood Publications (ASCAP), a division of MorningStar Music Publishers, Inc. Used by permission.  
Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

### “Jesus Remember Me”

Text: Luke 23:42; Taizé Community  
Music: REMEMBER ME, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994  
Text and music © 1981 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent, 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638.  
www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

## **THIS WEEK AT LIVING SAVIOUR**

### **Sunday: March 29**

- 8:30 a.m. Alleluia Ringers
- 9:15 a.m. Chancel Choir
- 9:15 a.m. Adult Faith Formation & Children's Sunday School
- 10:30 a.m. Worship
- 11:30 a.m. Fifth Sunday Potluck

### **Monday: March 30**

- 6:15 p.m. Yoga 4 You
- 7:00 p.m. Scout Troop 165

### **Tuesday: March 31**

- 9:30 a.m. Yoga 4 You
- 6:45 p.m. Cub Scout Pack 265

### **Wednesday: April 1**

- 6:45 p.m. Chancel Choir

### **Thursday: April 2 - Maundy Thursday**

- 9:30 a.m. Yoga 4 You
- 6:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Worship
- 6:15 p.m. Yoga 4 You

### **Friday: April 3 - Good Friday**

- 6:00 p.m. Good Friday Worship

### **Saturday: April 4**

- 9:30 a.m. Yoga 4 You
- 10:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal

### **Sunday: April 5 - Easter Sunday**

- 8:30 a.m. Easter Breakfast
- 8:30 a.m. Instrumentalists
- 9:00 a.m. Alleluia Ringers
- 9:15 a.m. Chancel Choir
- 10:00 a.m. Easter Prelude
- 10:30 a.m. Worship



---

# LIVING SAVIOUR

Lutheran Church

Living Saviour Lutheran Church  
6817 Carmel Road  
Charlotte, North Carolina 28226  
(704) 542-3626

The Reverend Sara Ilderton, Pastor  
Don Huff, Director of Music Ministry  
Nancy Mersereau, Assistant Musician  
Laura Schwab, Office Administrator  
Susan Hall, Treasurer  
Elsie Davis, LS Preschool Director

QR for donating online:



**scan to**  
*join us online*

Scan the QR code with your smartphone's camera, tap the link, and you'll be taken to LSLC's YouTube Channel

