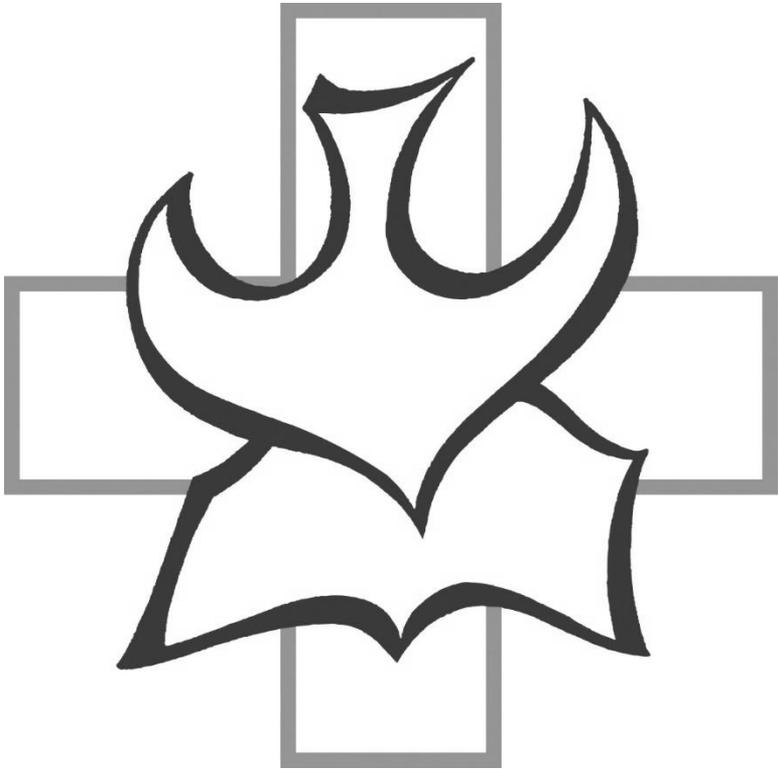


# The Lutheran Church of the Savior

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



## Order of Worship

*August 10, 2025 9:00 AM*

# The Lutheran Church of the Savior

426 Davis Road - Bedford, MA 01730

church@lcsavior.org      781-275-6013

<https://www.lcsavior.org>

Rev. Nils Niemeier, Pastor

email: [pastor@lcsavior.org](mailto:pastor@lcsavior.org)

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## Introit

*Psalm 147:8–11; antiphon: v. 7*

Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving;

make melody to our God on the lyre!

He covers the heavens with clouds; he prepares rain for the earth;

he makes grass grow on the hills.

He gives to the beasts their food,

and to the young ravens that cry.

His delight is not in the strength of the horse,

nor his pleasure in the legs of a man,

but the LORD takes pleasure in those who fear him,

in those who hope in his steadfast love.

## 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.*

# Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

## Divine Service

Welcome

### Opening Song

### Stronghold

*Baloche, Kerr*

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



The Lord. is my light and my sal - va - tion, -



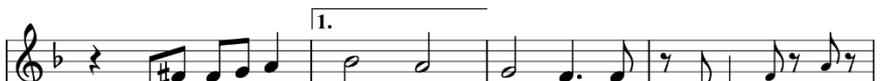
whom shall I fear, whom shall I fear?



The Lord. is the strong - hold of my life, \_\_\_\_\_



of whom shall I be a - fraid? \_\_\_\_\_



1.  
The Lord. is the strong - hold of my life.



2.  
The Lord. is my strong - hold of my life.



For in the day of troub - le He will keep me safe, -



He will shel - ter me \_\_\_\_\_ in - side \_\_\_\_\_ the se - cret

*continued on next page*

place; \_\_\_\_\_ Set me high up-on a rock, \_\_\_\_\_

high up-on a rock. \_\_\_\_\_ The Lord is my

strong - hold of my life. *Fine*

## 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**

A Place at Your Altar

*Gustafson, Sadler*

*Chorus x2, Verse, Chorus x2, Verse*

Chorus

I will seek a place at Your al - tar,  
hum - bly draw near to You; I will hide my - self  
in Your shad - ow, wor - ship in spir - it and truth.  
wor - ship in spir - it and truth.

Verse

E - ven the swal - low has found a nest where  
she can lay her young; So, we are long - ing to find  
that rest. So, in - to Your courts we come,  
in - to Your courts we come. *Fine*

## Service of the Word

### Psalm

*Psalm 33:12–22; antiphon: v. 20*

**A** Together, we speak Psalm 33 responsively:

<sup>12</sup>Blessèd is the nation whose God is the LORD,  
the people whom he has chosen as his heritage!

<sup>13</sup>**The LORD looks down from heaven;  
he sees all the children of man;**

<sup>14</sup>from where he sits enthroned he looks out  
on all the inhabitants of the earth,

<sup>15</sup>**he who fashions the hearts of them all  
and observes all their deeds.**

<sup>16</sup>The king is not saved by his great army;  
a warrior is not delivered by his great strength.

<sup>17</sup>**The war horse is a false hope for salvation,  
and by its great might it cannot rescue.**

<sup>18</sup>Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who fear him,  
on those who hope in his steadfast love,

<sup>19</sup>**that he may deliver their soul from death  
and keep them alive in famine.**

<sup>20</sup>Our soul waits for the LORD;  
he is our help and our shield.

<sup>21</sup>**For our heart is glad in him,  
because we trust in his holy name.**

<sup>22</sup>Let your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us,  
even as we hope in you.

**C** **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.

Almighty and merciful God, it is by Your grace that we live as Your people who offer acceptable service. Grant that we may walk by faith, and not by sight, in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

## Old Testament Reading

*Genesis 15:1–6*

<sup>1</sup>After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision: "Fear not, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." <sup>2</sup>But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" <sup>3</sup>And Abram said, "Behold, you have given me no offspring, and a member of my household will be my heir." <sup>4</sup>And behold, the word of the LORD came to him: "This man shall not be your heir; your very own son shall be your heir." <sup>5</sup>And he brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them." Then he said to him, "So shall your offspring be." <sup>6</sup>And he believed the LORD, and he counted it to him as righteousness.

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

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

## Epistle

*Hebrews 11:1–16*

<sup>1</sup>Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. <sup>2</sup>For by it the people of old received their commendation. <sup>3</sup>By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.

<sup>4</sup>By faith Abel offered to God a more acceptable sacrifice than Cain, through which he was commended as righteous, God commending him by accepting his gifts. And through his faith, though he died, he still speaks. <sup>5</sup>By faith Enoch was taken up so that he should not see death, and he was not found, because God had taken him. Now before he was taken he was commended as having pleased God. <sup>6</sup>And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him. <sup>7</sup>By faith Noah, being warned by God concerning events as yet unseen, in reverent fear constructed an ark for the saving of his household. By this he condemned the world and became an heir of the righteousness that comes by faith.

<sup>8</sup>By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. <sup>9</sup>By faith he went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. <sup>10</sup>For he was looking forward to the city that has

foundations, whose designer and builder is God. <sup>11</sup>By faith Sarah herself received power to conceive, even when she was past the age, since she considered him faithful who had promised. <sup>12</sup>Therefore from one man, and him as good as dead, were born descendants as many as the stars of heaven and as many as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.

<sup>13</sup>These all died in faith, not having received the things promised, but having seen them and greeted them from afar, and having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth. <sup>14</sup>For people who speak thus make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. <sup>15</sup>If they had been thinking of that land from which they had gone out, they would have had opportunity to return. <sup>16</sup>But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared for them a city.

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

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

*Stand*

## **Holy Gospel**

*Luke 12:22–40*

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

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

<sup>22</sup>[Jesus] said to his disciples, "Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat, nor about your body, what you will put on. <sup>23</sup>For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. <sup>24</sup>Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! <sup>25</sup>And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? <sup>26</sup>If then you are not able to do as small a thing as that, why are you anxious about the rest? <sup>27</sup>Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. <sup>28</sup>But if God so clothes the grass, which is alive in the field today, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you, O you of little faith! <sup>29</sup>And do not seek what you are to eat and what you are to drink, nor be worried. <sup>30</sup>For all the nations of the world seek after these things, and your Father knows that you need them. <sup>31</sup>Instead, seek his kingdom, and these things will be added to you.

<sup>32</sup>"Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. <sup>33</sup>Sell your possessions, and give to the needy. Provide yourselves with moneybags that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys. <sup>34</sup>For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

<sup>35</sup>"Stay dressed for action and keep your lamps burning, <sup>36</sup>and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the wedding feast, so that they may open the door to him at once when he comes and knocks. <sup>37</sup>Blessed are those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. Truly, I say to you, he will dress himself for service and have them recline at table, and he will come and serve them. <sup>38</sup>If he comes in the second watch, or in the third, and finds them awake, blessed are those servants! <sup>39</sup>But know this, that if the master of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have left his house to be broken into. <sup>40</sup>You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

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

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

*Sit*

## Holy Baptism of Kohen William Zabilowicz

*Please see the Baptism insert for the service*



# Song of the Day

# By Faith

Getty, Getty, Townend

Verse 1, Verse 2, Chorus, Verse 3, Verse 4, Chorus, Verse 5, Chorus x2, Tag

VERSE



1. By faith we see the hand of God in the  
2. By faith our fa - thers roamed the earth with the

3



light of cre - a - tion's grand de - sign, in the  
pow'r of His pro - mise in their hearts, of a

5



lives of those who prove His faith - ful - ness,  
ho - ly cit - y built by God's own hand,

7



who walk by faith and not by sight. reign. We will  
a place where peace and jus - tice

10

CHORUS



stand as chil - dren of the pro - mise; we will fix our eyes on Him, our

13



soul's re - ward. 'Til the race is fin - ished and the work is done,

16



we'll walk by faith and not by sight.

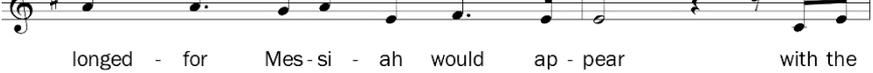
19

VERSE



3. By faith the pro - phets saw the day when the  
4. By faith the church was called to go in the

21



longed - for Mes - si - ah would ap - pear with the  
pow'r of the Spir - it to the lost to de -

23

pow'r to break the chains of sin and death  
liv - er cap - tives and to preach good news

25

1. and rise tri - um - phant from the grave. earth. We will  
in ev' ry cor - ner\_ of the\_\_

2. **D.S. al Coda**  $\Theta$

28  $\Theta$  Coda (3)

we'll walk by faith and not by sight.

31 VERSE

5. By faith this moun - tain shall be moved and the

33

pow'r of the gos - pel shall pre - vail, for we

35

know in Christ all things are pos - si - ble for all who call up - on His

38 CHORUS

name. We will stand as chil - dren of the pro - mise; we will

41

fix our eyes on Him, our soul's re - ward. 'Til the

43

race is fin - ished and the work is done,

45

we'll walk by faith and not by sight. Oh, \_\_\_ we will

47 CHORUS

stand as chil - dren of the pro - mise; we will fix our eyes on Him, our

*continued on next page*

50

soul's \_\_\_ re-ward. 'Til the race is fin - ished and the

52

work is done, we'll walk by faith \_\_\_ and not by

55

sight. we'll walk by faith \_\_\_ and not by sight.

## 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

Faithful To Lead Us On

Baloche, Kerr

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

CHORUS

A/E Bm/E A A/D D E A/E Bm/E

You are faith - ful to lead us on, more than

A A/D D E E/D

a - ble to keep us strong; Walk - ing be - fore us. You

A/C# D 1.3. Bm7 Esus E A A/E Bm/E

light our way, faith - ful to lead us on. You are

2.4. Bm7 Esus E A

VERSE

E D A D/A A D

1. You've brought us out of the wil - der - ness,  
 2. Called out of dark - ness in - to your light,

E D A2

guid - ing us home by Your hand;  
 cho - sen to lift up Your name;

G D/F# A B/D#

Now You're pre - par - ing a place for us, we'll go, we'll  
 We'll see Your king - dom es - tab - lished here, come rule, come

Esus A/E Bm/E 5. Bm7 Esus E A Fine

stand. You are faith - ful to lead us on.

## **Acknowledgments**

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book  
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# Resources for Meditation this Week

## NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

10 August 2025

### Readings

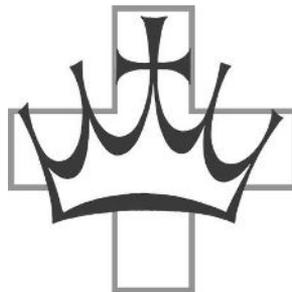
Genesis 15:1–6

Hebrews 11:1–16

Luke 12:22–34 (35–40)

### ***The Lord Is Surely Coming to Give You His Kingdom***

The Lord Himself was Abraham's shield and great reward. For *"the word of the LORD came to him"* and sustained the patriarch's faith in the face of death (Gen. 15:4). By divine grace, Abraham *"believed the LORD, and he counted it to him as righteousness"* (Gen. 15:6), on account of the holy Seed, Christ Jesus. To that one old man, the Lord granted *"descendants as many as the stars of heaven and as many as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore"* (Heb. 11:12). The Lord is likewise faithful to you. It is His glad desire *"to give you the kingdom"* (Luke 12:32). Therefore, *"do not be anxious about your life,"* but instead *"seek his kingdom"* (Luke 12:22, 31). Set your heart on that treasure. *"Stay dressed for action and keep your lamps burning ... for the Son of Man is coming"* (Luke 12:35, 40).



**Readings**

Jeremiah 23:16–29

Hebrews 11:17–31 (32–40); 12:1–3

Luke 12:49–53 (54–56)

***Christ's Suffering and Death Bring Division***

The Lord Jesus causes fear and trembling and division because His Word is *"like fire ... and like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces"* (Jer. 23:29). His Law puts us all to death, whereas only His Gospel can bring us to life. He has fulfilled that Word for us by His cross and in His resurrection from the dead. He undergoes such a distressing baptism, accomplished by His death, in order to open the way for us through our Holy Baptism into His cross and resurrection. So, then, if we are able *"to interpret the appearance of earth and sky"* (Luke 12:56), let us mark this sign of His cross — recognizing that this world is subject to death, but knowing that Christ Jesus also has conquered death and obtained life everlasting for us. Let us fix our eyes on *"Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith,"* and *"run with endurance the race that is set before us"* (Heb. 12:1–2).

