

The people
whom I formed for Myself

Isaiah 43:21



Fifth Sunday in Lent

April 6, 2025

BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

3210 Maple Drive, Plover, Wisconsin 54467

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Guest Pastor Marv Ahlborn

Our Mission

“To Know Jesus and to Make Him Known”

Our Vision

Educate, Equip and Encourage ourselves and our families through worship and study, and engage our community through discipleship, example and Acts of Kindness, using the unique gifts bestowed on each member of our congregation by the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Worship Information

Parents with Young Children: We encourage families to worship together.

Worship Bulletin: Our order of service is printed out in your worship folder.

Worship Form: There are 5 “Movements” in our Worship.

- God grants us the gift of forgiveness.
- God speaks to us from His Word.
- God receives our offerings and prayers.
- God offers us His real presence in Holy Communion.
- God blesses us and sends us out.

Communion: Please read the Statement of Communion below.

(If you are **gluten intolerant** please speak with Pastor or an elder prior to the worship service so we can accommodate you.)

STATEMENT OF COMMUNION

BECAUSE THE WORD OF GOD TEACHES THAT:

- We are all sinners in need of forgiveness.
- Jesus is our only Savior from sin through His death and resurrection.
- The True Body and Blood of Christ is present in the Sacrament of the Holy Communion



Please see Pastor if you have any questions about this or do not believe in the Lord's Supper in this way. You are welcome to come forward for a blessing if you are not communing.

- Please see Pastor if there is something going on in your life that needs the attention of Christ in private confession and absolution.

AS WE GATHER-- “Almighty God, Your Word is cast Like seed into the ground; Now let the dew of heav’n descend And righteous fruits abound” (LSB 577:1). The Bible employs numerous images to depict the power and beauty of God’s Word. It is likened to seed sown upon the ground (Matthew 13:1–9), a lamp shining in the darkness (Psalm 119:105), precious gold and sweet honey (Psalm 19:10), and a sharp sword (Isaiah 49:2; Hebrews 4:12). This last figure of speech indicates that when God speaks, things happen. In fact, sometimes Jesus only needed to say one word and it changed everything. Once, a Roman centurion cried out to Him, “Lord, just say the word, and we will be healed” (Matthew 8:8). This is why we sing, “So when the precious seed is sown, Life-giving grace bestow That all whose souls the truth receive Its saving pow’r may know” (LSB 577:1).

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WELCOME to GUESTS & VISITORS

Hymns will be from the Lutheran Service Book (LSB).

✠ PREPARATION ✠



“Thy Strong Word” LSB 578

INVOCATION

Pastor: O Lord, open my lips,
People: and my mouth will declare Your praise.
Pastor: Make haste, O God, to deliver me;
People: make haste to help me, O Lord.
Pastor: 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.
People: Amen. Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our salvation.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Isaiah 43:1, adapt.*

Pastor: As the Lord God delivered His chosen people from Egyptian slavery through the sea yet on dry ground, and as He delivered His chosen people from their captivity in Babylon of old, so has He now delivered His chosen people to this day from slavery to sin and death through the cross and resurrection of His Son, Jesus Christ. Remembering that your Holy Baptism is still a present reality today, let us return to the Lord our God in true repentance and faith.

People: Lord God, we confess that we have sinned against You and have fallen back into our old ways of neglecting You and our love for our neighbor. Create a new heart and spirit within us and make us to be Your new creation by faith in Your Son, Jesus Christ, that we may live under Him and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness both today and forever.

Pastor: But now thus says the Lord, He who created you and formed you, “Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are Mine.” Upon this, your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as an ordained servant of Christ, announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.



KYRIE “Lord, Have Mercy” LSB 186

Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty God, You have delivered Your chosen people of old from all manner of captivity of body and soul. According to Your promise, make us to be Your chosen people today, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for Your own possession, that we may proclaim Your praises to one another and to the world; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

FIRST READING *Isaiah 49:1–6* (The Servant of the LORD)

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM *Psalms 126* (Restore our fortunes, O LORD)

EPISTLE *Hebrews 4:1–12*

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.



CHILDREN'S MESSAGE “God’s Powerful Word”

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 8:23-27* (Jesus calms a storm)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eighth chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

(The Gospel is read.)

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

CREED *Nicene Creed*

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.



HYMN

“My Song Is Love Unknown” LSB 430

SERMON

“One Little Word Can Fell Him” *Isaiah 49:1-6*

OFFERTORY

(in offering plate at entrance to sanctuary)



HYMN

LSB 192-193

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit with in me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit.
Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs. O God, our Creator and Redeemer, we give thanks that You continue to sustain our world in summer and winter, in seedtime and harvest, through times of trouble and in times of peace. We pray for peace continually that we may attend to Your Word and worship and proclaim Your majesty. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: We give You thanks especially for our redemption from sin and everlasting death. Though even as You count us as Your redeemed people, still we struggle to be faithful. In Your mercy, You remain true to Your promises and continue to provide the everlasting invitation, salvation, and healing through the forgiveness of sins for the sake of Christ. Bless and empower Your whole church on earth with steadfast faith. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: We pray for all those in the authority of government, that they may be guided in the way of truth and justice, providing for the peace and safety of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: We pray also for all who are ill, the hungry, those in bondage, and all who travel. Grant that the prayers of all who turn to You in their need graciously come before You, so that they may receive Your help, provision, and comfort. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: For Pastor Leech, we pray, Lord, that you will bless his current ministry and guide his decision process as he deliberates this new call. Thank you for the ministry opportunities that continue at Beautiful Savior and for holding this entire process in Your almighty hands. Lord, in Your mercy.

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Almighty and eternal God, we adore You as the God and Father of our Lord and Savior Jesus, and with the whole church on earth and all the hosts of heaven we ascribe to You honor and blessing, thanksgiving and praise. For all Your works of mercy of old, we praise You. For Your gifts of deliverance, renewal of life and hope, and the promise of eternal life through the cross and resurrection of Your Son, we

praise You. Hear us for His sake, living and reigning with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE *2 Timothy 4:22*

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**



SANCTUS “Holy, Holy, Holy” LSB 161

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might:

Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.

Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.

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

Hosanna in the highest.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD *Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24;*
Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD’S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

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.

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **And also with you. Amen.**



AGNUS DEI “Lamb of God” LSB 163

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

See LSB 329: **Christian Questions with Their Answers prepared by Dr. Martin Luther for those who intend to go to the Sacrament.**



NOTE: Pastor will come around again, offering the COMMON CUP.



DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”

LSB 576

“Come to Calvary’s Holy Mountain”

LSB 435

“Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord”

LSB 637

COMMUNION DISMISSAL

Pastor: Now this, the Body and Blood of Christ, crucified, risen and ascended, strengthen you, nourish you and keep you steadfast in the true faith to life everlasting. Depart in peace.

People: **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

People: **and His mercy endureth forever.**

Pastor: We give You thanks, almighty God, that You have made us Your own people, a new creation in Jesus Christ, our Lord. By His body and blood You have strengthened our faith, thus enabling us to tell forth Your praises. Enlighten our paths and guide our steps that we may live according to Your gracious will in faithfulness to You and love for one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: **Amen.**



HYMN

“Christ, the Life of All the Living” LSB 420, vs.1, 5-7

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING

Pastor: Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

People: **Thanks be to God.**

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NEXT WEEK’S READINGS:

OLD TESTAMENT READING Deuteronomy 32:36-39; Isaiah 49:1-6

EPISTLE Philippians 2:5-11

HOLY GOSPEL Luke 23:1-56

TITHE & OFFERING – our sacrifice of thanksgiving to the Lord

Our “**tithes**” are our first fruits returned to God in proportional, joyful, thankful and faithful response to His grace. “**Offerings**” are special gifts for ministries, memorials and needs over and above the tithe.

(If you are a guest, we welcome you as a guest. Please do not feel obligated to give an offering unless you feel moved to do so by the Spirit.)

March Financial Recap:

March Givings (Thank you!) \$19,653.25

Monthly Need (5 Sundays): \$22,265.10

Shortage: - \$ 2,611.85

Parking Lot Project:

\$67,848

Goal: \$100,000

(\$23,000 remains on the \$50,000 loan.)

YTD: We are \$888.57 short of being fully funded according to the approved budget for 2025 (this is factoring in the full cost of a pastor). What this means is that we have been able to put money into savings to help with the future moving needs and visits of a potential Pastor for Beautiful Savior. Praise God! Thank you for your offerings.

Scrip Profit from 3/17/25-3/23/25: \$20.00

Life Quotes: April 6 “Friend, you have a good word to speak to your neighbor. You have God’s Word of life to share—with your spouse, your children or grandchildren, your co-worker or friend. You can tell them that their life is sacred, a gift of God, and that their life matters to you.” *Rev. Robert Mohns, Lutheran Church–Canada – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

CALENDAR:

Tuesdays—9am Orphan Grain Train packing
Fridays—10-11:30am, Friday morning Bible study
April 9—Lent Meal and Bible Study, 5:30-7pm (Pizza)
TODAY, April 6—11-1:30 Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction
April 12—10-11:30am, “The Thorn” showing @ BSLC



Call Process:

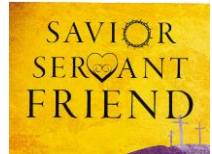
Thank you to the volunteers serving on our Call Committee:
Karol Harris, Marv Hopp, Lee Loomis, Werner Gross, Kristi Philhower

Update: **Pastor Joseph Leech has been issued a call to serve at Beautiful Savior and is visiting with us throughout this weekend. Please continue to keep Pastor Leech and Gayle in your prayers as they deliberate this new call.**



Grief Share Classes: Tuesdays, 4:30-6pm through May 27. These sessions make it possible for individuals to begin or continue the healing process after the loss of a loved one or dear friend. Pastor Dan is facilitating, and the topic of discussion on April 8th is “Anger.”

Wednesday Lenten Meals and Bible Study: 5:30-6pm, dinner; 6-7pm Bible Study. April 9th we will be having Pizza and focusing on Jesus as our Protector. We have enjoyed growing together this Lenten season.



Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction: TODAY, April 6, 11-1:30 Join us for this delicious meal and fundraiser. All funds raised are to help with shipping costs for Orphan Grain Train. Tickets are available at the door (Adults \$10, Children \$5, 5 and under free). Be sure to peruse the silent auction items and the beautiful quilts. The highest bidders will take home some great treasures!

Friday Study: Pastor Dan is leading “You are Never Alone” based on the book by Max Lucado. This study explores Christ’s miracles and how He is still at work in our lives. April 11: I AM in the Storm With You.

“Bow the Knee,” a dramatic Easter Musical will be presented April 5 (7pm) and April 6 (2:30pm) at Trinity Lutheran Church in Wausau. It will also be presented April 12 (7pm) and April 13 (2:30pm) at Zion Lutheran Church in Aniwa. Admission is free. Several members of Beautiful Savior have attended in previous years and highly recommend it.



Holy Week Worship Schedule:

Maundy Thursday, April 17 6:30pm
Good Friday, April 18 Noon & 6:30pm
Easter Sunday, April 20 9:30am

Travel Ministry Opportunity: Central Wisconsin travel ministry’s Creation Museum and Ark Encounter trip has about 12 spots that need to be filled before we can make it official! We have extended the registration date for a few more weeks to try to make this trip a GO! This trip is scheduled for July 29-Aug. 1.

Creation Museum & Ark Encounter Schedule

- Tuesday, July 29th: 6 AM Depart St. Paul Stevens Point, WI
Shipshewana, IN (Amish Country & Outdoor Flea Market)
Hotel near Fort Wayne, Indiana
- Wednesday, July 30th: All Day at Creation Museum (Lunch included)
Dinner at Skyline Chili
Purple Pedestrian Bridge
Optional evening activities (shopping, etc...)
Hotel
- Thursday, July 31st: All Day at Ark Encounter (Lunch included)
Evening travel
Hotel near Indianapolis
- Friday, August 1st: Phil’s Friends - Service Project at Crown Point, Indiana
Bluff Walk at Concordia Mequon
Arrive back in Stevens Point by 9 PM

Cost: Single \$800, Double \$600/person, Triple/Quad \$500/person
*Price based on 35 passengers * \$100/person NON-REFUNDABLE
deposit due by May 1st, 2025 * Final payment due by July 1, 2025

For paperwork or questions contact Sue Lilienthal 715-344-5660 or slilienthal@splpoint.com . Forms can also be found on the Welcome Center counter at St. Paul. Please make deposit checks to St. Paul Lutheran.

Beautiful Savior Lutheran Prayer List : 4/6/2025 – 4/12/2025

Ongoing prayers for Grief & Loss: (Named & Not Named):

Family of Art Holford; Schultz Family; Kubisiak family (Roy's mother passed away); Karen Holman (mother, Rose Janke, passed away); Family of Sharon Hughes; Family of Lynda Helmrick

Situations:

Suicide Attempts, Cancer, Christian Parenting, Caregivers, AODA (those struggling with alcohol and other substance abuse), those struggling with mental health

Military: Devante; Emily; Nick

Pending Diagnosis & Treatment:

Ken Resch (Father of Julie Barge); Phil Idsvoog; BSLC friend, Sarah, cancer; Jane Dubois

Hospitalized/Recovering:

Circuit 17:

St Luke-Rapids (continuing the Call process for a Pastor); Bethlehem-Nekoosa (continuing the Call process for a Pastor); Beautiful Savior as we are in the Call process (Pastor Leech as he deliberates our call)

Shut-ins: Mary S.; Anita C.

Birthdays:

4/9 Emily Hansen
4/10 Austin Norrgran
4/11 Jim Barge
4/12 Jessica Hansen
4/12 Mackenzie Lavin

Baptism Birthdays:

4/11 Keith Metz

Anniversaries:

4/8 Tom & Kristi Philhower (20 yrs)

Missions:

First Choice Resource Center
Camp Luther
Peace Campus Center & Pastor Andy Weden
St. Paul Lutheran Elementary School
Immanuel Lutheran School
Future Lutheran High School
Wycliffe & Lutheran Bible Translators & Linda Jordan
J.P. & Aimee Cima & Family
Orphan Grain Train Center
Christ Care / Carpenter's Crew

Please let us know if you have any prayer requests – Thank you!

April 6-12, 2025



Week 15 “Bible in a Year” Questions:

Leviticus 9-16:

1. Why did Aaron’s sons, Nadab and Abihu, die (ch.10)?
2. Why do you think God was so specific about purification and cleansing? See Lev.11:44 for one idea.
3. What does “atonement” mean and what was the purpose of the Day of Atonement (ch.16)? How often was this day to be observed?

Proverbs 24-30:

Choose any five proverbs from these chapters and copy them down. What do these proverbs mean to you or why do they stand out to you?

Psalms 10-19:

1. Psalm 10 starts out with a question, “Why do you (O LORD) hide yourself in times of trouble?” Is this true of God? Explain.
2. What are some of the things outlined in Psalm 15 in order for a person to have access to God? With these in mind, do we have any hope of an eternity with God in his sanctuary? Why DO we?
3. Psalm 16:11 says, “You will fill me with joy in Your presence.” How do we remain in the presence of God? What are some things that bring you joy in this life?

General Questions to consider:

1. What did you learn from this week’s readings?
2. Is there something in these readings that surprised you?
3. What is one passage that encourages or challenges you? How?

OLD TESTAMENT:

Isaiah 49:1-6

¹Listen to me, O coastlands, and give attention, you peoples from afar. The Lord called me from the womb, from the body of my mother He named my name.

²He made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of His hand He hid me; He made me a polished arrow; in His quiver He hid me away.

³And He said to me, “You are My servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified.”

⁴But I said, “I have labored in vain; I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my right is with the Lord, and my recompense with my God.”

⁵And now the Lord says, He who formed me from the womb to be His servant, to bring Jacob back to Him; and that Israel might be gathered to Him—for I am honored in the eyes of the Lord, and my God has become my strength—

⁶He says: “It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to bring back the preserved of Israel; I will make you as a light for the nations, that My salvation may reach to the end of the earth.”

EPISTLE: Hebrews 4:1-12

¹Therefore, while the promise of entering His rest still stands, let us fear lest any of you should seem to have failed to reach it.

²For good news came to us just as to them, but the message they heard did not benefit them, because they were not united by faith with those who listened.

³For we who have believed enter that rest, as He has said,

“As I swore in My wrath,
“They shall not enter My rest,””

although His works were finished from the foundation of the world. ⁴For He has somewhere spoken of the seventh day in this way: “And God rested on the seventh day from all His works.” ⁵And again in this passage He said,

“They shall not enter My rest.”

⁶Since therefore it remains for some to enter it, and those who formerly received the good news failed to enter because of disobedience, ⁷again He appoints a certain day, “Today,” saying through David so long afterward, in the words already quoted,

“Today, if you hear His voice,
do not harden your hearts.”

⁸For if Joshua had given them rest, God would not have spoken of another day later on. ⁹So then, there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God, ¹⁰for whoever has entered God’s rest has also rested from his works as God did from His.

¹¹Let us therefore strive to enter that rest, so that no one may fall by the same sort of disobedience. ¹²For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 8:23-27

²³And when He got into the boat, His disciples followed Him. ²⁴And behold, there arose a great storm on the sea, so that the boat was being swamped by the waves; but He was asleep. ²⁵And they went and woke Him, saying, “Save us, Lord; we are perishing.” ²⁶And He said to them, “Why are you afraid, O you of little faith?” Then He rose and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm. ²⁷And the men marveled, saying, “What sort of man is this, that even winds and sea obey Him?”

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 43:16–21

- ¹⁶Thus says the LORD,
who makes a way in the sea,
a path in the mighty waters,
¹⁷who brings forth chariot and horse,
army and warrior;
they lie down, they cannot rise,
they are extinguished, quenched like
a wick:
¹⁸“Remember not the former things,
nor consider the things of old.
¹⁹Behold, I am doing a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not
perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.
²⁰The wild beasts will honor me,
the jackals and the ostriches,
for I give water in the wilderness,
rivers in the desert,
to give drink to my chosen people,
²¹the people whom I formed for myself
that they might declare my praise.”

Epistle: Philippians 3:8–14

⁸Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith—¹⁰that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹²Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining

forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

Holy Gospel: Luke 20:9–20

⁹[Jesus] began to tell the people this parable: “A man planted a vineyard and let it out to tenants and went into another country for a long while. ¹⁰When the time came, he sent a servant to the tenants, so that they would give him some of the fruit of the vineyard. But the tenants beat him and sent him away empty-handed. ¹¹And he sent another servant. But they also beat and treated him shamefully, and sent him away empty-handed. ¹²And he sent yet a third. This one also they wounded and cast out. ¹³Then the owner of the vineyard said, ‘What shall I do? I will send my beloved son; perhaps they will respect him.’ ¹⁴But when the tenants saw him, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir. Let us kill him, so that the inheritance may be ours.’ ¹⁵And they threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. What then will the owner of the vineyard do to them? ¹⁶He will come and destroy those tenants and give the vineyard to others.” When they heard this, they said, “Surely not!” ¹⁷But he looked directly at them and said, “What then is this that is written:

“‘The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone’?”

¹⁸“Everyone who falls on that stone will be broken to pieces, and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him.”

¹⁹The scribes and the chief priests sought to lay hands on him at that very hour, for they perceived that he had told this parable against them, but they feared the people. ²⁰So they watched him and sent spies, who pretended to be sincere, that they might catch him in something he said, so as to deliver him up to the authority and jurisdiction of the governor.



About the Cover: As Isaiah prophesied about the coming exile, he reminded the people of God what He accomplished for them by forming them to be His people. Our Lord will not abandon us. Indeed, even today, we stand in the shadow of the cross of Christ, which reminds us that He watches over us. God formed us as His people and has forgiven our sins. The journey of life is covered by Christ, the Savior of the world, who continues to be with us.