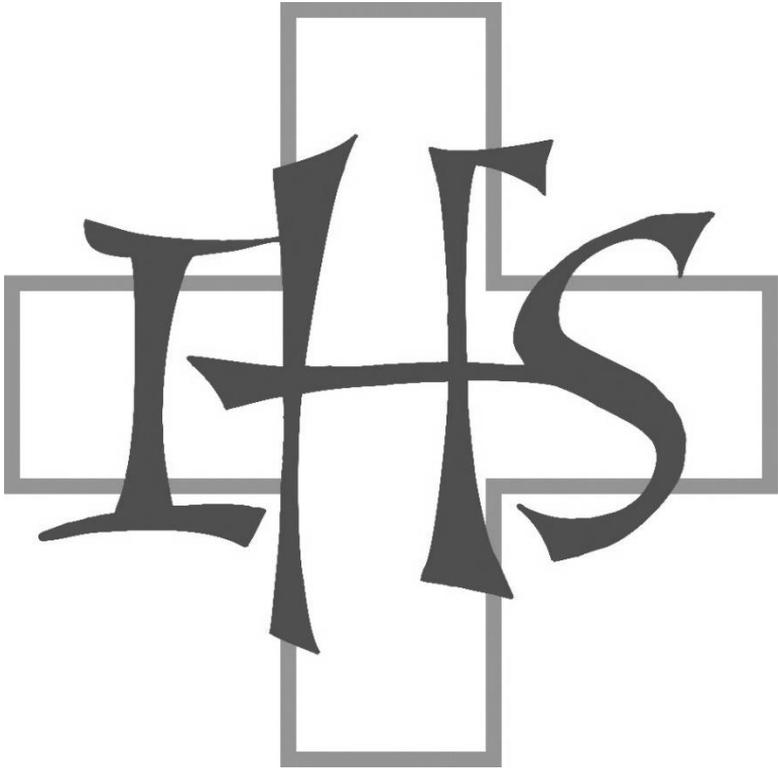


# The Lutheran Church of the Savior

**A Community of Faith:** *Centered in Christ – Called to Serve*



For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him.

*1 Thessalonians 5:9–10*

## Order of Worship

*November 19, 2023 10:45 AM*

# The Lutheran Church of the Savior

426 Davis Road - Bedford, MA 01730

church@lcsavior.org

781-275-6013

<https://www.lcsavior.org>

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## Introit

*Psalm 143: 1–2, 5–6, 10–11*

Hear my prayer, O LORD; give ear to my pleas for mercy!

In your faithfulness answer me, in your righteousness!

Enter not into judgment with your servant,

for no one living is righteous before you.

I remember the days of old; I meditate on all that you have done;

I ponder the work of your hands.

I stretch out my hands to you;

my soul thirsts for you like a parched land.

Teach me to do your will, for you are my God!

Let your good Spirit lead me on level ground!

For your name's sake, O LORD, preserve my life!

In your righteousness bring my soul out of trouble!

## Communion Theology and Practice

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper is intended for those:

- who have been baptized in the name of the Triune God,
- who have faith in Jesus Christ as God the Son in the flesh and their personal Savior from sin, death, and the devil;
- who believe that they have sin that needs forgiving, hurt that needs healing, and faith that needs strengthening;
- who are committed to amending their sinful ways; and
- who believe that in, with, and under the bread and wine they receive the true body and blood of the risen Christ, together with the forgiveness of all their sins.

*If you are a visitor with us this morning and wish to receive the Lord's Supper, please speak with the pastor before the service.*

*Thank you.*

# Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

## Divine Service

Welcome

### Invocation

**P** This is the day the Lord has made;

**C** Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

*Psalm 118:24*

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son  
and of the Holy Spirit.

*Matthew 28:19*

**C** Amen.

### Opening Song We Have Come To Worship The Lord

*Horton*

*Chorus x2, Verse, Chorus x2, Verse, Tag*

CHORUS

We have come to wor - ship the Lord,

We have come to wor - ship the Lord, -

Bow down be - fore\_ Him,\_ Love and a - dore\_ Him,\_

We have come to wor - ship the Lord.\_ En - ter

*continued on next page*

10 VERSE

in - - in - to the Ho - ly Place; En - ter - in, - and

13

look up - on His face; He is worth - y, He is

15

ho - ly, He is Je - sus; En - ter in.

## Prayer of Confession

- P** Holy Lord, as we stand in your presence, we are aware of our sins of thought, word, and action.
- C** **We have not always lived our lives according to your will.**
- P** We have often failed to live up to your expectations.
- C** **We all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.**
- P** But we know your promise, that if we confess our sins,
- C** **you will hear our cry, and grant us your forgiveness.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

- P** O Lord, hear us now, as we confess our sins to You.
- C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

**P** Jesus has carried our sins to His own death. His sacrifice is complete and full – it is finished! The victory is won! Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the  $\text{†}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**Song of Praise**

**Mighty To Save**

*Fielding, Morgan*

*Verse 1, Chorus, Verse 2, Chorus, Bridge, Chorus x2*

1. Ev - 'ry-one needs com - pos - sion, love that's ne - ver fail -  
 2. So take me as You find me, all my fears and fail -

ing, Let mer - cy fall on me.  
 ures. Fill my life a - gain.

Ev - 'ry-one needs for - give - ness, the kind - ness of a Sav -  
 I give my life to fall - ow ev - 'ry thing I be - lieve

our, the hope of na - tions.  
 in. Now I sur - ren - der.

**CHORUS**

Sav - iour, He can move the moun - tains. My God is  
 mighty - y to save, He is might - y to save. For -  
 ev - er, Au - thor of sal - va - tion, He rose and  
 con - quered the grave, Je - sus con - quered the grave.

*continued on next page*

18 (4) 2  
con - quered the grave.

22 **BRIDGE**  
Shine Your light and let the whole world see. We're sing-ing

24 1 2  
for the glo - ry of the ri - sen King Je - sus. King.

28 **CHORUS**  
Sav - iour, He can move the moun - tains. My God is

31 might - y to save, He is might - y to save. For -

32 ev - er, Au - thor of sal - va - tion, He rose and

34 1  
con - quered the grave, Je - sus con - quered the grave.

36 2  
con - quered the grave.

## Psalm

Psalm 90:1-12

*Spoken responsively*

<sup>1</sup>Lord, you have been our dwelling place  
in all generations.

**<sup>2</sup>Before the mountains were brought forth,  
or ever you had formed the earth and the world,  
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.**

<sup>3</sup>You return man to dust  
and say, "Return, O children of man!"

**<sup>4</sup>For a thousand years in your sight  
are but as yesterday when it is past,  
or as a watch in the night.**

<sup>5</sup>You sweep them away as with a flood;  
they are like a dream,  
like grass that is renewed in the morning;

**<sup>6</sup>in the morning it flourishes and is renewed;  
in the evening it fades and withers.**

<sup>7</sup>For we are brought to an end by your anger;  
by your wrath we are dismayed.

**<sup>8</sup>You have set our iniquities before you,  
our secret sins in the light of your presence.**

<sup>9</sup>For all our days pass away under your wrath;  
we bring our years to an end like a sigh.

**<sup>10</sup>The years of our life are seventy,  
or even by reason of strength eighty;  
yet their span is but toil and trouble;  
they are soon gone, and we fly away.**

<sup>11</sup>Who considers the power of your anger,  
and your wrath according to the fear of you?

**<sup>12</sup>So teach us to number our days  
that we may get a heart of wisdom.**

**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. Amen.**

## Prayer

**P** Let us pray. Almighty and ever-living God, You have given exceedingly great and precious promises to those who trust in You. Dispel from us the works of darkness and grant us to live in the light of Your Son, Jesus Christ, that our faith may never be found wanting; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## Old Testament Reading

*Zephaniah 1:7–16*

<sup>7</sup>Be silent before the Lord GOD!

For the day of the LORD is near;  
the LORD has prepared a sacrifice  
and consecrated his guests.

<sup>8</sup>And on the day of the LORD's sacrifice—

"I will punish the officials and the king's sons  
and all who array themselves in foreign attire.

<sup>9</sup>On that day I will punish

everyone who leaps over the threshold,  
and those who fill their master's house  
with violence and fraud.

<sup>10</sup>"On that day," declares the LORD,

"a cry will be heard from the Fish Gate,  
a wail from the Second Quarter,  
a loud crash from the hills.

<sup>11</sup>Wail, O inhabitants of the Mortar!

For all the traders are no more;  
all who weigh out silver are cut off.

<sup>12</sup>At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,

and I will punish the men  
who are complacent,  
those who say in their hearts,  
'The LORD will not do good,  
nor will he do ill.'

<sup>13</sup>Their goods shall be plundered,

and their houses laid waste.

Though they build houses,

they shall not inhabit them;

though they plant vineyards,

they shall not drink wine from them."

<sup>14</sup>The great day of the LORD is near,

near and hastening fast;

the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter;

the mighty man cries aloud there.

<sup>15</sup>A day of wrath is that day,

a day of distress and anguish,

a day of ruin and devastation,

a day of darkness and gloom,

a day of clouds and thick darkness,

<sup>16</sup>a day of trumpet blast and battle cry  
against the fortified cities  
and against the lofty battlements.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Epistle

*1 Thessalonians 5:1–11*

<sup>1</sup>Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. <sup>2</sup>For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. <sup>3</sup>While people are saying, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. <sup>4</sup>But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. <sup>5</sup>For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. <sup>6</sup>So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. <sup>7</sup>For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. <sup>8</sup>But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. <sup>9</sup>For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>10</sup>who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. <sup>11</sup>Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

  
*Deo Gratias*  

---

**THANKS BE TO GOD**

## Holy Gospel

Matthew 25:14–30

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>14</sup>[Jesus said:] "For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. <sup>15</sup>To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. <sup>16</sup>He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. <sup>17</sup>So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. <sup>18</sup>But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. <sup>19</sup>Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. <sup>20</sup>And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.' <sup>21</sup>His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' <sup>22</sup>And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.' <sup>23</sup>His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' <sup>24</sup>He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, <sup>25</sup>so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' <sup>26</sup>But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sowed and gather where I scattered no seed? <sup>27</sup>Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. <sup>28</sup>So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. <sup>29</sup>For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. <sup>30</sup>And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## 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.**



**Song****Speak, O Lord***Getty, Townend*

1. Speak, O Lord, as we come to You to re -  
 2. Teach us Lord full o - be - di - ence, ho - ly  
 3. Speak, O Lord, and re - new our minds; Help us



ceive the food of Your ho - ly word. Take Your truth, plant it  
 rev - er - ence, true hu - mil - i - ty. Test our thoughts and our  
 grasp the heights of Your plans for us. Truths un - changed from the



deep in us; Shape and fash - ion us in Your like - ness, that the  
 at - ti - tudes in the ra - di - ance of Your pu - ri - ty. Cause our  
 dawn of time, that will e - cho down through e - ter - ni - ty. And by



light of Christ might be seen to - day in our acts of love and our  
 faith to rise, cause our eyes to see Your ma - jes - tic love and au -  
 grace we'll stand on Your prom - is - es; And by faith we'll walk as You



deeds of faith. Speak, O Lord, and ful - fill in us all Your  
 thor - i - ty. Words of pow'r that can nev - er fail; Let their  
 walk with us. Speak, O Lord, till Your church is built and the



pur - pos - es, for Your glo - ry.  
 truth pre - vail o - ver un - be - lief.  
 earth is filled with Your glo - ry.

**Sermon**

## Prayers of the Church Family and the Lord's Prayer

- P** Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

*Response after each petition*

- P** Lord, in your mercy,  
**C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** God of grace, preserve us from the temptation to consider You a hard and unmerciful master. Keep us mindful that You give us every good thing in abundance, most of all a place in Your household; for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

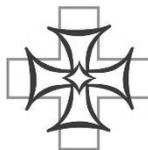
- P** Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

- C** **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

- P** The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C** **Amen.**



Song

My Hope *Baloche, Kerr, Mellinger, Rabe*

Verse 1, Verse 2, Chorus, Verse 3, Chorus x2

4

1.Nothing will change if

5 all the plans I make go wrong; Your love stays the same; Your

8 light will guide me through it all; I'm hang-ing on, I'm lean-ing in to You;

11 — 2.Nothing can reach the

14 3.You are my Rock when

16 end of all Your faith-ful-ness; Your grace is with me through

17 storms are rag-ing all a-round; You shel-ter me, God; I'm

18 ev-ery sha-dow, ev-ery test; I'm

19 safe with You on sol-id ground; I'm

21 hang-ing on, I'm lean-ing in to You;—

22 hang-ing on, I'm lean-ing in to You;—

23 I don't know where You'll take me, but

24 Chorus

25 I know You're al-ways good. My hope is built on

26 noth-ing less than Your Great love, Your right-eous-ness

29 I will not walk an-oth-er way; I trust Your heart, I

32 trust Your name; I'm hold-ing on,— I'm hold-ing on to You.

36 1. 4 2. Chorus  
 My hope is built on noth-ing less  
 43 than Your Great love, Your right-eous-ness I will not walk an-  
 46 oth - er way; I trust Your heart, I trust Your name; I'm hold - ing on, —  
 50 I'm hold - ing on — to You. —

## Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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## Resources for Meditation this Week

### TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

19 November 2023

#### Readings

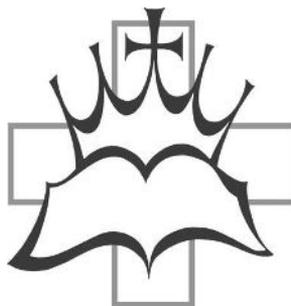
Zephaniah 1:7–16

1 Thessalonians 5:1–11

Matthew 25:14–30

#### ***God's Gift of Forgiveness Engenders Our Forgiveness of Others***

The Day of the Lord is *"near and hastening fast,"* and it will be *"a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation"* (Zeph. 1:14, 15). The Lord will search out and punish *"the men who are complacent"* concerning His Word, *"who fill their master's house with violence and fraud"* (Zeph. 1:9, 12). Then all their works and efforts will be for nothing: *"Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them"* (Zeph. 1:13). But those who fear, love and trust in the Lord are *"good and faithful"* stewards of His property (Matt. 25:21). They live by faith in His free gift of forgiveness, and they multiply His goods in the loving forgiveness of their neighbor, and *"the master of those servants"* settles His accounts with them by the gracious reckoning of His Gospel (Matt. 25:19). Likewise, *"God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ"* (1 Thess. 5:9). Therefore, let us also *"put on the breastplate of faith and love"* in our dealings with one another (1 Thess. 5:8).



**Readings**

Ezekiel 34:11–16, 20–24

1 Corinthians 15:20–28

Matthew 25:31–46

***By the Cross of Christ, We Enter the Kingdom of Our God and Father***

When the crucified and risen Lord Jesus comes to judge the living and the dead, *“he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats”* (Matt. 25:32). *“To those on his right,”* who have been crucified and raised with Him through repentance and faith in His Gospel, He will grant the blessed kingdom of His Father (Matt. 25:34). Having been justified by His grace, they live unto righteousness in Him (Matt. 25:35–40). But *“those on his left,”* who trust in themselves and despise their neighbor, will depart *“into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels”* (Matt. 25:41). Until that day, the Lord searches for His sheep *“as a shepherd seeks out his flock”* (Ezek. 34:11–12). Through His preaching of repentance, He disciplines the proud sheep and goats, *“the fat and the strong,”* but through the preaching of forgiveness He rescues the lost, binds up the injured, strengthens the weak and feeds *“the lean sheep”* (Ezek. 34:16, 20). In this way, He destroys the power of death in the children of Adam by His cross, so that *“in Christ shall all be made alive”* by His resurrection (1 Cor. 15:20–26).

