

# SAVIOR SERVANT FRIEND

SERVICES FOR LENT



Ash Wednesday  
FORGIVER



Week 1  
HEALER



Week 2  
LISTENER



Week 3  
ENCOURAGER



Week 4  
PROTECTOR



Week 5  
COMFORTER

## SAINT PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

**Lent #5**

March 18, 2026

"In Nomine Iesu"

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**Savior, Servant, Friend  
Services for Lent**

**Week 5: Protector**

**WELCOME.** In this service for Week 5 of Lent, we acknowledge that Jesus protects us from the devil and from danger and keeps us safe in him. We pray our worship together will strengthen you for the coming week.

Please fill out the registration card found in your pew rack and hand it to an usher as you leave this evening.

Join us next Wednesday to continue this journey.

Thank you to those who prepared our pre-service meal tonight. Please join us next week as the LWML serves walking tacos. You are invited to come for the food, fellowship and fun, then stay for worship.

The offering will be collected as you enter/leave the sanctuary.

**Prelude  
Welcome  
Call to Worship ~ Ringing of the Bell**

**Order of Service**

**Theme Verse:** *I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. John 15:15*

**Invocation and Call to Worship** (*please stand*)

P The protecting presence of our Lord Jesus Christ, the power of God the Father, and the indwelling of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **Amen.**

P Spread your protection over us

C **That those who love your name may exult in you.**  
(Psalm 5:11)

P May the Lord answer us in the day of trouble!

C **May the name of the God of Jacob protect us!**  
(Psalm 20:1)

P Father of the fatherless and protector of widows

C **Is God in his holy habitation.** (Psalm 68:5)

P Spread your wings over your servants,

C **For you are a redeemer.** (Ruth 3:9)

P In peace I will both lie down and sleep;

C **For you alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety.**  
(Psalm 4:8)

*(be seated)*

**Opening Hymn** “*Jesus, Refuge of the Weary*” LSB #423

**Confession and Forgiveness** (*please stand*)

P Lord Jesus, our protecting friend, hear us as we confess our sins.

C **Forgive me, Jesus, from the sin that assails my heart and soul.**

P Protect me from the punishment that my sin rightly brings.

C **Have mercy on me, Lord Jesus, for the times that I have failed to protect others.**

P Undo the hurts that I have caused with my sinful words and actions.

C **Lead me away from the dangerous way of rebellion.**

P Lead me, Jesus, in paths of righteousness for your name's sake.

C **Lord, have mercy! Christ, have mercy!  
Lord, have mercy!**

*Please silently reflect on the danger of sin  
and the protecting forgiveness of Jesus.*

P Your friend Jesus does indeed have mercy! Jesus protects you from the punishment of sin as he has lived for you, died for you, risen for you, and now forgives you of all of your sins. His mercy provides protection, and his salvation makes you new. Rejoice now in the protecting presence and forgiveness of your friend Jesus.

C **What a friend we have in Jesus.**

### **Prayer of the Day**

P Mighty Savior and fortress of my soul, let this season of Lent be a time of return. Bring us back to your protecting presence, and cover us with your grace and mercy. Remind us that we are never alone because you are our ever-present friend. We pray this in your name, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

*(be seated)*

### **Old Testament Reading**

*Psalm 121:1-8*

P I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth. He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber. Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade on your right hand. The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the

moon by night. The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life. The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore.

**Epistle Reading**

*2 Thessalonians 3:3-4*

P But the Lord is faithful. He will establish you and guard you against the evil one. And we have confidence in the Lord about you, that you are doing and will do the things that we command.

**Gospel Reading** *(please stand)*

*John 14:18-27*

P “I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him.” Judas (not Iscariot) said to him, “Lord, how is it that you will manifest yourself to us, and not to the world?” Jesus answered him, “If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words. And the word that you hear is not mine but the Father’s who sent me. These things I have spoken to you while I am still with you. But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.

*(be seated)*

**Sermon Hymn** “*A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*” LSB #656

**Sermon**

**Presentation of the Offering**

**Apostles' Creed** (*please stand*)

**All** 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 ever-lasting. Amen

**Prayers**

**P** Mighty fortress, protector and friend, our Lord and  
Savior, Jesus: we come before you in prayer. Incline  
your ear to us and hear the prayers and petitions of  
your people.

**C** **Lord, hear our prayer.**

**P** Protect us from pride and arrogance, lest we think that  
we can live on our own apart from you.

**C** **Lord, hear our prayer.**

**P** Protect us from sin and temptation, sending us your  
Spirit of truth and deliverance so that we can lead lives  
of righteousness and holiness according to your will.

**C** **Lord, hear our prayer.**

**P** Protect the weak and vulnerable, the sojourner and  
fatherless, the widow and orphan and the dying.

**C** **Lord, hear our prayer.**

**P** Protect those in warring nations and provide your  
perfect peace to places caught in the midst of warfare  
and strife.

**C Lord, hear our prayer.**

**P** Protect those who are charged with the task of protecting others—police, firefighters, soldiers, parents, caretakers and all others whose task it is to protect and serve their neighbors.

**C Lord, hear our prayer.**

**P** Protect us from ingratitude and indifference so that we can always thank and praise you for all your goodness and mercy.

**C Lord, hear our prayer and protect us unto eternity. Amen.**

### **Lord's Prayer**

**All** 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.

### **Benediction**

**P** Go now with the peace and power, the protection and provision of your friend, Jesus. The Lord bless and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. Amen.

**C What a friend we have in Jesus!**

*(be seated)*

### **Closing Hymn**

*"A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth"* LSB #438 v. 1,2,&4

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**"Soli Deo Gloria"**

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**Midweek Lenten Services**

March 4, 11, 18, 25

6:30 p.m. Worship

We will also have pre-service Lenten meals served

5:00 - 6:00 p.m.

***Come for the fellowship and stay for worship.***

**Maundy Thursday**

April 2

6:30 p.m. Worship with Communion

**Good Friday**

April 3

6:30 p.m. Worship

**Easter Sunday!**

April 5

7:00 a.m. Worship with Communion

Breakfast served in between services.

10:00 a.m. Worship with Communion