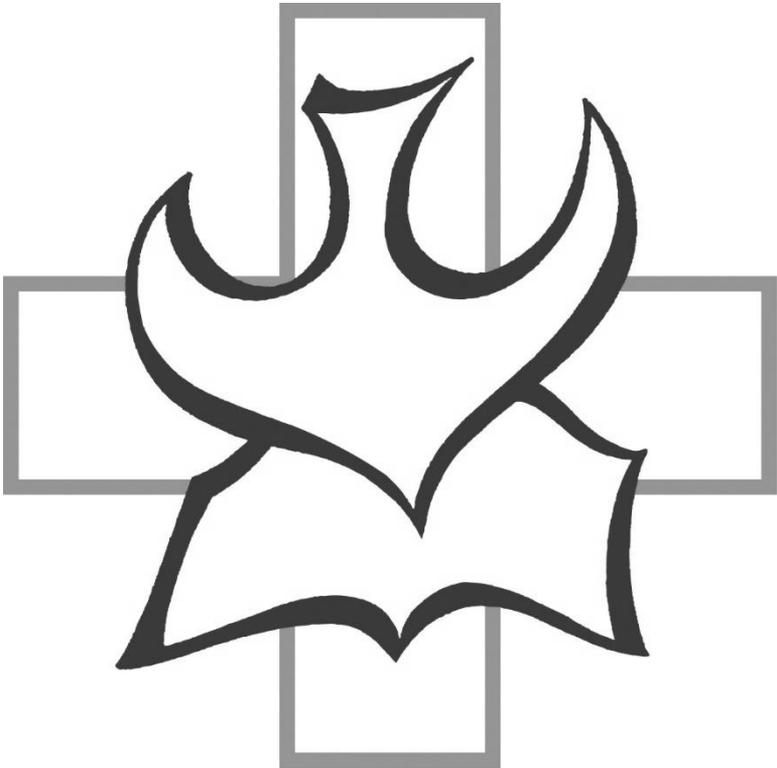


# The Lutheran Church of the Savior

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



## Order of Worship

*July 27, 2025 9:00 AM*

# The Lutheran Church of the Savior

426 Davis Road - Bedford, MA 01730

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<https://www.lcsavior.org>

Rev. Nils Niemeier, Pastor

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## Introit

*Psalm 119:145–149; antiphon: Psalm 50:15*

Call upon me in the day of trouble;

I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me.

With my whole heart I cry; answer me, O LORD!

I will keep your statutes.

I call to you; save me,

that I may observe your testimonies.

I rise before dawn and cry for help;

I hope in your words.

My eyes are awake before the watches of the night,

that I may meditate on your promise.

Hear my voice according to your steadfast love;

O LORD, according to your justice give me life.

## 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.*

# Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

## Divine Service

Welcome

### Opening Song

Awesome In This Place

*Billington*

*Verse, Chorus, Verse, Chorus x2*

#### VERSE



As I come in - to Your pres - ence,



past the gates of praise, in - to Your sanc - tu - ar -



y till we're stand - ing face to face; I



look up - on Your coun - te - nance, I see the



full - ness of Your grace, and I can



on - ly bow down and say "You are

#### CHORUS



awe - some in this place, Might - y God, You are

*continued on next page*



awe-some in this place, Ab-ba Fa-ther; You are  
 wor-thy of all praise, to You our lives we raise,  
 You are awe-some in this place, Might-y God."

## Confession and Absolution

*Stand*

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

**P** In the name of the Father and of the  $\text{✠}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

**P** Holy Lord, as we stand in your presence, we are aware of our sins of thought, word, and action.

**C** **We have not lived our lives according to your will.**

**P** We have failed to live up to your expectations.

**C** **We all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.**

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

**P** Hear us now, O Lord, 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** 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.

**G** Amen.

## Song of Praise

## You Have Saved Us

*Baloché, Gowell*

Verse 1, Chorus, Verse 2, Chorus x3

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of a Verse, a Chorus, and a second Verse. The score includes vocal lines with lyrics and instrumental directions. Measure numbers are indicated at the start of each line.

**VERSE**

[4] 1. Who am I that You would know me,  
 2. Turn your hearts from earth - ly i - dols,  
 4 who are we to You, Lord? You have shown Your  
 turn our eyes to You, Lord. On - ly You can  
 7 love and mer - cy, we are stran - gers no more. We are  
 heal what's bro - ken, on - ly You can re - store.  
 10 daugh - ters, we are sons all be - cause of what You've done.

**CHORUS**

13 You have saved us, You have raised  
 16 us up with You. You have saved us,  
 19 called us out and made us new, yeah.  
 22 1 - Repeat to Verse 2 [3] 2 - to Instrumental  
 You have saved us, yeah.  
 26 [7] We are daugh - ters, we are sons all be -

*continued on next page*

30 cause of what You've done. CHORUS You have saved us,

34 You have raised us up with You. You have saved us,

38 called us out and made us new. You have saved us,

42 You have raised us up with You. You have saved us,

46 called us out and made us new, yeah.

49 You have saved us.

53 You have saved us. You have saved us.

## Service of the Word

### Psalm

*Psalm 138; antiphon: v. 3*

**A** Together, we speak Psalm 138 responsively:

<sup>1</sup>I give you thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart;  
before the gods I sing your praise;

<sup>2</sup>**I bow down toward your holy temple  
and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and  
your faithfulness,  
for you have exalted above all things  
your name and your word.**

<sup>3</sup>On the day I called, you answered me;  
my strength of soul you increased.

<sup>4</sup>**All the kings of the earth shall give you thanks, O LORD,  
for they have heard the words of your mouth,**

<sup>5</sup>and they shall sing of the ways of the LORD,  
for great is the glory of the LORD.

**<sup>6</sup>For though the LORD is high, he regards the lowly,  
but the haughty he knows from afar.**

<sup>7</sup>Though I walk in the midst of trouble,  
you preserve my life;  
you stretch out your hand against the wrath of my enemies,  
and your right hand delivers me.

**<sup>8</sup>The LORD will fulfill his purpose for me;  
your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever.  
Do not forsake the work of your hands.**

**☩ 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 of the Day

**P** Let us pray.  
O Lord, let Your merciful ears be attentive to the prayers of Your servants, and by Your Word and Spirit teach us how to pray that our petitions may be pleasing before You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**☩ Amen.**

## Old Testament Reading

*Genesis 18:20–33*

<sup>20</sup>Then the LORD said, "Because the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is great and their sin is very grave, <sup>21</sup>I will go down to see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me. And if not, I will know."

<sup>22</sup>So the men turned from there and went toward Sodom, but Abraham still stood before the LORD. <sup>23</sup>Then Abraham drew near and said, "Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? <sup>24</sup>Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city. Will you then sweep away the place and not spare it for the fifty righteous who are in it? <sup>25</sup>Far be it from you to do such a thing, to put the righteous to death with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?" <sup>26</sup>And the LORD said, "If I find at

Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will spare the whole place for their sake.”

<sup>27</sup>Abraham answered and said, “Behold, I have undertaken to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. <sup>28</sup>Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking. Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?” And he said, “I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there.” <sup>29</sup>Again he spoke to him and said, “Suppose forty are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of forty I will not do it.” <sup>30</sup>Then he said, “Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak. Suppose thirty are found there.” He answered, “I will not do it, if I find thirty there.” <sup>31</sup>He said, “Behold, I have undertaken to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it.” <sup>32</sup>Then he said, “Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak again but this once. Suppose ten are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of ten I will not destroy it.” <sup>33</sup>And the LORD went his way, when he had finished speaking to Abraham, and Abraham returned to his place.

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

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

## Epistle

*Colossians 2:6–19*

<sup>6</sup>Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, <sup>7</sup>rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

<sup>8</sup>See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ. <sup>9</sup>For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, <sup>10</sup>and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority. <sup>11</sup>In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, <sup>12</sup>having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead. <sup>13</sup>And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, <sup>14</sup>by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. <sup>15</sup>He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.

<sup>16</sup>Therefore let no one pass judgment on you in questions of food and drink, or with regard to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath. <sup>17</sup>These are a shadow of the things to come, but the substance belongs to Christ. <sup>18</sup>Let no one disqualify you, insisting on asceticism and worship of angels, going on in detail about visions, puffed up without reason by his sensuous mind, <sup>19</sup>and not holding fast to the Head, from whom the whole body, nourished and knit together through its joints and ligaments, grows with a growth that is from God.

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

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

*Stand*

## **Holy Gospel**

*Luke 11:1–13*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the eleventh chapter.

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

<sup>1</sup>Now Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when he finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." <sup>2</sup>And he said to them, "When you pray, say:

"Father, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come.

<sup>3</sup>Give us each day our daily bread,

<sup>4</sup>and forgive us our sins,

for we ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted to us.

And lead us not into temptation."

<sup>5</sup>And he said to them, "Which of you who has a friend will go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves, <sup>6</sup>for a friend of mine has arrived on a journey, and I have nothing to set before him'; <sup>7</sup>and he will answer from within, 'Do not bother me; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed. I cannot get up and give you anything?' <sup>8</sup>I tell you, though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, yet because of his impudence he will rise and give him whatever he needs. <sup>9</sup>And I tell you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. <sup>10</sup>For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. <sup>11</sup>What father among you, if his son asks for a fish, will instead of a fish give him a serpent; <sup>12</sup>or if he asks for an

egg, will give him a scorpion? <sup>13</sup>If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

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

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

## Nicene Creed

**C** 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 of the Day

Mercy

DeShazo, Sadler

Chorus, Verse 1, Chorus, Verse 2, Chorus

CHORUS

Mer cy, —

mer - cy, — Lord, — Your mer - cy is how —

we are re - stored;

Mer - cy, Mer - cy, Oh Christ,

VERSE

help us to show Your mer - cy, Lord.

1. You have been pa - tient with our of - fen -

2. Lord, You have taught us, "Love one an - oth -

ses, You have for - giv - en all of our sins;

er," As You have loved us, so we must love;

We were de - serv - ing on - ly Your judge -

Al - ways for - bear - ing, al - ways for - giv -

continued on next page

19 CHORUS

ment, but Your great mer - cy tri - umphed a - gain.  
ing, show - ing to o

22

Mer - cy,

25

thers the mer - cy we've known.  
mer - cy, Lord, Your mer - cy is how

27

we are re - stored; Mer - cy, Mer - cy, Oh, Christ

30

help us to show Your mer - cy, Lord,

32

help us to show Your mer - cy, Lord.

## Sermon



*Stand*

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

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

*Response after each petition*

- L** Lord, in your mercy,  
**C** **hear our prayer.**

- C** **Amen.**

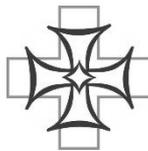
- P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

- 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.**

## Benediction

- 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**

**I Will Dwell**

Neale & Neale

Verse 1, Verse 2, Chorus, Verse 3, Chorus, Bridge x3, Chorus x2

1. You are my Shep - herd, I have all that I need;

3 You lead me be - side the peace - ful wat - ers to

5 rest in mea - dows green; 2. You re - new my

6 VERSE

strength, guide me in the right way;

7 me, bring - ing com - fort and joy;

9 You're bring - ing all glo - ry and all hon - or

You wel - come me as a guest in - to Your house, a -

11 to Your match - less Name; Ev - en though I

noint - ing me with oil; Ev - en though I

13 walk the dark - est val - ley, I will not be

walk the dark - est val - ley, I will not be.

15 CHORUS

a - fraid. 'Cause Your good - ness and Your mer - cy fol - low me all

a - fraid.

17 my days, and I will dwell in Your house, and I will dwell

19 in Your house, and I will dwell in Your house for -

17 ev - er. 3. You walk be - side ev - er. My

21 cup is run - ning o - ver; My cup is run - ning o - ver; My

23 cup is run - ning o - ver be - cause of You; My

25 cup is run - ning o - ver; My cup is run - ning o - ver; My

27 cup is run - ning o - ver be - cause of You. My

29 cup is run - ning o - ver; My cup is run - ning o - ver; My

31 cup is run - ning o - ver be - cause of You. Your good -

33 ness and Your mer - cy fol - low me all my days, and I will dwell

35 in Your house, and I will dwell in Your house, and I will dwell

37 in Your house for - ev - er. 'Cause Your good -

40 ness and Your mer - cy fol - low me all my days, and I will dwell.

*continued on next page*

42

in Your house, and I will dwell in Your house, and I will dwell

44

in Your house for - ev - er.



## Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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# Resources for Meditation this Week

## SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

27 July 2025

### Readings

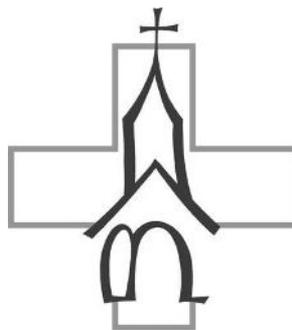
Genesis 18:(17–19) 20–33

Colossians 2:6–15 (16–19)

Luke 11:1–13

### ***The Prayer of the Church Is the Voice of Faith***

Jesus catechizes His disciples in the way of faith by teaching them how to pray. He promises us: *“Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you”* (Luke 11:9). If earthly fathers know how to give good gifts to their children, *“how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him”* (Luke 11:13). Thus, father Abraham was bold in his prayer because he believed the gracious promise of the Lord, that he would *“surely become a great and mighty nation”* (Gen. 18:18). When we pray in Jesus’ name, we also hold *“fast to the Head”* (Col. 2:19), *“rooted and built up in him and established in the faith”* (Col. 2:6–7).



**Readings**

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12–14; 2:18–26

Colossians 3:1–11

Luke 12:13–21

***Faith in Christ Is Rich Toward God***

To live for earthly things *“is vanity and a striving after wind,”* and work that is driven by such vanity *“is an unhappy business”* (Eccl. 1:13–14). The man who lives like that has nothing to show for *“all the toil and striving of heart with which he toils beneath the sun ... all his days are full of sorrow”* (Eccl. 2:22–23). So, too, your *“covetousness, which is idolatry”* (Col. 3:5), makes a god out of that which cannot give you life or happiness. For *“one’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions”* (Luke 12:15). But *“Christ who is your life”* (Col. 3:4), in giving you Himself, gives you all the wealth of heaven. Instead of striving to lay up treasures for yourself, be *“rich toward God”* in Him (Luke 12:21).

