



PUBLICATION OF BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH 1947-2026

2026 Panhandle Conference Lenten Retreat
by The Rev. Leah R. Lawson

It's hard to believe that the season of Lent is quickly approaching. Amid the busyness of our lives, Lent invites us to slow down, to reflect, and to journey with Jesus to the cross.



For the past two years, the leaders of the Panhandle Conference have offered a Lenten Retreat which was held at Palo Duro Canyon. A perfect setting for a Lenten retreat, if you ask me! This year, we are meeting at Trinity in Lockney, which is also a great location. It's out in the wilderness, too. It's a different kind of wilderness though. The church is out in the country, surrounded by farmland.

Photos are from the 2024 Panhandle Conference Lenten Retreat

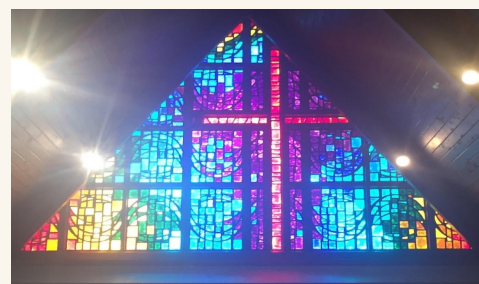
During our time together, we will have a variety of activities to choose from. In the past we have had a prayer station, a musical activity, crafts, and the study of scripture. I will be leading a session of Art & Sacred Story, which I have done the past two years at the retreat. Art & Sacred Story is something that I learned about during my internship at House of Prayer Lutheran Church in Hingham, Massachusetts. One of the great things about Art & Sacred Story is that you don't have to be an artist to participate. It's a way to slow down, listen to scripture, and respond to the scripture using a variety of art supplies. It's amazing what comes to the surface through this holy work. Lunch will be provided and we will end our time together with worship.

The 2026 Panhandle Conference Lenten Retreat will be on Saturday, February 21 from 10 AM to 3 PM. If you would like to attend or if you have any questions, please let me know.

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Worship

*Sundays Mornings
9:30 AM with communion*



Office Hours -
Monday - Thursday,
9:00AM-12:00PM, 1:00-3:00PM
(closed during the noon hour)
Friday, 9:00AM- 12:00 PM

Staff:

Leah Lawson, Pastor
Cheryl Hall, Office Manager
Marsha Moller, Music Director

Volume 66,
Issue 2
February 2026

Council met on January 19 for a business meeting.

Attendance:

Council Members: Spencer Berry, Pr. Leah, Jeff Worley, Nancy Conley, Gene Reneau, Blair Berg, Deanna Rosenthal, Ann-Marie Shadduck, Mark Newman, Linda Allen

Office Manager: Cheryl Hall

Council Members Absent:

Guests: D'Ann Berry, Jessica Berg

Calendar Updates:

- Women's Study in February will be on the 3 and the 17.
- Pastor Leah will be at a working retreat in Waco on February 8-10.
- Cheryl Hall will be out of the office on February 11 and 12.
- The council's February retreat will be Saturday, February 28 from 10 am until 2 pm.

New Business - Office Manager Desktop Computer – Spencer Berry suggested a new computer for the church office is needed as the present one is several years old and does not support Windows 11. Pr. Leah's newer computer also needs to be upgraded to Windows 11.

Property: Gene added that the glass tops for the church office will be installed next week. The broken chair in the library was repaired by Steve Studtmann. Thank you Steve.

Worship—Altar care has been scheduled for 2026 with the plan to create the rotating Lenten schedule in February. Duties will be shared during March as Easter is April 5. There are 9 people serving with 2 substitutes. Members are very good at making sure things are done correctly and jumping in to help. We all should be grateful for Diane Wisker who functioned as worship chair from October through January 9.

Social Concerns— Thank you to all that assisted in managing the Food Pantry during my (Mark Newman) absence in Nov/Dec.

- Also, thank you to the congregation for providing food items that are short or non-existent from the High Plains Food Bank (HPFB). ○ Items still needed on a regular basis are cereal/oatmeal, peanut butter, jelly, pasta, and powdered milk.
- The sewing group was busy in December making/distributing items for cancer patients and stockings for veterans and domestic violence personnel.
- A Christmas party was held for Amarillo Children's Home. Bob Roulston donated stuffed animals and scarves for the children. Appreciate you Bob!
- Dianne Reinschmidt and others are collecting/distributing winter clothes to give to the poor and homeless at Ellwood Park.

Church Council:

Spencer Berry, Council President; **Jeff Worley**, VP, **D'Ann Berg**, Treasurer; **Nancy Conley**, Secretary; **Jessica Berg**, Education/Youth; **Mary Jones Fellowship**; **Gene Reneau**, Property; **Mark Newman**, Social Concerns, **Linda Allen**, Worship

Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church

Treasurer's Report December Fiscal Year 2025

Month

INCOME

OFFERINGS

	Actual	Budget
GENERAL FUND ENVELOPE	19,657.39	19,333.33
GENERAL FUND LOOSE	305.00	83.37
OTHER RECEIPTS		
BUILDING USE	1630.00	458.37
MISCELLANEOUS	35.00	20.83

Total Income	21,627.39	19,895.98
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EXPENSE

Total Expense	20,869.03
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General Fund Offering and Attendance

January 4

general fund: 5829 attendance: 63

January 11

general fund: \$23,955; attendance: 65

January 18

general fund: \$8475; attendance: 54

January 25

general fund: \$5830;



REMEMBER IN PRAYER

For our members

Jon Edler, Audrey Holman, Kenneth Huckabee, Donna Nuss, Bill Tietgens, Beverly Roush, Sonia Sanchez, Rita De Mar, and Mary Jones

Please keep Wanda and Fred Garcia in your prayers as they serve the people of Guatemala.

Please keep Beatrice Kirkeeng in your prayers as she is dealing with back pain.

Please keep the family and friends of Betty Loomis in your prayers as they grieve her passing.

For our family members and friends

Elizabeth, Erin, Allen & Rhonda, Deborah W., Aiden, Lana K., Steve, Nickie, Mark, Donnie, Cynthia, Mike, Sharon, Brant, Wayne, Melissa, Monica, Judy L., Mary L., Hattie, Lauren, Jessica, Josh G., and Michael & Whitney.

Please keep Doris Featherston and the family in your prayers. Her husband, Norm, passed away on January 12. They are former members of Beautiful Savior. If you would like to send a card, please contact the church office for the address.

Please keep the family and friends of Chris Wilson in your prayers as they grieve his passing.

Please keep Randy and his family in your prayers. His wife recently passed away.

Please keep Pr. Mike & Sharon Holmes in your prayers. Pr. Mike is currently navigating health challenges.

For those serving in the military - Major Erik Lawson

2026 NT-NL Prayer Partners

We invite individuals and congregations to join us in prayer for our congregations, leaders, and partners in mission.

Pray for our Bishops Curry (ELCA), Gronberg (NTNL), and Momoh (ELCSL)

Our Redeemer, Grand Prairie; Umoja International Mission, Fort Worth

Prayers of Thanks

Updates Encouraged!

Note: If you have placed someone on the prayer list and there has been a change, please keep the church office updated.

GOOD NEWS
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02/10 Dale Thompson
02/17 Diane Wisker
02/18 Ann Coberley
02/21 Wally Herpich
02/22 Ingrid Owen
02/26 Chelsea Kuehler

If you need

pastoral care of a visit or phone call, contact the church office at 359-9483 (Pastor Leah's office hours are 9 am to 4 pm Monday –Thursday) .

To add prayer requests into the church's prayers in the weekly bulletin and/or the prayer chain call/ email the church. To join the prayer chain by email, contact the church office at beautifulsavioramarillo@gmail.com

Meetings & Misc. Calendar

February 17 - 6:00-7:30 Pancake Supper

February 18 - 7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service

February 25 - 6:15 pm Soup & Sandwich Dinner
7:00 pm Holden Evening Prayer

- **Keenagers** meet on Wednesday, February 4 at noon for a pot-luck lunch. Hosts: Dorothy Bivens and Johnny & Diane Reinschmidt.

-**The Women's Study Group** meets February 10 & 24 at 10 am.

-**The Wired Word** will meet on Thursdays, February 5, 12, 19, & 26 at 10 am and at 7 pm.

- **Council** meets Saturday, February 28 from 10 am until 2 pm.

Sunday Scripture Readings

GOOD NEWS
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Sunday, February 1, 2026

First Reading: Micah 6:1-8

With the mountains and the foundations of the earth as the jury, God brings a lawsuit against Israel. God has "wearied" Israel with a long history of saving acts. God does not want or expect lavish sacrifices to attempt to earn divine favor. Rather God empowers the people to do justice, to love loyalty to God, and to walk shrewdly in God's service.

Psalm: Psalm 15

Lord, who may abide upon your holy hill? (Ps. 15:1)

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

According to the world's standards of power and might, the message of the cross seems stupid and offensive. Yet this word reveals the paradoxical way God has chosen to work power and salvation through weakness, rejection, and suffering. Hence the message of the cross becomes true wisdom and power for believers.

Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12

Jesus opens the Sermon on the Mount by naming those who are blessed in the reign of God.

Sunday, February 8, 2026

First Reading: Isaiah 58:1-9a [9b-12]

Shortly after the return of Israel from exile in Babylon, the people were troubled by the ineffectiveness of their fasts. God reminds them that outward observance is no substitute for genuine fasting that results in acts of justice, such as feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, and clothing the naked.

Psalm: Psalm 112:1-9 [10]

Light shines in the darkness for the upright. (Ps. 112:4)

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:1-12 [13-16]

Though people such as the Corinthians are enamored with human philosophy and wisdom, Paul continuously presents God's hidden wisdom which is Jesus Christ crucified. True spiritual maturity involves judging ourselves and others in light of God's revelation in the cross.

Gospel: Matthew 5:13-20

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus encourages his followers to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, doing good works and keeping God's commandments.

Sunday, February 15, 2026

First Reading: Exodus 24:12-18

At Mount Sinai, Moses experienced the presence of God for forty days and forty nights. The "glory of the Lord" settled on the mountain, and on the seventh day God called out to Moses. On the mountain God gave Moses the stone tablets inscribed with the ten commandments.

Psalm: Psalm 2

You are my son; this day have I begotten you. (Ps. 2:7)

Second Reading: 2 Peter 1:16-21

At the transfiguration, God's voice was heard, declaring Jesus to be the beloved Son. By the activity of the Holy Spirit, God's voice continues to be heard through the word of scripture.

Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9

Shortly before he enters Jerusalem, where he will be crucified, Jesus is revealed to Peter, James, and John in a mountaintop experience of divine glory called the transfiguration.

Sunday, February 22, 2026

First Reading: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

Human beings were formed with great care, to be in relationship with the creator, creation, and one another. The serpent's promise to the first couple that their eyes would be opened led, ironically, to the discovery only that they were naked.

Psalm: Psalm 32

Mercy embraces those who trust in the Lord. (Ps. 32:10)

Second Reading: Romans 5:12-19

Through Adam's disobedience, humanity came under bondage to sin and death, from which we cannot free ourselves. In Christ's obedient death, God graciously showers on us the free gift of liberation and life.

Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11

Jesus experiences anew the temptations that Israel faced in the wilderness. As the Son of God, he endures the testing of the evil one.

If you are not sure how to pronounce some of the names in the readings, below is a link to help you and also a link to look up readings from the NRSVUE Bible. <https://biblespeak.org/>
NRSVUE Bible Online: [Bible Gateway.com](https://biblespeak.org/)



The Love God Desires

God's love is never meant to stop with us; it's meant to flow through us. When we love others, we reflect his very heart. As 1 John 4:12 (NIV) reminds us, "If we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us."

This is the true mark of a Christian — love that reaches beyond comfort zones, opinions and differences. Jesus said in John 13:35 (NIV), "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

The world is watching, not to see how loudly we profess our faith but how deeply we practice it. Every act of compassion, every gentle word and every moment of grace reveals something divine — God's love at work in us. The more we give that love away, the more it grows within us, mirroring the heart of Christ, who gave Himself for all.

So ask yourself: Does the world recognize you as his disciple by the way you love?



The Beatitudes are more than poetic lines from Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. They're a radical redefinition of what it means to be blessed. The Greek word *makarios* doesn't just mean "happy." It describes a deep, untouchable joy that pain, loss or hardship cannot erase. As scholar William Barclay wrote, it is "the joy which shines through tears."

Jesus flips the world's idea of success upside down. The "blessed" aren't the powerful or prosperous, but the poor in spirit, the mourners, the meek and the merciful. Imagine reading them as "Congratulations, you who feel broken, God's kingdom belongs to you!" His words assure us that, even in suffering, we stand in God's favor.

Real blessing isn't about shiny possessions or smooth sailing. It's the steady, saving presence of God — a life preserver tossed to us when we're struggling to stay afloat. And it's not just an individual promise. Jesus spoke these blessings to a community, a we more than a me. Together, as the body of Christ, we find comfort, strength and the courage to live with joy that nothing in life or death can take away.

— Adapted from *HomileticsOnline.com*

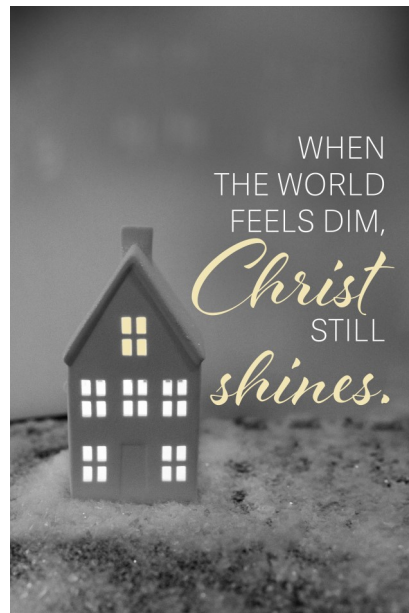
February 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:30 Worship 10:30 -Fellowship -Choir	2	3 10 am Wom- en's Study	4 FP 10-12 12 pm Keen- agers	5 10 am & 7 pm Wired Word	6	7
8 9:30 Worship 10:30 -Fellowship -Choir	9	10	11 FP 10-12	12 10 am & 7 pm Wired Word	13	14
15 9:30 Worship 10:30 -Fellowship -Choir	16 Office closed	17 6-7:30 Pancake Supper 10 am Wom- en's Study	18 FP 10-12 7 pm Ash Wednesday	19 10 am & 7 pm Wired Word	20	21 Panhandle Conf. Retreat, Lockney, TX
22 9:30 Worship 10:30 -Fellowship -Choir	23	24	25 FP 10-12 12 pm Keenagers 6:15 pm Lent Supper 7 pm Holden Evening Prayer	26 10 am & 7 pm Wired Word	27	28 10 am -2 pm Council Re- treat



**BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR
LUTHERAN CHURCH**
3500 Bowie
Amarillo, Texas 79109
February 2026

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FYI - Our worship services are now live streamed on Beautiful Savior's Facebook page: [Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church-Amarillo](#) Pass it along.